



THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



EPIPHANY Sunday 7th January 2018

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
(Led by *The Revd Tony Hodder*)
- 10.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
(Led by *The Revd Tony Hodder*)
- 6.30pm Evensong
(Led by *Brian Bowers*)

Church Diary for the week ahead

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| Monday 8 th January | 8.00pm | Ecumenical Worship, Ledbury Baptist Church |
| Wednesday 10 th Jan | 6.45pm for 7pm | Evening Prayer Service, S ^t Anne Chapel |
| Thursday 11 th January | 7-12-7 | Prayers (in The Choir Vestry at 7 & 7, 12 in S ^t Anne's) |
| Friday 12 th January | 9.00am | Prayer Meeting, S ^t Anne's Chapel |
| | 10.30am | Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel |

Next Sunday 14th January 2018 SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion with Prayer Ministry
- 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.

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](https://twitter.com/LedburyParish)

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

Readings for 7th January 2018: *Epiphany*

First Reading: **Isaiah 60: 1 – 6**

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you and His glory will be seen upon you.
³Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising.
⁴Lift up your eyes all round and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

Second Reading: **Ephesians 3: 1 – 12**

¹I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles — ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.
⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of His power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that He has realised in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.

Gospel Reading: **Matthew 2: 1 – 12**

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him."
³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:
⁶"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."
⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.

⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him."

⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way.

And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary His mother and they fell down and worshipped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

COLLECT

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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 God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, 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	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 Watkins	Eileen Allsopp	Gisela Gardner	Jean Parson
John Miller			

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The next monthly coffee evening will be held at Coffee 1 in Bye Street on **Friday 12th January from 6-8pm**. As usual some live background music will be played. Do come with family and friends. Flyers available at the back of church.

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.. Closing date for booking is **TODAY**. Please see Christabel for booking forms.

Friday 9th February – Quiz Evening at 7.00pm in aid of CAL at the Burgage Hall. Tickets will include a fish and chip supper and will cost £15.00. Each team will include 4 people. Tickets available from the CAL office (635339). Roger Gates (631844) or John Lindeck (631329). CAL is the voluntary organization which provides 'Dial-a-Ride' for Ledbury and surrounding villages and also supplies Community Transport including buses. Unfortunately it has been badly effected by local Government spending cuts and the continuation of these services is at risk.

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

NOTICES

Tower Illuminations: The illuminations this week are sponsored by Jean Barnes.

Young Church: The theme today will be Epiphany.

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.

The MacKenzies and the Wraggs want to say a big THANK YOU to those who contributed to the cost of the Christmas Lunch for those who would otherwise have been alone on Christmas Day. The day was a great success with sixteen guests and seven helpers, plus drivers. Comments varied from 'better than a hotel' to 'my best Christmas ever!' After costs there was £140 left over and £70 is being given to Ledbury Food Bank and £70 to Ring and Ride. It was a very enjoyable day for all and well worth doing.