



THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Sunday 31st December 2017

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
(Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey)
- 9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
(Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey)
- 6.30pm Watchnight Service
(Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey)

Church Diary for the week ahead

Thursday 4 th January	7-12-7	Prayers (in The Choir Vestry at 7 & 7, 12 in S ^t Anne's)
Friday 5 th January	9.00am	Prayer Meeting, S ^t Anne's Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel

Next Sunday 7th January 2018 EPIPHANY

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
- 10.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
- 6.30pm Evensong

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.

Facebook – The church has a facebook page:

[fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](https://www.facebook.com/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

Readings for 31st December 2017:

Sunday After Christmas Day

First Reading: *Isaiah 43: 19 – 21*

¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

²⁰The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches,

for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,

²¹the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.

Second Reading: *Hebrews 8: 6 – 10*

⁶But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant He mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.

⁷For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second. ⁸For He finds fault with them when He says:

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, ⁹not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.

¹⁰For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds and write them on their hearts and I will be their God and they shall be my people.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 2: 25 – 35*

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷He came in the Spirit into the temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law,

²⁸he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

²⁹“Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen Your salvation ³¹that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel.”

³³And His father and His mother marvelled at what was said about Him.

³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

COLLECT

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in Your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through Your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as He came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of His divinity; who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help Your Church to live as one family united in love and obedience and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Giving Tree. Gifts have been taken for distribution to families at Ledbury Primary School, Ledbury Health Visitors Team for families they work with, AGE UK and the Community Hospital/Nursing Home. They are greatly appreciated by the recipients especially that they have been thought of at this time of year.

Young Church: The theme next week will be Epiphany.

Thank you: Steve Jones and Mark Herbert for erecting and decorating the beautiful Christmas Tree.

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).

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	Steve Taylor		

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

Margaret Cherry	Jean Elton	Barbara Bush	Kath Mowbray
Jean Watson	Eileen Alsop	Gisela Gardner	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 5th January 2018 **COFFEE STOP** in the **CHAPTER HOUSE** from 10.00am to 12.00noon. Do come and join us.

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@bentley-taylor.com. Closing date for booking is **Sunday 7th January 2018**. Please see Christabel for booking forms.

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, **Friday 16th March** at New House Farm, Pultey, **Thursday 22nd March** at S^t Katherine's Hall and **Tuesday 26th March** at 26 Pound Meadow, Ledbury. 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

NEW VENUE

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