



# THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,  
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Sunday 17th December 2017

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
(Led by The Revd James Stewart)
- 9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry  
(Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey  
Preacher Mary Anne Keyes)
- 6.30pm Town Carol Service  
(Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey)

### Church Diary for the week ahead

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> December	8.00pm	Ecumenical Worship at Ledbury Baptist Church
Thurs 21st December	7-12-7	Prayers (in The Choir Vestry at 7 & 7, 12 in S <sup>t</sup> Anne's)
	10.30am	Mothers Union Corporate Communion, S <sup>t</sup> Katherine's Chapel
Friday 22nd December	9.00am	Prayer Meeting, S <sup>t</sup> Anne's Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion, S <sup>t</sup> Katherine's Chapel

## Next Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2017 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / CHRISTMAS EVE

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
- 4.00pm Eastnor Carol Service
- 4.00pm Christingle
- 11.15pm Midnight Holy 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](http://www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk) under the 'Services' section.

Facebook – The church has a facebook page:

[fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](http://fb.me/stmichaelsledbury) – take a look, like and participate

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](mailto:ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net)

Readings for 17<sup>th</sup> December 2017:

*Third Sunday of Advent*

### First Reading: Isaiah 7: 14 – 17

<sup>14</sup>The Lord Himself will give you a sign. *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call His name Immanuel.* <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

### Second Reading: Hebrews 1: 6 – 12

<sup>6</sup>And again, when He brings the firstborn into the world, He says, “Let all God's angels worship Him.” <sup>7</sup>Of the angels He says, “He makes His angels winds and His ministers a flame of fire.” <sup>8</sup>But of the Son He says, “Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, the sceptre of uprightness is the sceptre of Your kingdom. <sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions.” <sup>10</sup>And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning and the heavens are the work of Your hands; <sup>11</sup>they will perish, but You remain; they will all wear out like a garment; <sup>12</sup>like a robe You will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But You are the same and Your years will have no end.”

### Gospel Reading: Luke 1: 26 – 33

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>He came to her and said, “Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son and you shall call His name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David <sup>33</sup>and He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

### COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at Your first coming sent Your messenger to prepare Your way before You: grant that the ministers and stewards of Your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready Your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at Your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in Your sight; for You are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give You thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of Your Spirit that when Your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before His face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

### We pray for:

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

### Those who are sick:

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

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

Bob Hayden	Andrew Pickup	Barbara Bush	Kath Mowbray
Margaret Cherry			

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 4.30pm Carol Singing:** Young Church and members of the congregation who would like to attend will be carol singing, accompanied by Phillip Holland and hopefully his accordion, with residents of Harling Court and Born Court from 4.30 pm. Speak to Jill in Young Church for more information or ring on 01531 635129.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 4:00pm – Christingle Service**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 11:30pm – Midnight Communion**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018 10:30am – Service of Christian Unity**

**February 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> 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@bentley-taylor.com

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> February** at Ashperton Village Hall, **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March** at New House Farm, Pultey, **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** at S<sup>t</sup> Katherine's Hall and **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** at 26 Pound Meadow, Ledbury. More dates to follow. We hope to raise £1000, watch this space.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018 – Advance Notice.** The Ledbury Choral Society present Bob Chilcott's *Requiem*. see [www.ledburychoral.btck.co.uk](http://www.ledburychoral.btck.co.uk)

## NEW VENUE

**Ecumenical Worship** on Monday evenings at 8.00pm will now take place at Ledbury Baptist Church. All very welcome.

## NOTICES

**Tower Illuminations:** 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:** today the children will be rehearsing for Christingle and Christmas morning. There is no Young Church on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 31st December**.

### 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.

**Stamps raise money** – a reminder to please put all and any used stamps from the Christmas cards you receive into the box at the back of the church. These and other 'collectibles raise a lot of money for the work of the Leprosy Mission each year.

**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.

**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).

**Giving Tree** – Thank you to those who have supported this. If you have not been able to bring your gift back in today please speak to Jill in Young Church or 635129. Gifts can be taken to Jill in the Town Council Offices in Church Lane but I must have them **by Monday 18 December at the latest**, to allow time for gifts for local families, the elderly etc. to be distributed by the Health Visiting Team, Age Concern and to be given to the Community Hospital and Ledbury Nursing Home. (All the labels have gone from the Tree but there are a number of gifts that have not yet been returned).

**The Travelling Crib** - 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. Children in local nurseries are currently enjoying having the crib with them.

## EASTNOR CASTLE GUIDED CHRISTMAS TOURS WITH JAMES HERVEY-BATHURST

Thursday 21st December 2017

5.30pm until 6.45pm and 7.00pm until 8.15pm

For more information and to book tickets please visit:

<http://eastnorcastle.com/christmas-tours/>