



# GRAPEVINE

**Holy Cross Day**

**14<sup>th</sup> Sep 2025**

## **Prayer for the Day**

*by Revd Canon David White*

**Lord Jesus Christ, Master Carpenter of Nazareth  
 who by your cross, with wood and nails  
 has wrought our full salvation:  
 wield well your tools in this your workshop,  
 that we, who come to you rough-hewn  
 may be fashioned to a truer beauty by your hand,  
 for your tender mercies sake. Amen**

The original symbol of the Christian faith in the early church was a fish, which when simply drawn and displayed, showed the presence of Christians. The principle and continuing symbol changed to the cross when St Helena, mother of the first Christian Roman emperor Constantine the Great, allegedly 'discovered' the true cross on

which Jesus was crucified during her pilgrimage to significant sites in the Holy Land in 326. According to Christian legend, this feast commemorates the dedication in 335, of Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre, built where Helena made that discovery of the true cross.

The cross – a method of brutal and inhumane execution in the ancient world – often strikes non-Christians as an unlikely object of veneration. Yet to followers of Jesus, it is ultimately emblematic not of a cruel death but of a life-giving sacrifice that reveals forgiveness, redemption and immortality which is at the heart of our faith. The tree of death becomes the tree of life.

Churches have long set aside a day for honouring the holy cross and for Anglican churches that is 14<sup>th</sup> September. This prayer takes the emblematic power of the cross a stage further still. For in saying it, we are asking God to accept our 'rough-hewn' selves and fashion them into something more like him in beauty and tenderness, thereby accepting our vertical relationship with God in the context of our horizontal relationship with each other.

## **SERVICES & OPEN CHURCHES FOR THIS WEEK**

Sun. 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Girton</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>Collingham St John the Baptist</b>
	<b>10.15am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>Winthorpe</b>
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>Clifton</b>
	10am-noon	Open Church	Collingham St John the Baptist
	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton
Tues. 16 <sup>th</sup>	11am-4pm	Open Church	Thorney
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Pause for Thought</b>	<b>Collingham All Saints</b>
Thurs. 18 <sup>th</sup>	1.30-3.30pm	Open Church	Winthorpe
Sat. 20 <sup>th</sup>	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

**All Saints Winthorpe presents The Return of the Collingham Singers!** Join us on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 2.30pm for a heartwarming afternoon of music, poetry and entertainment. This year's performance explores the theme of "Home" through song, verse and more! Tickets: £10 inc. refreshments, available from Joan Lord (07792 110540) or Tisha Applewhite (07896 822424).

**Come along to Thorney's MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON** on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September from 2.30-4pm at St Helen's Church, Thorney. Games, raffle, cakes, conversation and lots more! Come and have a look at our newly fitted WC! YES! In church!! We look forward to welcoming you.

**The next meeting for Lay Leaders** is to be held on MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, at 7pm at ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Collingham. The meeting will start with some discussion on outreach to children and young families throughout the ETG. It will be interesting to hear what is already happening in our villages and to discuss ways of moving forward. We will allow an hour for this. This is for ANYONE who is interested in helping with children and families in our villages, even if not involved at the moment. Then we will move on to discuss some of the October readings, but we will understand if some people don't wish to stay. This meeting is expected to start at 7pm and finish at 9pm the latest. We look forward to seeing you.

**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](http://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.

For information on the **Newark Food Bank** and the **Collingham Area Pantry** please see the [Community Action](#) page on our website (under 'About Us' on the menu).

## NEXT SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> September – Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

10.00am	Holy Communion	Holme
10.00am	Morning Worship	Collingham All Saints
10.30am	Morning Worship	Thorney
10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton
11am-4pm	Open Church	Thorney

### Readings for next Sunday:

Proverbs 3.13-18; Psalm 119.65-72; 2 Corinthians 4.1-6; Matthew 9.9-13.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ❖ Peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia and all other countries where there is conflict.
- ❖ On Education Sunday, all those who teach and nurture us.
- ❖ All those taking part in the Ride and Stride event this weekend, and in other events raising money for the Historic Churches Trust.
- ❖ Those who have recently died: Elisabeth Quibell.
- ❖ In our year's mind: Keith Wilson, Ruth Birkett, Frank Lavery, Janet Brozyna.

## 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](mailto:admin@easttrentchurches.org.uk)

## GRAPEVINE ONLINE:

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