



**THE PARISHES OF  
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,  
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**Sunday 8th December  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
*Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*
- 10.00am Morning Worship  
*Led by The Revd Tony Hodder*  
*Preacher The Revd William Simmonds*
- 11.15am Eastnor Parish Communion  
*Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*
- 6.30pm Holy Communion  
*Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*  
*Preacher Mary Anne Keyes*

**Next Sunday 15th December  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
10.00am Parish Communion and Prayer Ministry  
6.30pm **Town Carol Service**

**Church Diary for the week ahead**

Monday 9th December	8:00pm	Ecumenical Worship, Ledbury Baptist Church
Thursday 12th <sup>th</sup> December	7-12-7	Prayers
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	9:00am	Prayer Meeting, S <sup>t</sup> Anne's Chapel
	10:30am	Holy Communion, S <sup>t</sup> Katherine's Chapel

If you are new here, welcome. 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** 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's facebook page: [fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](https://fb.me/stmichaelsledbury) – take a look, like and participate.

**Twitter** – Do sign-up to S. Michael's twitter account: [@LedburyParish](https://twitter.com/LedburyParish).

**Parish office: phone number:** 01531 631 531.

**Email:** [ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net](mailto:ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net)

Readings for 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019:

*Advent II*

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 11: 1 – 10**

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what His eyes see, or decide disputes by what His ears hear, <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness He shall judge the poor and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth and with the breath of His lips He shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of His waist and faithfulness the belt of His loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of Him shall the nations enquire and His resting-place shall be glorious.

**New Testament Reading: Romans 15: 4 – 13**

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

<sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy.

As it is written, "Therefore I will praise You among the Gentiles and sing to Your name."

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people."

<sup>11</sup>And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles and let all the peoples extol Him."

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even He who arises to rule the Gentiles; in Him will the Gentiles hope."

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 3: 1 – 12**

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>3</sup>For this is He who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.'"

## NOTICES

**Young Church** – the theme today will Advent Children's Worship.

**Community Advent Party:** A big thank you to everyone who helped and supported the Party, in a whole variety of ways, last Sunday afternoon. It was a very enjoyable, well attended event and great partnership working between the churches.

**Travelling Crib:** The Travelling Crib started its journey around Ledbury on Advent Sunday, from the Advent Party. The List is at the back of the Church or see Jill (Young Church 01531 635129) if you or a group you are involved with would like to take it.

**Giving Tree:** The Giving Tree has now been launched. There is lots of information by the Tree (by Chapter House) but if you have any further queries please speak to Jill 01531 635129. The generosity of the congregation has been greatly appreciated in previous years, both by local families and those in Ledbury Community Hospital, Nursing Home etc. Please note only bring gifts on Sundays and they must be in by **Sunday 15 December 2019** to allow time for distribution. Thank you for your support again this year.

**Christmas Greetings.** Now is the time we panic about getting our Christmas cards done in time. Please consider sending one single card to all church members to be displayed on a notice board in the church. This will save time and money. You might like to consider putting the money you will save in the box which will be placed by the notice board. The money will go to offset church expenses at this expensive time of year.

**Christmas lunch for those on their own on Christmas Day.** This lunch will take place again this year. We do need help to find those people who will be alone at Christmas. Please think of neighbours and friends who could be asked and let Chris 248401 or Kate 633662 know. We will be asking for help with transport nearer the time. Thank you.

**The Pastoral Care Team** offer their quiet and confidential support to those who wish. If you know someone who would appreciate their prayerful presence, please contact one of the team.

**Intercessions.** The rota for the first half of 2020 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).

**Wednesday Evening Prayer will not take place in December.**

The twice monthly evening prayer will resume as normal on Wednesday 8th January 2020

## ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT LENT 2020

Ecumenical discussion groups will again be organised for Lent 2020 - which runs [from February 26th to 11th April](#). We plan to offer at least seven different groups at a range of venues (usually homes) and on a selection of weekday time-slots - morning, afternoon or evening.

Do consider making one of these stimulating groups part of your personal Lenten preparation! And if you can offer to host or facilitate a group, please get in touch with Stephen Chowns ([01531 634896](tel:01531634896) or [schowns@aol.com](mailto:schowns@aol.com)) or Peter Veasey (01531 632099 or [oldwell@btinternet.com](mailto:oldwell@btinternet.com)).

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him <sup>6</sup>and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

<sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves; 'We have Abraham as our father', for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>"I baptise you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in His hand and He will clear His threshing floor and gather His wheat into the barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire."

Readings for Holy Communion (6.30pm)

First Reading            Psalm 11  
Second Reading        1 Kings 18: 17 – 39  
Gospel Reading         John 1: 19 - 28

### COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, Your power and come among us and with great might succour us; so that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, Your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, to whom with You and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Father in heaven, who sent Your Son to redeem the world and will send Him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate Him in the humility and purity of His first coming that, when He comes again, we may be ready to greet Him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### We pray for:

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

### Those who are sick:

Phyl Sykes	Steve Taylor	Dean Jackson	Mike Wakeford
Barbara Williams	Jenny Bury	Jane Nicholas	Mildred Gray
Sheila Anthony	Eve Stone	Don Rule	Miles Oliver
John Boyle			

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

Alan Locke	Dorothy Waters	Grace Dixon	Dorothy Phillips
Dougie Caffull			

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Church Christmas Lunch, 12 for 12.30pm** at 3 Shires Garden Centre. Cost £15 per person for 2 courses, including mince pie and coffee. For further details, please see Sue Simpson.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December - CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT** by Ledbury Choral Society, St Michael and All Angels at 7.00pm. Conducted by Simon Harper, *with congregational carols*. Tickets from Ledbury Books and Maps and LCS members. £10 in advance, £12 on the door.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 6:30pm: TOWN CAROL SERVICE.** Do come and support this Christmas Celebration and bring friends and family too.

**Monday 16th December at noon. Organ recital with all our visiting organists.**  
Plus seasonal refreshments

**Saturday 21st December at 11am: Carol Singing at Coffee 1.**  
Please invite people to come and join in the fun!

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December from around 4.30pm Carol Singing:**  
Young Church, accompanied by Phillip Holland and other members of the congregation will be singing with residents at Harling Court and Born Court. This annual event is much enjoyed by the residents so please join us. Contact Jill 635129 for more information.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Eve: 4pm Christingle Service in Ledbury**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December: 4pm: Eastnor Parish Carol Service**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Morning Communion services: 8am and 10am**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm: Carol Praise.** Have you missed singing any of your favourite Christmas Carols this year? Let Philip or Keith know and we can all sing them together at Carol Praise.

### Advance notices:

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 3:30pm** Newcomers Welcome Tea. Mary Anne Keyes will be organising this regular event after Christmas.

**Sunday 2nd February 4pm** Candlemas. A new Candle Service which will be followed by refreshments.