



GRAPEVINE 4th Sunday of Easter 11th May 2025

Prayer for the Day *by Revd Canon David White*

I asked for health, that I might do greater things;
 I was given infirmity that I might do better things...
 I asked for riches, that I might be happy,
 I was given poverty, that I might be wise...
 I asked for power, that I might have the praise of all people,
 I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God...
 I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,
 I was given life that I might enjoy all things...
 I got nothing I asked for.
 Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
 I am among all people, most richly blessed. Amen.

This anonymous prayer does not address God directly, or Jesus, or the Holy Spirit. It is thought to have been written by an American soldier during the American Civil War – but there is no certainty about that. It seems to be more of a reflection of a person's experience of praying to which God is invited to listen in. It recounts that person's experience of asking God for things that he or she would like to have in order to improve their life, but what they actually receive is something else, something much less – or even the opposite.

It is a prayer that has a universal application as many must feel this way at some time in life. It offers the insight that the value of prayer and praying lies as much in what we don't say as what we do. As we commemorate the 80th Anniversary of V E Day this week, we remember all whose prayers during those wartime years had seemed not to be answered in the way they wanted but who, in time, still found themselves 'most richly blessed'. This is still relevant for us today, as well.

SERVICES & OPEN CHURCHES FOR THIS WEEK

Sun. 11 th	10.00am	Holy Communion	Besthorpe
	10.15am	Service to Commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day	Winthorpe
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Clifton
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Harby
	10.45am	United Christian Aid Service	Collingham Methodist Church
	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Gorton
Tues. 13 th	10.00am	Pause for Thought	Collingham All Saints
Thurs. 15 th	1.30-3.30pm	Open Church	Winthorpe
Sat. 17 th	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Gorton

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

Christian Aid Week 11 - 17 May. There are many ways in which you could help some of the world's poorest people, even if it is only to bring your filled envelope to church because nobody has managed to collect it. Please contact me if you would like to do more. Thank you. Marylyn Rayner 01636 892539 or 07908 996190.

St Helena's Big Breakfast (A full English Breakfast), Saturday 17th May, from 9.00am-11.00am, St Helena's Church, South Scarle. All Welcome. Pre-booking would be advisable – please ring 01636 892056 or 07760 106310, or email fbaldwin14@gmail.com. A £5 donation would be appreciated and shared with the Community Centre.

SATURDAY 17TH MAY 2025, a Coffee Afternoon will be held at Edgeways West Road, THORNEY from 2.30pm until 4pm in support of **CHRISTIAN AID**, in place of a house to house collection. DO support us! We look forward to seeing you. Lots of cakes, Raffle, and plenty of conversation!

On Sunday 18th May, Girton's annual Plant Fair will take place, including an 80th VE day twist! This will take place in and around the Church, from 10am until 2pm. There will be a variety of plants for sale, a raffle, tombola, cakes, coffee and tea.

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.

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 18th May – 5th of Easter

10.00am	Holy Communion	Langford
10.30am	Morning Worship	Thorney
10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton

Readings for next Sunday: Acts 11.1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21.1-6; John 13.31-35.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ❖ God of peace, we give thanks for the end of World War II in Europe, and remember the countless lives lost. Grant us wisdom and courage to build a future free from conflict, where justice and compassion prevail. Guide us as we strive for peace, and comfort those still suffering from the wounds of war in the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia and all other countries where there is conflict.
- ❖ The conclave of Cardinals and the new Pope.
- ❖ All those known to us who have recently died – Roy Baker, Allan Wayment, Ian Grant Cumming.
- ❖ In our year's mind: Malcolm Shelmerdine, Carol Nix, William Bailey, Margaret Key, Pauline Phillips.

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>