



THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Sunday 19th November 2017

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
(Led by The Revd James Stewart)
- 9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
*(Led by The Revd William Simmonds
Preacher The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey)*
- 6.30pm BCP Evensong
(Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey)

Church Diary for the week ahead

Mon 20 th November	8.00pm	Ecumenical Worship at Pool Barn
Wed 22 nd November	6.45pm for 7pm	Evening Prayer Service, S ^t Anne Chapel
Thurs 23 rd November	7-12-7	Prayers (in The Choir Vestry at 7 & 7, 12 in S ^t Anne's)
Friday 24 th November	9.00am	Prayer Meeting, S ^t Anne's Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel

Next Sunday 26th November CHRIST THE KING

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
- 11.15am Eastnor Parish Communion
- 4.00pm The 4 o'clock Worship Service

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 19th November 2017:

Second Sunday Before Advent

First Reading: Zephaniah 1: 1, 7, 12 – 18

¹The word of the LORD that came to Zephaniah the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated His guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will He do ill.'

¹³Their goods shall be plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them."

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there.

¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring distress on mankind, so that they shall walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the LORD; their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them on the day of the wrath of the LORD. In the fire of His jealousy, all the earth shall be consumed; for a full and sudden end He will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 – 11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security", then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brethren, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet, the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25: 14 – 30

¹⁴"[The kingdom of heaven] will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more.

¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

²⁰He who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

²²He who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

²⁴He who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.'

²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

COLLECT

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as He is pure; that when He shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like Him in His eternal and glorious kingdom; where He is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament You give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Readings for BCP Evensong are;

Psalm 89: 19-37

Luke 9: 1-6

Revelation 1: 4-18

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:

Dean Jackson Sheila Anthony Pauline (Eastnor) Phil Sykes
Valerie Clark

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

Joan Collins Vera Morris Ian McDonald Patricia
Tony Sadler Bob Hayden Smith-Maxwell

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 20th November Organ Recital from 12.30pm to 1.30pm.

Robert Milan – Faith, Hope, Love.

Saturday 2nd December 10.30am until 3.30pm - Advent Quiet Day. Waiting for God led by the Revd Michael Gallagher at Holy Trinity Church Hall, New Street, Ledbury.

Saturday 2nd December at 7.00pm - Ledbury Choral Society A Christmas Fantasia. Tickets from Ledbury Books & Maps or members of the society £10. To include Vaughan Williams, Pearsall, Bach, Mozart and your well-loved Christmas anthems and hymns.

Sunday 3rd December from 2.30pm – 5.00pm Community Advent Party at Ledbury Community Hall, Lawnside Road, Ledbury. Advent, crafts, games, carols, bring and share tea. All children to be accompanied by adults. Helpers needed. If you would like to attend or help, please contact Jill on 01531 635129.

Sunday 3rd December 6:30pm Light Up A Life.

Wednesday 13th December - Church Christmas Lunch at Three Shires Garden Centre. Please add your name to the list at the back of church if you would like to come. Further details from Sue Simpson.

Sunday 17th December 6:30pm – Town Carol Service

Sunday 21st January 2018 10:30am – Service of Christian Unity

February 9th-11th 2018 Llangasty Quiet Weekend. This is a reminder that The Llangasty Weekend is coming up again at the beginning of next year. Revd Elizabeth Reed will be the speaker and the theme she has chosen is "Blessings". Further details from Cherry Bentley-Taylor 660261 Email: cherry@bently-taylor.com

Saturday 3rd March 2018 Church Awayday at Pool Barn, Priors Court. The LMDG is organising a Church awayday. More information will follow. If you are interested, please put this in your diary.

Saturday 14th April 2018 – Advance Notice. The Ledbury Choral Society present Bob Chilcott's *Requiem*. see www.ledburychoral.btck.co.uk

NOTICES

Tower Illuminations this week are sponsored by Jean Tomlinson.

The 2018 list of dates for sponsoring the tower lighting is now available at the back of church. Thank you to all who signed up for this year. If you have not paid the sponsorship money, please give it to a churchwarden.

Young Church: The theme today will be "Being Faithful Taking Risks".

Next week the theme is "Judgement Call".

Magazine. The magazine for November is now available. If you have friends who you think might appreciate a copy, please take one for them.

Christmas Cards! Stop!

Before you rush out and buy lots of Christmas cards for your friends at St Michael's, remember that you can put a single card for all your friends on the board in the church. Think of the time you will save! And the money! You might like to give this to the two charities which have been chosen by the church by putting it in the container which will be at the back of the church from the beginning of December, **The Friends of St Michael's** and **Ledbury Community Action** which runs Dial a Ride and provides mobility vehicles and community transport for the town.

TODAY and next Sunday we shall be taking orders for your Bible reading notes for 2018. Please see Bill or Maggie at coffee time to put in your order. Thank you.

Thursday Group: a new small group will be meeting on Thursdays at 10.30am in the **Chapter House** to look at the Bible, pray together and share general fellowship; anybody is welcome. It is being led by Joe and Chrissie Chipper and will meet on alternate Thursdays. If you are interested in coming along, talk to Joe, Chrissie or David Kirkham.

Lesson Readers Rota: Please accept my apologies if you attend 08:00 and/or 18:30 services as my previous request relating to new Lesson Readers appears to have confused some. It is confined to the 09:30/10:30 service. A different system of Lesson Readers is in place for other services. Diana Veasey

Intercessions. The rota for January to June 2018 will be prepared shortly. There is always room for additional folk who would like to contribute to our regular Sunday worship in this way. If there is anybody not currently on the rota who would like to be included in future, please speak to Tony Goodall, or contact him on 635480 or gtonygoodall@aol.com.

DRIVERS ROTA - I'm delighted the Rota is now well established and has nearly completed its first year, thanks to our willing volunteers. This coming year I would like to enable passengers to attend **EVERY** Sunday. Could you be one of those to fill a gap? More details in the November Magazine, or by ringing Hilary Sharp 01531 631972.

PCC Charitable donations review: Each year the PCC considers a list of charities put forward for the distribution of approximately 10% of its income to good causes. Last year it was decided to allocate a part of this sum for consultation to include the congregation, so I am asking you to contact either Ian James or Christabel Panter, with any suggestions. Basically, we are looking for charities that follow Christian principles of supporting the elderly, the poor and needy of society locally or worldwide. In particular we hope to find charities where a personal relationship exists via a member of our congregation and where greatest value for money is achieved.

Please let us have your suggestions. Ian James (iandj39@talktalk.net)

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

The Mackenzies and the Wraggs will be cooking and serving a traditional turkey meal in the Baptist Church Hall for people who would otherwise be alone on Christmas day. If you know of such persons, please let them have their names and telephone numbers as soon as possible so that they can invite them. Bookings need to be made by **TODAY**. They wish to provide transport for those who need it so are asking for volunteers to collect the guests between 12 and 12.30pm when they will be too busy cooking to do this themselves. Drivers will only be needed one way as they will be able to take them home. Please consider if you can offer this half hour of your time on Christmas day for these lonely people. Please contact Bill and Maggie on (01531) 579009 or Bruce and Ruth on 670196.

Traidcraft catalogues are available at the back of church. A wide selection of Fair Trade Christmas goods and gifts can be ordered as well as a variety of Advent calendars with Fair Trade chocolate, some of which tell the real story of Christmas. **Orders by 20th November** please to Mary Anne Keyes (pay on delivery) *makeyes25@hotmail.com / 01531 579021*

Giving Tree – This will be launched on **Sunday 25 November 2017**, a week before Advent Sunday, to allow time for gifts for local families, the elderly etc. to be brought in and distributed by the Health Visiting Team, Ledbury Primary School and to be taken to the Community Hospital and Ledbury Nursing Home

The Travelling Crib will begin its journey on Advent Sunday. The list will be at the back of the Church.

Information relating to both of these will be by the Giving Tree and at the back of the Church or see Jill in Young Church for further information.