



**THE PARISHES OF  
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**

*Worshipping God,  
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8am BCP Communion**

**10am Parish Communion**

in the church building and streamed live on the website

[www.stmichaelsledbury.org](http://www.stmichaelsledbury.org)

then available later on video

**SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8am BCP Communion**

**10am Parish Communion**

Church office: phone number: 01531 631 531.

Email: [ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net](mailto:ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net)

our website is: [www.stmichaelsledbury.org](http://www.stmichaelsledbury.org)

Facebook – The church's facebook page: [fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](https://fb.me/stmichaelsledbury) –  
Do have a look, like, follow and participate.

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

**Readings for 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024:**

*Second Sunday of Lent*

**Old Testament Reading:**

***Genesis 17: 1-8 & 15-16***

<sup>1</sup> When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, <sup>2</sup> that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." <sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, <sup>4</sup> "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you exceedingly fruitful and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup> And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. <sup>8</sup> And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God." <sup>15</sup> And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup> I will bless her and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

**New Testament Reading:**

***Romans 4: 13 – 25***

<sup>13</sup> For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. <sup>16</sup> That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring — not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations" — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup> In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>19</sup> He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup> No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup> fully convinced that

God was able to do what He had promised. <sup>22</sup> That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness”. <sup>23</sup> But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup> but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, <sup>25</sup> who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

### Gospel Reading:

*Mark 8: 31 – 38*

<sup>31</sup> And [Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> And He said this plainly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. <sup>33</sup> But turning and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

<sup>34</sup> And calling the crowd to Him with His disciples, He said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? <sup>37</sup> For what can a man give in return for his soul? <sup>38</sup> For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

### COLLECT

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings and by following in His Way come to share in His glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, You see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

Please provide information for our weekly pewsheet by Wednesday each week to allow finalisation and printing to take place on Thursdays. Thank you.

Please email your requests to Annie Lindon [annielindon@gmail.com](mailto:annielindon@gmail.com) and to (cc) [rector@stmichaelsledbury.org](mailto:rector@stmichaelsledbury.org).

**Please begin your subject line with *Pewsheet*.** Thank you

**Parking.** On Sundays is for Blue Badge holders only. The town car parks are free on Sundays.

### Services

**Thursday 7am and midday prayers in church.**

**Friday 10.30am Holy Communion in S<sup>t</sup> Katherine's Chapel.**

**Charitable Causes.** Every year the church gives a percentage of its income to charitable causes. The recipients of 30% of the giving are nominated by the congregation and you are invited to let Ian James, Cath Beech or Christabel Panter have any suggestions by the end of this month. Please bear in mind that as a charity, we are only allowed to give money to charities whose objects are similar to our own.

### Year of Faith 2024

Bishop Richard calls us in 2024 to **grow together in our faith**. This invitation is offered to everyone. There are events, teaching and study days to join in and opportunities to create your own too either as a school community, church or as part of a small group, or in the quiet of your home. Key events for the Year of Faith: We continue to pray that across communities, villages and towns of our diocese, more lives will be transformed and that more people will come to know Christ. Dates and events are in the 'Dates for your Diary'. There will be a Bishop's Questions and a Bishop's Training event in Ledbury in April and July. More information later.

**Future LEAF events.** March is a busy time for the LEAF kids' team!

Saturday **9 March (2.30 – 4.30 at LBC)** there will be a families' craft and fun afternoon. From **18 March – 2 April** SMAAA will host 'Experience Easter', the interactive trail telling the story of Holy Week.

**Saturday 30 March** we will run an egg hunt and quiz based on that trail. Volunteers to steward/help with any of these will be needed, as will offerings of cake for 9 March. Please let me know if you can help...and also please support us in prayer, and publicise these events to families who might be interested. Mary Anne Keyes [maryannekeyes@leafledbury.com](mailto:maryannekeyes@leafledbury.com) 07962 323 454

**Lent Groups.** Two day-time groups, one at Pound Meadow and one in Bridge Street are already full. The groups still able to take on new comers are:  
J Monday evenings at 7.30 pm at the Methodist Church, and  
J Saturday mornings 10 am at the Catholic Church Room  
For further information, do contact the co-ordinator Joan Wakeling, ([wakelinghugh@gmail.com](mailto:wakelinghugh@gmail.com)).

### Easter Lilies

The Flower Guild will be decorating the church at Easter with lilies. As in previous years to help meet the cost of flowers we invite you to sponsor a lily in memory of a loved one. The cost remains £3 per stem. Forms can be found on the table at the North door or electronically from the church website (weekly pewsheets page). Contact Chris Lynch Flower Guild Coordinator on 01531 670 037 or email [Chris.lynch54@btinternet.com](mailto:Chris.lynch54@btinternet.com) for more information.

**Palm Sunday.** Sunday 24 March, 2.30pm - 5.30pm Come and Sing Passiontide and Easter anthems with a short performance at 5pm. Refreshments and music provided. £5 to sing, free to listen. Contact Kate Cheetham on [cheethamkj@gmail.com](mailto:cheethamkj@gmail.com) to take part or for more information

**Holy Week. Midday for 30 minutes,** in S. Anne's Chapel. **Psalm 127:** Reading, Reflecting and Responding. Each day we will read and reflect on psalm 127 with time to respond in prayer. The themes will be: Monday: Walking in the safety of God's light, Tuesday: Staying in the beauty of God's presence, Wednesday: Trusting in God's care and Thursday: Following in the goodness of God's way.

**Maundy Thursday 28 March.** Our Maundy Service will be at **7pm** in the chancel at Ledbury Parish Church.

**Good Friday 29 March: 10am** walk of witness from the Baptist Church.  
**2pm** Hour At The Cross in church

**Easter Sunday 31 March: Remember! The clocks go forward an hour** - so you can celebrate Christ's resurrection an hour sooner!  
**8am** BCP Communion with Easter Hymn at the end  
**10am** Easter Celebration Communion

**We pray for:** Our link CMS mission partners, our Leprosy Mission partners & S' Michael and All Angels, Mtwarra and S' John the Baptist Church, Likonde and Father Jackan.

**We pray for those who are sick:** we have amended the list below, but if you know of anyone who should still be included, please let the office know.

Pam Robinson	Thomas Heffner	Stacey Ross	Jenny Barber Iley
David Hicks	Peter Houghton	Elsbeth Barber Iley	Gillian Hewin
Dean Jackson	Terry Dold	Andrew Hicks	Adam Ross

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

William Turberfield	Jane Harvey	Denis Watson	Ian Done
Angela Hooper	Kate Greenall	Colin Thorne	Ella Turner
Janet Epps	Frances Holloway	Pam Foskett	Sally Foxon
Diane Lindeck	David Harling	Julia Matthews	Joyce Jones
Don Rule	Catherine Dobel		

## Dates for your Diary

**Friday 1st March 10am Coffee stop** An informal time for coffee, cakes, chat & company. For more information Contact Sonia Bowen either by ph 07878 173 919 or email [sonia.a.bowen@gmail.com](mailto:sonia.a.bowen@gmail.com)

**Friday 1 March 2.00pm . World Day of Prayer** (Women Led, Global Ecumenical Movement). The service this year has been prepared by the Christian women in Palestine, and the theme is "I beg you, bear with one another in love". Our service will be held in Ledbury Baptist Church, The Homend. Do come and join us. Men, women and children are all welcome.

**Saturday 2 March 7.30pm Ledbury Choral Society** will be singing Vivald's *Gloria* and Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, with professional orchestra and soloists, in St. Michael and All Angels. Tickets £16, available from Ledbury Books and Maps and on the door. Under 18s free.

**Friday 8 and Saturday 9 March Hereford Passion Play. Year of Faith event.** Hereford Cathedral: [Easter | Hereford Cathedral](#)

**Saturday 9 March 10.00 – 12.00 Deanery Synod** St Peter's Church, Withington when we will welcome the Archdeacon, Derek Chedzey and Diocesan Mission Enabler, Mark Melluish. This will be an open meeting.

**Sunday 10 March Mothering Sunday 10am** Morning Worship. **5:30pm** Confirmation with Bishop Richard