



THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



Sunday 21st February 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

At 10am on Sunday morning
there will be a service on our website
www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk
and in our church building
so we can continue to worship God,
we read scripture, praise and pray together.

Do encourage and invite people to join in

We can take part where we are.
We can join together at one time,

Please visit
our website www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk,
facebook page [fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsledbury)
and twitter feed [@LedburyParish](https://twitter.com/LedburyParish)
for updates and information
and encourage others to do so too.

NEXT SUNDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Readings for 21st February 2021:

Lent One

Old Testament Reading:

Genesis 9: (1-7&) 8 – 17

¹God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. ²The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. ³Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. ⁴But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. ⁵And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.

⁶“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

⁷And you, be fruitful and multiply, teem on the earth and multiply in it.”

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him,

⁹“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

¹²And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the cloud and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”

¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

New Testament Reading:

1 Peter 3: 18 – 22

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities and powers having been subjected to Him.

Gospel Reading:

Mark 1: 9 – 15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when He came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove.

¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."
¹² The Spirit immediately drove Him out into the wilderness. ¹³ And He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And He was with the wild animals and the angels were ministering to Him.
¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

NOTICES

During the current lockdown the church office will be open on Wednesdays only.

When the church is open, please wear face coverings in church. Thank you.

Following government guidance and rules, as you enter church and within, you will see NHS track and trace posters which have qr codes on them, for use with the NHS app on your smartphone (if you have one and if you have the app on your phone). We are asking newcomers and visitors to either use that or to make themselves known to the churchwardens who will ensure your details are recorded.

Church Car Park: The north walls of the church continue to be scaffolded to allow the replacement of the PVC guttering and downpipes. The work is expected to last at least until the end of February depending upon the weather. **The car park will be closed** until all the scaffolding is removed.

Lent Books

There is a large selection of books on the bookstall for reading, studying and focusing on through Lent. It includes the Archbishop's recommended book which we have reviewed in the February magazine. Do have a look, there should be something for everybody.

Bill and Maggie

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 5th March. The service this year has been prepared by the Christian Women of Vanuatu. We are aware that this year will be different, but we hope that there will be a chance for those with internet access to visit YouTube to join in the service. The full address for the YouTube service is not yet available, but will be published on <https://www.wwdp.org.uk> as soon as it is. We may be able to project the service in St Michael and All Angels' Church on Friday 5th March at 2.00 p.m. If you would like an introduction to Vanuatu follow this link .

<https://www.wwdp.org.uk/2021/01/13/introducing-vanuatu/>

Next year we hope to be back at a face to face service! The service on March 4th 2022 has been prepared by England, Wales and Northern Ireland and will be hosted by The Methodist Church in Bye Street.

LENT GROUP – ZOOM

Please note our weekly Zoom Lent Group, will begin on **Wednesday 24th February**. 'Thank You' to those who have already replied to me to say you wish to take part in the forthcoming ecumenical Lent Group. However, the steering group have decided that Wednesday evenings are manageable for more people - so we shall hold the sessions on five Wednesday evenings, starting on 24th February at 7.30pm

Just to remind you - we shall open the first meeting 15 minutes early to allow those who are less familiar with Zoom to have a little practice!

We will be following the broad themes set out in Bishop Tom Wright's book: '*God and the Pandemic*'. It is not necessary to have read the book - though it is quite short and copies can be ordered through the Parish Church bookstall. (Please see the notice below)

Please confirm your wish to attend, by emailing me. I can then ensure that you are sent the Zoom access link just before the first meeting later this month.

Stephen Chowns

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness and was tempted as we are, yet without sin, give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to Your Spirit; and, as You know our weaknesses, so may we know Your power to save; 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, You have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it You nourish our faith, increase our hope and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for Him who is true and living bread and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of Your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for: Our link CMS mission partners, our Leprosy Mission partners & S^t Michael and All Angels, Mtwara and S^t John the Baptist Church, Likonde.

We pray for those who are sick:

Phyl Sykes	Sheila Anthony	Dean Jackson	Mike Wakeford
Michael Jarrett	Frances Holloway	Barbara Morris	Miles Oliver
Pam Robinson	Chris Nicholson	Robert Walters	Kat Costello
Kate Greenhall	Phyllis Brothers	Thomas Heffner	

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

Pam Davies	Elsie Plaskett	Margaret Barber	Roy Haworth
Paul Rees	Elizabeth Meredith	Bob Sharp	Roger McDonald
Barbara Watson	William Tomlinson	Molly Gibbons	Alan Pratt

Ecumenical Lent Group 2021

The final shape of our Lent Group this year has now emerged!

Yes, there's only **ONE** group, in a sense, held using Zoom on five **Wednesday** evenings during Lent. But we shall, during each session, divide into 'breakout rooms' to discuss important questions raised by the evening's speaker.

We have decided to use Bishop Tom Wright's timely book: '*God and the Pandemic*' as a framework for our discussions – though it will NOT be necessary to have read the book! Copies are obtainable, however, through the St Michael's Parish bookshop. Please contact Maggie McKenzie (01531 579009) if you would like to order a copy, at about £7.00.

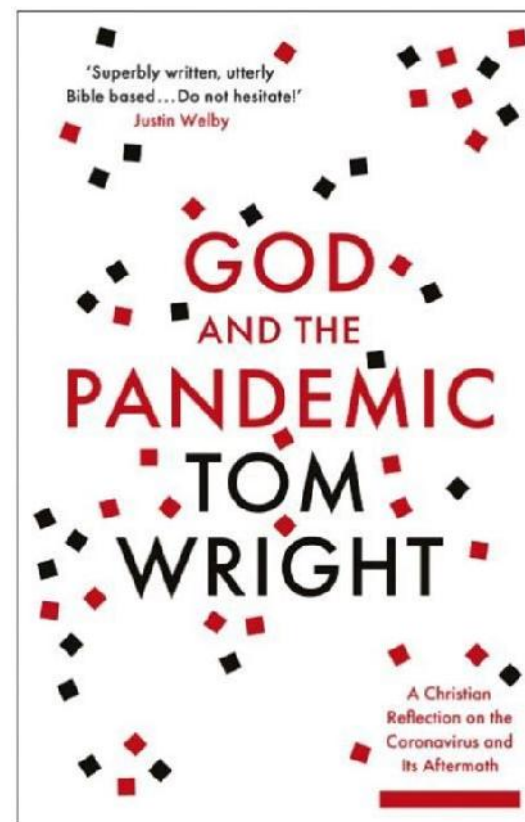
Please let your church stewards know if you wish to join the zoom sessions. We shall need your email address, so that we can send you the Zoom link each week. Alternatively, contact Stephen Chowns (01531 634896) or by email schowns@aol.com

The first of the five sessions will begin at
7.30pm on Wednesday 24th February

– though, if you are unfamiliar with Zoom, please join 15 minutes early for an explanation of the procedure! The sessions will conclude by 8.45pm.

If you have not joined a Lent Group before, consider this!

- You won't have to turn out on a cold or wet evening.
- You won't have to drink someone else's coffee or tea.
- You can be eating your favourite biscuits.
- The only expectation is that you, at some point during the five sessions, contribute an opinion, reflection or recollection!



Parish office: phone number: 01531 631 531.

Email: ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net

Please visit our website www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk

Facebook – The church's facebook page: fb.me/stmichaelsledbury –

Do have a look, like, follow and participate.

Twitter – Do sign-up to S. Michael's twitter account: @LedburyParish