



THE PARISHES OF LEDBURY AND EASTNOR



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

Sunday 9th February 2020 THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion <i>Led by Revd William Simmonds, Preacher Mary Anne Keyes</i>
10.00am	Morning Worship <i>Led by Revd William Simmonds, Preacher Mary Anne Keyes</i>
11.15am	Eastnor Parish Communion <i>Led by Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey</i>
6.30pm	Holy Communion <i>Led by Revd James Stewart, Preacher Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey</i>

Church Diary for the week ahead

Monday 10 th February	8:00pm	Ecumenical Worship, Ledbury Baptist Church
Wednesday 12 th February	6.45pm for 7pm	Evening Prayer and Prayer Ministry
Thursday 13 th February	7, 12, 7	Prayers
Friday 14 th February	9:00am	Prayer Meeting, S ^t Anne's Chapel
	10:30am	Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel

Next Sunday 16th February SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Communion and Prayer Ministry
6.30pm	Evensong

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 on the church website www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk under the 'Services' section and are posted in the church porch..

Facebook – The church's facebook page: [fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsledbury) – Do have 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

Readings for 9th February 2020: *Third Sunday Before Lent*

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 58: 1 – 12

¹“Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet. Declare to my people their rebellion and to the descendants of Jacob their sins. ²For day after day they seek me out; they seem eager to know my ways, as if they were a nation that does what is right and has not forsaken the commands of its God. They ask me for just decisions and seem eager for God to come near them. ³“Why have we fasted,” they say “and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves and you have not noticed?” ⁴“Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please and exploit all your workers. Your fasting ends in quarrelling and strife and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high. ⁵Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for people to humble themselves? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying in sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter — when you see the naked, to clothe them and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? ⁸Then your light will break forth like the dawn and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. ⁹Then you will call and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help and He will say: Here am I. ¹⁰“If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk ¹⁰and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like the noonday. ¹¹The LORD will guide you always; He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. ¹²Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1 – 16

¹When I [Paul] came to you, brethren, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. ⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him” — ¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

¹¹For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one.

¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5: 13 – 20

¹³[Jesus said] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.

¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

COLLECT

Lord of the hosts of heaven, You are our salvation and our strength, without You we are lost: guard us from all that harms or hurts and raise us when we fall; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Go before us, Lord, in all we do with Your most gracious favour and guide us with Your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name and finally by Your mercy receive everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for:

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

Those who are sick:

Phyl Sykes	Steve Taylor	Dean Jackson	Mike Wakeford
Barbara Williams	John Boyle	Shirley Everard	Miles Oliver
Sheila Anthony	Kate Greenall		

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

Dougie Caffull	Doris Mitton	Mary Bagley	James Mansell
Alan Moore	Sandra Peters	Robert Orrett	David Strutt

NOTICES

Young Church: today there will be Children's Worship with Tony Hodder. Please note that there will be no session next week.

Lent Groups 2020 – This year's Ecumenical Lent Groups will have the theme "Living in the Light". Enrolment forms are on the table at the back of church. Please place completed forms in the box provided or give them to Diana or Peter Veasey. The Opening Service and Enrolment Evening are on **Thursday 20th February**. Spare forms are available from Peter.

12,000 opportunities to say, 'Welcome'. From **April to the end of October** this year there is every possibility that over 12,000 visitors will come to St Michaels. Would you like to be part of the Friends of Ledbury Parish Church welcoming team? Currently we cover only 40% of available two hourly welcoming 'slots'. While a regular commitment would be ideal, it is appreciated some will have more complex diary arrangements. If you are willing to help, we will do all we can to accommodate you. Please have a word with David Houghton or email him at davidhoughton955@btinternet.com

Thank you for all your financial support over the last year, through the Parish Giving Scheme, Standing Orders and Envelopes. A special thank you to Tony and Lesley Goodhall for all their work over several years as Recorder and Secretary of our Stewardship Scheme. If you want to know how much you gave, please see or call David Kirkham (our new Stewardship Recorder),
If you want to give regularly to the work and maintenance of S^t Michael's or if you want to join the PGS (and if you give by envelope or SO already I suggest strongly that you should) please contact me on 01531 637227 or david.kirkham2@btinternet.com

February Magazine is now available at the back of Church. Please help yourselves to a copy. If you feel moved to distribute the magazine to friends/ neighbours around the town, please let Helen I'Anson know where. It would be really helpful to know where the magazine is being distributed.

Last Peal on the Bells. The Rector has given special permission for a peal attempt on **Thursday 13th February, starting at 9.45**. Typically a peal lasts a little over three hours. This will, of course, be the last peal rung on the bells before the restoration work on bells and tower, and will be one of the last bits of ringing on the bells before work begins.

'Real' Easter Eggs' Akin to the 'real' advent calendars, these eggs are made of Fairly traded chocolate and have materials with them telling the Easter Story. If you would like to order please contact Mary Anne Keyes on 07962 323454 or makeyes25@hotmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 12th February *A Bluffers Guide to Ledbury Church* at 2.30pm delivered by Ian Beer and Margaret Chapman, followed by tea and biscuits.

Monday 17th February at 12noon – **Organ Recital** by Gus Orchard from Cheltenham.

Tuesday 18th February, from 10.00am. Contemplative Prayer. Sessions take place in St. Katherine's Chapel on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Thursday 20th February at 7pm - A journey with the church bells of Ledbury through 1000 years of history and literature, and accompanied by some very colourful characters, both real and fiction This talk will be held at the Master's House. Tickets £6 are available from the Library. All proceeds will go towards the campaign for the restoration of the bells.

Tuesday 25th February – Shrove Tuesday 6:15pm: Pancake Party in S. Katherine's.

Wednesday 26th February – Ash Wednesday:

12.30pm Ash Wednesday Communion (with ashing for those who wish) with soup lunch in the chapter house afterwards.

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Communion (with ashing for those who wish).

Tuesday 3rd March – Mtwara Lent Lunch from 12noon to 2pm at the home of Ian and Jan James, 39 Browning Road, Ledbury. Telephone 637376

Friday 6th March 10am - 12noon: Coffee Stop in the Chapter House.

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

Tuesday 10th March – Mtwara Lent Lunch from 12noon to 2pm at the home of Mrs Cherry Bentley-Taylor, Mainwarings, Much Marcle. Telephone 660261

Friday 20th March – Mtwara Lent Lunch from 12noon to 2pm at the home of Graham and Anne Blandford, New House Farm, Putley. Telephone 670274

Thursday 26th March – Mtwara Deanery Lent Lunch at S^t Katherine's Hall from 12noon to 2pm. For more details please contact Ann Tombs. Telephone 632668.

Saturday 28th March from 10.30am to 1.30pm Seed Swap & Plant Sale in the Chapter House. Do you: Order too many seeds/always have seeds left over/collect your own seeds/grow too many seedlings/like trying new varieties on the cheap? How about bringing your spare seeds and seedlings and enjoying some chat and refreshments as well as picking up some bargains. Refreshments available to purchase (tea, coffee and cake or home-made soup and bread). Also produce if available. Further information from Mary Anne Keyes 01531 579021 or 07962 323454. Please tell your friends

Friday 3rd April – Mtwara Lent Lunch from 12noon to 2pm at the home of Mrs Freda Helme. 1 The Ryders. Church Road, Ashperton. Telephone 670586

Bells and Tower Appeal: We are able to confirm that we have now reached £250,000 in our fundraising efforts. Not bad for a place the size of Ledbury! Sponsors have now come forward to cover the £4,000 cost of the frame extension for the new bells. Many thanks! We need about £23,000 more to be able to cover all the work in the tower. If you were intending to make a donation but have not yet taken the plunge, now is the time! Tim Keyes (01531 579021)

Quarter Peal: The ringers successfully completed a Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Major last Sunday in memory of Doris Mitton. All six of her children were there to witness the event and joined us in the tower afterwards. The family has very generously sponsored the refurbishment of the tenor bell in memory of Doris.

"Friends" events: A Bluffers Guide to Ledbury Church will be delivered by Ian Beer and Margaret Chapman at 2.30 pm on **Wed 12th Feb** followed by tea and biscuits. The next event is "Stitch and Silver" on March 18th. See the green Friends programmes at the back of church for full details of these and subsequent events.

Our church attracts visitors from all over the world. We have found coins from 15 different countries in the donations chest, as well as pounds and Euros. We also have obsolete (pre Euro) currency from all over Europe.

If you know of a way to make use of small change in a range of currencies please let Cath Beech know'

The music after the services today will be arrangements from the crossover band of the late 70s, Sky. Toccata after the 10am service and Danza after the 6.30pm Communion.