



GRAPEVINE 3rd Sunday of Easter 19th April 2026

Prayer for the Day *by Revd Canon David White*

**Some days, although we cannot pray, a prayer
 utters itself. So, a woman will lift
 her head from the sieve of her hands and stare
 at the minims sung by a tree, a sudden gift.**

**Some nights, although we are faithless, the truth
 enters our hearts, that small familiar pain;
 then a man will stand stock-still, hearing his youth
 in the distant Latin chanting of a train.**

**Pray for us now, Grade 1 piano scales
 console the lodger looking out across
 a Midlands town. Then dusk, and someone calls
 a child's name as though they named their loss.**

**Darkness outside. Inside, the radio's prayer –
 Rockall. Malin. Dogger. Finisterre.**

This poem, entitled simply "Prayer", is by Carol Ann Duffy, a Scottish poet and playwright who was Poet Laureate from 2009 to 2019. The poem is, in part, a reminder of the teaching of Brother Lawrence, the seventeenth century monk whose works were collected and published after his death under the title, "The Practice of the Presence of God". Brother Lawrence maintained that God is found in the ordinary moments of our lives. He worked repairing sandals for the other monks and also in the busy monastery kitchen, peeling potatoes and washing dishes. He believed that God was with him there. He wrote, "to me, going to work does not differ from

spending time in prayer. In the noise and clutter of my kitchen I possess God with the same level of tranquillity as if I were on my knees".

This poem places prayer in the mundane and ordinary patterns of routine, drawing out the sacred in the midst of life. Prayer, in this poem, is not only about what we say to God. It is also about the ways God speaks to us to offer comfort in isolation and hope in our grief. When we can find no words to pray just being present with God, wherever we are, is enough.

SERVICES & OPEN CHURCHES FOR THIS WEEK

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| Sun. 19 th | 10.00am | Holy Communion | Winthorpe |
| | 10.00am | Morning Worship | Collingham All Saints |
| | 10.30am | Morning Worship | Thorney |
| | 10am-4pm | Open Churches | Besthorpe and Girton |
| Tues 21 st | 11am-4pm | Open Church | Thorney |
| | 10.00am | Pause for Thought | Collingham St John the Baptist |
| Thurs. 23 rd | 10am-noon | Open Church | Collingham St John the Baptist |
| | 2.00pm | Funeral – Diana Heppell | Collingham St John the Baptist |
| | 1.30-3.30pm | Open Church | Winthorpe |
| Sat. 25 th | 10am-4pm | Open Churches | Besthorpe and Girton |

Open Churches: Holme and Langford churches are open every day, 10am to 4pm. Collingham All Saints is open every day, whenever the "Church Open" sign is displayed.

NOTICES

A Coffee Afternoon for Comic Relief will be held on Saturday 25th April from 2.30pm to 4pm at St Helen's church, Thorney. Wear red!

The next meeting for those who lay-lead services will be on Monday 27th April, starting at 7pm at St Helen's Church, Thorney. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to come along. We will be reading some of the Bible readings set for May together, discussing them and praying together. We look forward to seeing you.

Churches Together in Collingham is hoping to run a Children's Activity Stall again this year at the **Collingham May Fair at Vine Farm on Monday 4th May, from midday to 5pm**. Help will be needed and if you could volunteer to help for 1 hour or more we would value your time to show that the churches in Collingham are alive and working together. If you can help, please let Jackie Yeomans (01636 892864) from the Methodist Church know. Thankyou.

St Helena's Big Breakfast (A full English Breakfast), Saturday 16th May, from 9.00am-11.00am, St Helena's Church, South Scarle. Adults: £8. Under 12s: FREE. All Welcome. Pre-booking advisable – please ring 07760 106310, or email fbaldwin14@gmail.com. Proceeds to the Church Fabric Fund.

Girton's Plant Fair will take place on Sunday 31st May, from 10am to 2pm, in and around the Church and the Village Hall. There will be a variety of plants for sale, cakes, raffle, tombola, coffee and tea and bbq.

Safeguarding: Val Watson and Sally Lee are our Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs). If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact either of them – see Contacts below. More information about safeguarding can be found on our website, www.easttrentchurches.org.uk.

Churches Together in Collingham are holding two regular house groups in the village to share a time of fellowship, prayer and discussion every alternate week. Everyone is welcome – if you're interested and would like more information, please ring Duncan Smith on 07394 325675.

NEXT SUNDAY 26th April – 4th Sunday of Easter

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| 10.00am | Holy Communion | Collingham St John the Baptist |
| 10.00am | Morning Worship | Langford |
| 10.30am | Morning Worship | Harby |
| 10.30am | Morning Worship | Clifton |
| 6.00pm | Evening Prayer | Winthorpe |
| 10am-noon | Open Church | Collingham St John the Baptist |
| 10am-4pm | Open Churches | Besthorpe and Girton |
| 11am-4pm | Open Church | Thorney |

Readings for next Sunday: Acts 2.42-end; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2.19–end; John 10.1–10.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ❖ Peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia and all other countries where there is conflict.
- ❖ Those who have recently died – Diana Heppell, Caroline Gosling.
- ❖ In our year's mind – Joan Baston, Edith Beevers, Gwendolin Shiller, Elizabeth Gibson, Mary Worthington, John Belton, John Lloyd, Valerie Braddock.

CONTACTS

PASTORAL ENQUIRIES ~ Please contact your church warden(s).

SAFEGUARDING – Val Watson (07815 644236) or Sally Lee (01522 778691).

ALL OTHER ENQUIRIES, INCLUDING WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS, AND ITEMS FOR GRAPEVINE ~

Please contact the East Trent Group Administrator, Mrs Christine Hasman:

Telephone: 01636 679105

email: admin@easttrentchurches.org.uk

GRAPEVINE ONLINE:

<http://www.easttrentchurches.org.uk/community/east-trent-churches-7910/grapevine>