



**THE PARISHES OF  
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,  
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
*Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*
- 10.00am Parish Communion and Prayer Ministry  
*Led by The Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey*
- 11.15am Eastnor Parish Communion  
*Led by Revd Joan Wakeling*

**Church Diary for the week ahead**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
	4.00pm	Ledbury Christingle
	4.00pm	Eastnor Carol Service
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>
	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00am	Christmas Morning Communion
	11.15am	Eastnor Christmas Communion
Friday	27th December	10.30am Holy Communion, S <sup>t</sup> Katherine's Chapel



**Next Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December  
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
10.00am Parish Communion and Prayer Ministry  
6.30pm Carol Praise

If you are new here, welcome. Please fill in one of the 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://www.facebook.com/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 22nd December:

*Advent IV*

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 7: 10 – 16**

<sup>10</sup>The LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, "I will not ask and I will not put the LORD to the test." <sup>13</sup>And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call His name Emmanuel. <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.

**New Testament Reading: Romans 1: 1 – 7**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning His Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of His name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, <sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 1: 18 – 25**

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way.  
When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."  
<sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:  
<sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son  
and they shall call His name Emmanuel" (which means, God with us).  
<sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son.  
And he called His name Jesus.

## COLLECT

Eternal Father God, as Mary waited for the birth of Your Son, so we wait for His coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, who chose the blessed virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us Your servants with Your grace, that in all things we may embrace Your holy will and with her rejoice in Your salvation; 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	Hilary Sharp	Shirley Everard	

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

Dougie Caffull	Doris Mitton	Mary Bagley	James Mansell
Alan Moore			

## NOTICES

**Young Church** – today the children will be rehearsing for Christingle, Christmas morning and Christingle Orange Making. Young Church will resume again on 5<sup>th</sup> January..

**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.

**Giving Tree:** Thank you for your wonderful support for the Giving Tree. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated both by local families at Ledbury Primary School and Children's Centre and those in Ledbury Community Hospital and Nursing Home.

**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).

### \*\*\*Stop Press\*\*\* The Bible in a year

Why not begin on 1<sup>st</sup> January to read or listen to the Bible as a year's project?

With the Holy Trinity Brompton app you can load it onto your 'smart phone' or iPad and listen or read each day from the Bible. You can also choose to listen or read a short commentary by Rev'd Nicky Gumble (of Alpha fame) who will briefly explain each passage. You can log on at any time and you do not need to wait till the New Year to start!

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/bible-in-one-year/id504133402>

## Lent Groups 2020

Ecumenical discussion groups will again be organised for Lent 2020 - which runs from February 26<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> 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 or schowns@aol.com) or Peter Veasey (01531 632099 or oldwell@btinternet.com).

**Bells Appeal:** We have now had offers for sponsorship for 30 of the 48 items which offer specific naming opportunities. Our warm thanks to all who have responded to this latest initiative. This includes, for instance, four new bells (@ £10,000), 19 of the 22 clock hammers (@£500) and 3 of the ten bell ropes (@ £200). We would love to have found sponsors for the three remaining clock hammers and 7 remaining ropes before the end of the year. Can you help us? It is a great chance to have your name permanently associated with the tower. Do you know anyone else who could help us? (Contact Tim Keyes on 579021).

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### TOMORROW 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.

### TOMORROW from 8:00pm - Ecumenical Worship, Ledbury Baptist Church

**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.

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 10am - 12noon: Coffee Stop in the Chapter House.

Please drop in. It would be good to see you.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 3pm: Christian Unity Service.** A new time so that the Roman Catholics and Romanian Orthodox are able to join us.

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January – 9.15am for 9.30am Men's Breakfast** at the Seven Stars restaurant on the Homend. Cost £8. The speaker will be the Revd Graeme Anderson talking about how he came to be leading a major city centre church in Coventry. Please sign the sheet at the back of church if you hope to come so that we can give some idea of how many to cater for. Thank you

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January - Burns Night: 7.00 pm** in St Katherine's). Tickets are now available for this "not-to-be-missed" Friends event. There will be a piper, traditional food, all the special ceremony and (short!) speeches, some poems of Burns and a bit of dancing at the end for those who like to do that. It will be a great evening out. Contact Tim Keyes – 01531 579021. Tickets £15.

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> February 4pm** Candlemas. A new Candle Service which will be followed by refreshments.