



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**SUNDAY 19th DECEMBER
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

At 8:00am

we shall have a BCP Communion service in our church building

At 10:00am

**we shall have Holy Communion Service
in our church building and streamed live on our website**

www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk

then available later on video

Do encourage and invite people to join in
in person and online.

At 5.30pm

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Friday 24th December Christmas Eve

| | |
|---------|---|
| 10.30am | Holy Communion, S ^t Katherine's Chapel |
| 4.00pm | Ledbury Christingle |
| 4.00pm | Eastnor Carol Service |
| 11.30pm | Midnight Communion |

Saturday 25th December Christmas Day

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 8.00am | BCP Holy Communion |
| 10.00am | Christmas Morning Communion |
| 11.15am | Eastnor Christmas Communion |



**NEXT SUNDAY 26th DECEMBER
The feast of S^t Stephen (Boxing Day)**

Church office: phone number: 01531 631 531.

Email: ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net

This week the Church Office will be open

Tuesday, Wednesday 9am to 4pm and Thursday 9am to 1pm.

Please visit our website www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk

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

Do have a look, like, follow and participate.

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

Readings for 19th December 2021:

Advent 4

Old Testament Reading:

Micah 5: 2 – 5a

²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore He shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴And He shall stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God.

And they shall dwell secure, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth.

⁵And He shall be their peace.

New Testament Reading:

Hebrews 10: 5 – 10

⁵... when Christ came into the world, He said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings You have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

⁸When He said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then He added, “Behold, I have come to do Your will.” He does away with the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Gospel Reading:

Luke 1: 39 – 55

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry,

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

⁴⁶ And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

⁴⁸for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for He who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is His name.

⁵⁰And His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with His arm;

He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

⁵²He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things and the rich He has sent away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy,

⁵⁵as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring for ever.”

COLLECT

Eternal 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 & S' Michael and All Angels, Mtwara and S' John the Baptist Church, Likonde.

We pray for those who are sick:

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Michael Jarrett | Frances Holloway | Dean Jackson | Mike Wakeford |
| Pam Robinson | Chris Nicholson | Robert Walters | Miles Oliver |
| Kate Greenall | Thomas Heffner | Richard Tyrrell | Julia Matthews |
| Elizabeth Crossley | Sheila Anthony | Mike Bainton | Marilyn Sherlock |
| John Crossley | David Kirkham | Jacqui Byron | Andy Ward |

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

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Ann Gladwin | Eileen Sandford | Nellie James | Ann Drew |
| Ursula Orrett | Dick Taylor | Lillian Smith | Betty Jeffries |
| Ann Crook | Len Moss | Raymond Fox | Geoffrey Killingbeck |
| Alfred Morris | Josie Peace | Margaret Allen | Maureen Browning |

NOTICES

We continue to have rows of pews at the back set out for those who need or wish to keep social distancing.

We recommend using hand sanitiser on arrival in church and are supportive of those who continue needing to be covid-careful. As part of our covid-care for one another, we continue to have paper and book free services, with the liturgy projected, as has been our practice throughout covid-times. Congregational singing continues – though now behind masks!

We currently have to wear masks unless under 11 years old, medically exempt, are reading, singing in a choir or leading a service.

Christmas Cards: It has been our practice in recent years to give a single card to the whole church rather than to many individuals, putting our cards on a notice board at the back of church and donating money we may have otherwise spent to the church. We have put the notice board at the back, do make use of it if you would like to.

Thursday 7am and midday prayers in church.

Friday 10.30am Holy Communion at S' Katherine's Chapel

Thursday 6th January 10:30am Lenten Study planning meeting will take place at the Methodist Church and Meeting Centre in Bye Street.

Friday 7th January, 10-12noon Coffee Stop at St Michael and All Angels Church. For 'Coffee, Cake and a Chat'. Come and join us. All are Welcome.

Volunteer Drivers wanted to bring people to Church on Sundays. Please contact Sue Simpson for further details. 07742 060 443

If you are shopping online this Christmas please consider using the 'easyfundraising' website. This gives you the option to nominate S' Michael's to receive a small donation every time you shop with a participating retailer. These include many large firms, including Tesco, John Lewis, and Amazon. You just need to register the website, nominate S' Michael's, select your retailer and shop as normal. It's free to use. Check out their website <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> or follow this link https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelandallangelsledbury/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_source=social&utm_medium=facebook&utm_content=gs-f1

Care please! We are coming to the time of year where church furniture gets moved around more than usual. Please may I ask for care to be taken, especially avoiding knocking into monuments and carved pieces of furniture, which are expensive to repair or restore. Please do not stack items touching monuments.

Ringers return!

It takes a long time to teach someone to be a bellringer in a church tower. Each time a competent bellringer (for all sorts of good reasons) decides to give up or take an extended break, there is a sense of loss among their fellow ringers. Unlike many hobbies, ringing is an activity where people of many different levels of experience and skill can participate together as a band in a way that is rewarding for all. All levels of experience are valued and valuable. If you are someone who has taken a break, for however long, would you consider returning? The addition of just one or two competent ringers to a band can make a huge difference to the variety of what can be attempted and to helping learners to make progress. If half of all those who took time learning to ring, and have since given up, were to return, the activity nationwide would be transformed. You can be assured that you would be warmly welcomed at any tower. We hope, too, that you would rediscover a really rewarding pastime. Please come back!

Giving Tree: Thank you to everyone for your kindness and generosity in supporting this year's Giving Tree. Over 120 gifts were collected, for distribution at Ledbury Primary School (including some for High School age children and pre-school age children too) and to the Community Hospital. They will all be very much appreciated and the Tree, which was covered in brown luggage labels on Advent Sunday, is now covered with colourful baubles; each one representing a gift.

Christmas Services at S. Michael's and at S. John's

Sunday 19th December

5:30pm

9 Lessons and Carols

Friday 24th December

4:00pm

Christmas Eve

Christingle

4:00pm

Eastnor Carol Service

11:30pm

Midnight Communion

Saturday 25th December

8:00am

Christmas Day

BCP Holy Communion with carol at end

10:00am

Christmas Communion

11:15am

Eastnor Christmas Communion

Sunday 26th December

8:00am

Boxing Day and the feast of S. Stephen

BCP Holy Communion

10:00am

Holy Communion with carols

Sunday 2nd January

8:00am

Epiphany

BCP Holy Communion

10:00am

Holy Communion

