



THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 2nd April 2017

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
(Led by *The Revd Tony Hodder*)
- 10.30am Parish Communion Service followed by Prayer Ministry
(Led by *The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*
Preacher: *The Revd Tony Hodder*)
- 6.30pm Evensong
(Led by *The Revd Canon Ryc Smith*)

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 St Anne's Chapel at the end of the service.

Church Diary for the week ahead

Mon	3 rd April	8pm-9.30pm	Ecumenical prayer and praise, Pool Barn, Priors Court, Staplow
Thurs	6 th April	7-12-7	Prayers (in The Choir Vestry at 7 & 7, 12 in St Anne's)
Fri	7 th April	9.00am 10.30am	Prayer Meeting, St Anne's Chapel Holy Communion, Harling Court

Next Sunday 9th April – Palm Sunday

- 8.00am Holy Communion BCP
- 9.15am Parish Communion followed by Prayer Ministry
(Beginning at St Katherine's Hall Car Park at 9.10am)
- 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](https://twitter.com/LedburyParish)
Parish office: phone number: 01531 631531. **Email:** ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net

Readings for 2nd April 2017: *Fifth Sunday Of Lent*

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1 – 14

¹The hand of the Lord was upon me and He brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me around among them and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley and behold, they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, You know." ⁴Then He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you and you shall live and you shall know that I am the Lord."

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound and behold, a rattling and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked and behold, there were sinews on them and flesh had come upon them and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man and say to the breath; Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as He commanded me and the breath came into them and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am The Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you and you shall live and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am The Lord. I have spoken and I will do it, declares the Lord."

New Testament Reading: Romans 8: 6 - 11

⁶For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Gospel Reading: John 11: 1 – 45

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, he whom You love is ill."

⁴But when Jesus heard it He said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was. ⁷Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone You and are You going there again?"

⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

¹¹After saying these things, He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."

¹³Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep.

¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

¹⁷Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house.

²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You."

²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to Him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met Him. ³¹When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

³²Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in His spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus wept. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not He who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave and a stone lay against it.

³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odour, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

⁴¹So they took away the stone. Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard me. ⁴²I knew that You always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that You sent me."

⁴³When he had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."

⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him and let him go."

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what He did, believed in Him.

COLLECT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in Him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of His victory; 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

Lord Jesus Christ, You have taught us that what we do for the least of our fellow men we do also for You: give us the will to be the servant of others as You were the servant of all and gave up Your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Amen.

We pray for:

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

Those who are sick:

Stan Tooby	Monnica Hussey	Rodney Harrison	Sheila Anthony
Dean Jackson	John Tate		

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

Barbara Loxton	Gordon Goodier	Mark Ledbury	Malcolm Brothers
Mark Wood-Robinson	Myra Rooke	Molly Vernal	Winifred Davis

Dates for your Diary

CAP The first (pilot) **Money Management Course** in partnership with Christians Against Poverty will be held on **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. Please telephone Ruth on 01531 670196 or email ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net to register the interest of yourself or of someone you know.

Lent Groups Closing Gathering Sunday 9th April 3.45 for 4pm in St Katherine's Hall. Bring a plate of cake or sandwiches to share.

Sunday 7th May 10.30am – Confirmation Service with Bishop Alistair.

Wednesday 7th June in the evening – Ledbury Pastoral Scheme celebration service with Bishop Richard

NOTICES

Peter and Diana Veasey would like to thank everyone for their prayers, get well cards and general support during the last few weeks. Peter is now recovering steadily and gradually easing himself into normal life.

Young Church: today there will be activities from Women's World Day of Prayers (Philippines) Am I being fair to you?

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

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the Mothering Sunday posy making last Saturday morning, either by attending or supplying flowers and greenery; it was a really lovely morning. Thank you also to everyone who made cakes and helped serve coffee after the Service.

The Tower Lighting this week is sponsored by Bruce and Ruth Wragg.

S^t Katherine's Chapel will be closed from Monday 6th March for refurbishment as part of Quinquennial Works for 6 weeks. During this time Holy Communion on Friday mornings will take place at Harling Court (behind the Theatre/ opposite the Co-Op).

S^t Katherine's Hall is having essential maintenance done to the exterior. The hall is *not* being closed, it will continue to function as usual.

Mtwara Lent Lunches raised the magnificent sum of £522.50. Thank you to all who supported the lunches, especially the soup makers.

Cake and Coffee and Soup, in S^t Katherine's Hall will be on **Wednesday 5th April** from **10.30am to 2pm**. Proceeds to S^t Michael's. Further details from Sue Simpson 632989.

Mothers Union Meeting on **Thursday, 6th April**, 2.15pm, Market Theatre Foyer. Speaker: Revd Michael Gallagher, "Ten Days to Easter".

Chapter House, Coffee Stop! Next **Friday 7th April 10am to 12.00noon**. A warm welcome to all. Come, bring your friends, relations, neighbours and visitors to Ledbury.

Mendelssohn, Elijah concert will be performed in St Michael's at **7.30pm** on **Saturday 8th April**, with a full orchestra, soloists and double choir – Ledbury and Newent Choral societies. It is very dramatic and tuneful, with a good storyline! Tickets are £12, with children and students free and can be purchased from Ledbury Books & Maps, or at the door.

CROSSLIGHT IS ALMOST HERE! Riding Lights Theatre Company are bringing their new passion play, **CROSSLIGHT**, to **St Michael's on 11th and 12th April at 7.30pm**.

One man is missing – one who knows the truth...Caught in the crosslight of the flickering candles at the last supper, the torches of Gethsemane, the firelight in the courtyard, by the searching gaze of his Lord, Simon 'the rock' is shattered. The disciple chosen to lead, is in pieces.

Crosslight draws us into the dramatic events of Christ's Passion and into the experience of one disciple who failed, despite everything he believed so passionately. It's time to get your tickets from the Group Office, Ruth Wragg or David Kirkham (Don't forget to invite your friends and neighbours!)

Maundy Thursday: We will once again be holding a 24hr prayer vigil in the Choir Vestry at St Michael's from 8am **on Maundy Thursday (13th April)** to 8am on Good Friday. We are hoping that individuals/couples/groups will book an hour's prayer slot during that period, to come and pray for God's work amongst us in the Town and as we seek to deepen our relationship with him and seek his will. You can sign up for a slot online, using the following web address - <http://teamup.com/ks43a909fc41fcd04b/>. Or by contacting Tony Hodder who will book a prayer slot for you. Paper, pens, bibles and other prayer helps will be provided in the room. The choir vestry will have heating and access to toilets during the 24 hour prayer time.

Eastnor Fundraising Quiz Night. S. John's are holding a quiz night **7.30 pm** on **Friday 21st April** at Eastnor Cricket Pavilion to help raise funds for essential repairs to their beautiful building. Tickets are free but donations will be requested. There will be a bar, quiz night prizes and a raffle. Teams of 4 are required. Please ring Beverly Jones (636378) or Joan Wakeling (633188) to book your table. If you are looking for partners, please let them know

Magazine. April's edition is now ready. If you have friends who you feel might appreciate a copy, please take a spare copy from the back of church and give it to them. If you used to help distribute the Team magazine, it would be extremely helpful if you could take sufficient copies to give one to each of your former customers.

Easter Lilies: The Flower Guild will be arranging lilies for Easter in Church. If you would like to donate a lily in memory of someone departed, please complete one of the bright yellow Easter Lilies forms at the back of the church by Friday 7th April. Cost is £3 a lily and a list of all those being remembered will be placed on the memorial table in St Anne's Chapel.

Annual Report and Accounts 2016: Please help yourselves to copies of the Annual Report and Accounts, available at the back of the Church. The Friends Annual Report is now also at the back of the Church. This should have been included with the main report last week.

S. Michael's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

was held on Thursday 30th March and the following people have been appointed:

Churchwardens: Lois Pratt and Christine Bainton

Assistant Churchwardens: Alan Pratt, Malcolm Thomas, Sue Simpson, Peter Tattersall

Deanery Synod: Christabel Panter, Richard Thursby, Peter Veasey

Treasurer: Bruce Wragg

PCC: Ann Davis, Ian James, David Kirkham, Heater Lucas, Ann Tombs, Diana Veasey

Next year's APCM will take place on Wednesday 14th March 2018 – save the date!