



THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Sunday 3rd December 2017

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
(Led by *The Very Revd Nick Bury*)
- 10.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
(Led by *The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*
Preacher *The Revd Tony Hodder*)
- 6.30pm Light up a Life Service (for S^t Michael's Hospice)
(Led by *The Revd William Simmonds*
Preacher *The Revd John Rhodes*)

Church Diary for the week ahead

Mon 4 th December	8.00pm	Ecumenical Worship at Pool Barn
Weds 6 th December	6.45pm for 7pm	Evening Prayer Service, S ^t Anne Chapel
Thurs 7 th December	7-12-7	Prayers (in The Choir Vestry at 7 & 7, 12 in S ^t Anne's)
Friday 8 th December	9.00am	Prayer Meeting, S ^t Anne's Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel

Next Sunday 10th December 2017 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
- 11.15am Eastnor Baptism 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](https://twitter.com/LedburyParish)

Parish office: phone number: 01531 631531. **Email:** ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net

Readings for 3rd December 2017: *Advent Sunday*

First Reading: *Isaiah 12: 1 – 6*

¹You will say in that day:

"I will give thanks to You, O LORD,

for though You were angry with me, Your anger turned away, that You might comfort me.

²"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid;

for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song and He has become my salvation."

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted.

⁵"Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

Second Reading: *Acts 4: 8 – 12*

⁸Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders,

⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed? ¹⁰Let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead — by Him this man is standing before you well.

¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Gospel Reading: *Mark 13: 24 – 37*

²⁴"In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.

²⁷And then He will send out the angels and gather His elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸"From the fig tree, learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that He is near, at the very gates.

³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²"But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning — ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; so that on the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit; one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of Your Son our Lord; that, when He shall appear He may not find us sleeping in sin but active in His service and joyful in His praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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:

Dean Jackson Sheila Anthony Pauline (Eastnor) Margaret Riley
Valerie Clark

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

Bob Hayden Andrew Pickup Barbara Bush Cath Mowbray

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TODAY from 2.30pm – 5.00pm Community Advent Party at Ledbury Community Hall, Advent crafts, games and carols, all welcome, including visiting grandchildren. Offers of help would still be welcome as would offers of mince pies, cakes, savouries etc. Please speak to Jill in Young Church or 01531 635129 to book a place, offer help etc.

TODAY at 6.30pm - Light Up A Life.

Thursday, 7th December at 2.15pm Mother's Union Meeting at Market Theatre Foyer. Theme will be Advent.

Friday 8th December from 6.00pm to 8pm Coffee Evening at Coffee #1. The Churches of Ledbury invite you to join us for a Christmas Special at Coffee #1 in Bye Street. There will be background music and an opportunity to join in with the carol singing.

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.

Saturday 16th December 9am-12noon. Church clean-up for Christmas to ensure all pews and surrounding areas are free of dust and cobwebs! There is a list at the back of church showing areas covered: there are still some gaps to fill. Brian Bowers.

Sunday 16th December from 7.30pm: Choral Concert of Christmas Music with the celebrated Bath Chorus. Free Admission with a retiring collection for the work of S^t Michael's in the community.

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. The Revd. Dr. John Daniels will be leading the day. If you are interested, please put this in your diary.

2018 Lent Lunches. Raising funds for a school bus for kindergarten children in Mtwara. **Saturday 24th February** at Ashperton Village Hall and **Thursday 22nd March** at S^t Katherine's Hall More dates to follow. We hope to raise £1000, watch this space.

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 Elaine Toyer.

The new 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 is Advent Preparations and the launch of the Giving Tree. Next Sunday will be Advent Children's Worship with The Revd Tony Hodder.

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.

Magazine. The December/January edition is now available. If you feel that there is someone who would appreciate a copy but does not come to church, please take a copy for them. The February copy will be compiled by Brian Bowers and contributions should be sent to him by 15th January. Contact details - by Email at blizbowers.10@gmail.com or by phone at 631306.

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 **2nd and 4th Thursdays** of the month. If you are interested in coming along, talk to Joe, Chrissie or David Kirkham.

Intercessions. The rota for the first half of 2018 has now been distributed to intercessors, by email where known, otherwise in pigeon holes. Please would you check that you have received your copy. Any problems, please let Tony Goodall know (635480).

Stair Lift For Sale suitable for a straight staircase. £950 to include the cost of installation. Please contact Betty Jefferies on 636105 if interested.

Giving Tree – This was launched last Sunday. To allow time for gifts for local families, the elderly etc. to be distributed by the Health Visiting Team and to be given to the Community Hospital and Ledbury Nursing Home please ensure that your gift is brought to Church on Sunday 10 December 2017, if you have not already brought it in. Please do not leave gifts in Church at other times. If you cannot bring it in then please bring it to Jill in the Town Council Office in Church Lane, as soon as possible, or ring on 01531 635129 to make an alternative arrangement. Please note there are still labels on the Tree, representing children and adults, who it would mean a lot to, to know that someone has thought about them this Christmas. Thank you.

The Travelling Crib will begin its journey today, Advent Sunday. It would be lovely if the Travelling Crib could visit as many homes/organisations as possible in Ledbury during December and for the list to be full. If you are not sure what the Travelling Crib is about speak to Jill or another member of Young Church. The sign up list is at the back of the Church with accompanying information.