



THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY SUNDAY 5th February 2017

- 8.00am Holy Communion BCP
(Led by *The Revd Canon Ryc Smith*)
- 10.30am** Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
(Led by *The Revd Michael Gallagher*
Preacher The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey)
- 6.30pm Evensong
(Led by *The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*)

We welcome everyone visiting us in Ledbury this week. The 10.30am service includes Prayer Ministry. If you would like to receive this ministry of the Church for yourself, or on behalf of someone else, please come to S^t Anne's Chapel at the end of the service.

Church Diary for the week ahead

Mon	6 th February	8pm-9.30pm	Ecumenical prayer and praise, Pool Barn, Priors Court, Staplow
Wed	8 th February	6.45pm for	7pm Compline, S ^t Anne's Chapel
Thurs	9 th February	7-12-7	Prayers (in The Choir Vestry at 7 & 7, 12 in S ^t Anne's)
Fri	10 th February	9.00am	Prayer Meeting, S ^t Anne's Chapel
		10.30am	Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel

Next Sunday – 12th February – THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT Septuagesima

- 8.00am Holy Communion BCP
9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
11.15am Eastnor Parish Communion

If you are new here, please fill in one of the blue welcome cards located at the end of each pew so that you can receive information about church activities. Yellow Gift Aid envelopes are available at the end of each pew and at the back of the church. There is a Hearing Loop in this Church. Gluten free wafers are available; please ask one of the Sidespeople.

Service Times and lectionary readings can be found posted in the church porch and on the church website www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk under the 'Services' section.

Twitter – If you use Twitter do sign-up to S. Michael's twitter account: @LedburyParish
Parish office: phone number: 01531 631531. Email: ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net

Readings for 5th February 2017: Epiphany V

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 58: 1 – 9

- ¹"Cry aloud; do not hold back; lift up your voice like a trumpet; declare to my people their transgression, to the house of Jacob their sins.
²Yet they seek me daily and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that did righteousness and did not forsake the judgement of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements; they delight to draw near to God.
³'Why have we fasted and You see it not?
Why have we humbled ourselves and You take no knowledge of it?'
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure and oppress all your workers. ⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast and a day acceptable to the LORD?
⁶'Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard.
⁹Then you shall call and the LORD will answer; you shall cry and He will say, 'Here I am.'

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1 – 12

- ¹And I, when I came to you, brethren, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.
⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.
⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
⁹But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, God has prepared for those who love Him" —
¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.
¹¹For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.
¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13 – 20

- ¹³[Jesus said] "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.
¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

NOTICES

¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.

¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

COLLECT

O God, You know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Go before us, Lord, in all we do with Your most gracious favour and guide us with Your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name and finally by Your mercy receive everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for:

- Our link CMS mission partners, our Leprosy Mission partners Victor & Mary Parisipogula, and S' Michael and All Angels, Mtwara and S' John the Baptist Church, Likonde.

Those who are sick:

Stan Tooby	Monnica Hussey	Rodney Harrison	Mark Wood-Robinson
Dean Jackson	John Tate	Peter Veasey	Ruth Fowler

We remember those who have died and pray for those who mourn their passing:

Sarah Booton	Alistair Rule	Treasure Poole	Elizabeth Bennett
Ruth Fowler			

Dates for your Diary

Newcomers' Tea: Saturday February 11th, 4.00 – 5.30 pm. Anyone who is 'new' to the church is invited to get to know a few more people over tea, cake and chat in the Chapter House. Since we haven't had such an event for a couple of years, the definition of 'new' is pretty broad! If you know of anyone you feel should be invited please let me know and please do come and help welcome. **Mary Anne Keyes** 01531 579021. makeyes25@hotmail.com

CAP The first (pilot) **Money Management Course** in partnership with Christians Against Poverty will be held on **Saturday, 25th March and Saturday, 8th April from 3.30 to 5.30 pm in St Katherine's Hall.** It is a FREE course and participants will not have to share financial figures with anyone. It is a well-respected course and is for those all who wish to manage their money better. Subsequent courses will be offered to all, but it would help the coaches in this new role if friendly people from Ledbury churches would be prepared to attend this first course, as anyone will be able to learn from it. Please telephone Ruth on 01531 670196 or email ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net to register the interest of yourself or of someone you know.

Young Church: the theme today is 'The Salt of the Earth'.

Next week there will be 'Children's Worship' with Revd Tony Hodder.

Tower Lights: are sponsored this week by Bill and Ann Hunter.

The Ledbury Bellringers will ring a quarter peal of Plain Bob Triples at evensong **TODAY.** Ringing will be between about 5.20 pm and 6.30pm. All ringing at St Michael's is listed on www.ledburydistrictbellringers.org - click on the link on the left hand side of the homepage "ringing at Ledbury".

Traidcraft Stall: will be available for purchases after the 10.30am service **TODAY.**

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK is not until May, but TESCO have not allowed us a collection day then, but have offered us **Friday, February 17th.** PLEASE could you help by holding a tin for an hour at the store. More help will provide more money for disaster and poverty relief. Please contact Margaret Young, Tel. 63569 or email mfyledbury@hotmail.com

Church early closure: We are closing the church early at around 2pm at present. This is being kept under review, but should it cause any problems, please contact Ian or Lois.

Pancake Party on Shrove Tuesday, 28th February in S. Katherine's Hall. More information to come.

Men's breakfast on Saturday 4th March at the Seven Stars. More details to follow.

Ledbury Churches are again organising **ecumenical study groups during Lent 2017** - from 1st March until Easter. You are invited to an opening gathering on **Monday 6th March at St Katherine's** to share food, fellowship and worship and finalise membership for groups meetings during Lent. Our **theme will be the ten 'Holy Habits'** referred to in Acts chapter 2 as the characteristic behaviours of the early Christians.

There will be a choice of meeting times and days of the week. Further details will be available shortly with a sign-up sheet to indicate your interest. If you cannot come to all meetings, please come to some and the opening evening on March 6th. Meanwhile we are seeking both possible leaders and hosts for these house groups – please contact Tony Hodder or Ian James if you feel able to help.

CROSSLIGHT IS COMING! Riding Lights (Theatre Company) are coming back to St Michael's **for two nights in Holy Week** with their Passion Play, Crosslight; a story that draws us into the dramatic events of Christ's Passion and the experience of the disciple chosen to lead. The presentation is structured to include non-dramatic content that will give the audience time and opportunity to reflect.

I am currently putting together a team of people who can prepare the event. We will need about twelve volunteers and will include many roles from providing a hot meal for the cast to stewarding on the evenings. If you can help, please talk to me either personally or by phone (637227) or email to david.kirkham2@btinternet.com

Lifts to Church: We need a few people who could offer lifts (on a rota basis) to the main Sunday Service from the Deer Park area. Please contact Ian or Lois if you can help.

William Simmonds will be running the London Marathon this year in April as a member of the National Osteoporosis Society Team in memory of his mother. If you would like to sponsor him, please see details at the back of the Church or speak to William.