



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**Sunday 16th February 2020
SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
Led by Revd Canon Ryc Smith
- 10.00am Parish Communion and Prayer Ministry
Led by Revd Keith Hilton-Turvey
- 6.30pm *BCP Choral Evensong*
Led by Revd William Simmonds

Church Diary for the week ahead

Monday 17 th February	8:00pm	Ecumenical Worship, Ledbury Baptist Church
Thursday 20 th February	7, 12, 7	Prayers
	10.30am	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion S ^t Katherine's Chapel
	7.30pm	Lent Group Opening Service Holy Trinity RC Church
Friday 14 th February	9:00am	Prayer Meeting, S ^t Anne's Chapel
	10:30am	Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel

**Next Sunday 23rd February
SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

- 8.00am BCP Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Communion and Prayer Ministry
11.15am Eastnor Parish Communion

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 16th February 2020: *Second Sunday Before Lent*

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light" and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse and it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth and the waters that were gathered together He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶And God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds — livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

²⁹And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹And God saw everything that He had made and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all the host of them.

²And on the seventh day God finished His work that He had done and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had done.

³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all His work that He had done in creation.

New Testament Reading: Romans 8: 18 – 25

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 6: 25 – 34

[Jesus said] ²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

COLLECT

Almighty God, You have created the heavens and the earth and made us in Your own image: teach us to discern Your hand in all Your works and Your likeness in all Your children; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. . **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our creator, by Your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise and the bread of life at the heart of Your Church: may we who have been nourished at Your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; 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	Peter Attenborough	

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

Music during Sunday morning's service will be acoustic versions of tracks by Jean-Michel Jarre. At Choral Evensong we will sing catincles by Thomas Tertius Noble and an anthem of Of God, your goodness' with music by Beethoven.

NOTICES

February's 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 l'Anson know where. It would be really helpful to know where the magazine is being distributed.

Emma Reed would like you to support 'Dream Your Future Counselling' in Ledbury Tesco with your blue tokens. To find out more about it, talk to Emma after the service.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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.

Friday 6th March - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER at Ledbury Baptist Church at 2.00 p.m.

The service this year has been prepared by the Christian women in Zimbabwe. People of all ages; women, men and children, will be welcome to join us at the service.

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

Young Church: There is no session today. The theme next week will be The Transfiguration.

Tower Lights are sponsored this week in memory of Eddy and Iris Mitchell.

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 at 7.30pm.**

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

'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

Peal of Plain Bob Major: A band made up of local ringers and invited guests successfully completed a full peal (3 hrs 15mins) on **Thursday 13th Feb.** This was the last peal on the "old eight" before the restoration project, as part of which the number of bells will be increased to 10. The local ringers were Jane Mason, Roy Mills and Tim Keyes.

Bells and tower appeal: Our funds were boosted last week by a £5,000 grant from Ledbury Town Council. We are very grateful for their support and commitment. We are also very grateful to Sitara Indian Restaurant who laid on a meal on Tuesday for 40 people with all the proceeds going to the bells and tower appeal. This raised nearly £1,400. In one final round of specific sponsorship we now seek sponsors for items needed in the refurbishment of the Ringing Room including teaching equipment. You can find slips at the back of church itemising what is needed. We would be very grateful for any offers of help to enable us to "get across the line".

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'

You'll be pleased to hear that the faculty for the chancel lighting has been granted and so we can go ahead with the work. Members of the congregation have already contributed generously to this work - if you would still like to contribute please could you do so by **22nd February.**