



**GRAPEVINE**      4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter      26<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**Prayer for the Day**    *by Revd Canon David White*

**God of the city,**  
**God of the tenement and the houses of the rich,**  
**God of the subway and the nightclub,**  
**God of the cathedral and the streets,**  
**God of the sober and the drunk,**  
**the junkie and the stripper,**  
**the gambler and the good family man and woman;**  
**dear God, help us to see the world and its children through your eyes,**  
**and to love accordingly. Amen.**

This poem was written by Monica Furlong (1930 - 2003) and kind of sums up her theology and approach to life and spirituality. She was a person of much talent and ability being an author,

journalist, poet, film critic, writer of children’s stories, a feminist and a religious programmes producer for the BBC. She had a debilitating stammer which rather undermined her career as a broadcaster and speaker but she was a faithful Christian and church-goer. Her approach to the Christian faith has been described as “unorthodox and idiosyncratic” which made her as many enemies as life-long friends. The writer of one of her obituaries called her the Church of England’s “most creative and influential layperson of the post-war period”.

As this prayer suggests, Monica Furlong challenged the church to be fully inclusive – she campaigned for the ordination of women in the late 1980s and early 90s. Throughout the gospels Jesus shows us how to be inclusive and teaches us how important it is. God loves and cares for and about everyone and we are all called to follow his example.

**SERVICES & OPEN CHURCHES FOR THIS WEEK**

Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup>	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
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup>	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton
	11am-4pm	Open Church	Thorney
	10.00am	Pause for Thought	Collingham All Saints
	2.00pm	Funeral – Caroline Gosling	Collingham All Saints
Thurs. 30 <sup>th</sup>	1.30-3.30pm	Open Church	Winthorpe
	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton
Sat. 2 <sup>nd</sup>			

**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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:fbaldwin14@gmail.com). Proceeds to the Church Fabric Fund.

**Girton's Plant Fair** will take place on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> 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](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 3<sup>rd</sup> May – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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

**Readings for next Sunday:** Acts 7.55-end; Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2.2–10; John 14.1–14.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ❖ Peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia and all other countries where there is conflict.
- ❖ Those who have recently died – Caroline Gosling.
- ❖ In our year's mind – Geoffrey Hill, Miriam Norris, Ronald Beat, Joan Woodward, Jean Parkes, Nan Jackson, Sebastian Harman, Philip Clements, Granville Daniels, Mary Osgathorpe.

## 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>