



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

8.00am BCP Communion

10.00am Holy Communion

Services in the church building and streamed live on the website
www.stmichaelsledbury.org
then available later on video

5:30pm Traditional Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

**SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**8am BCP Communion
10.00am Holy Communion**

Church office: phone number: 01531 631 531.
Email: ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net

our website is: www.stmichaelsledbury.org

Facebook – The church's facebook page: fb.me/stmichaelsledbury –
Do have a look, like, follow and participate.
X (Twitter) – Do sign-up to S. Michael's twitter account: 'St Michael's Ledbury' @LedburyParish

Church office: phone number: 01531 631 531.
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Readings for 15th December 2024:

Advent 3

Old Testament Reading:

Zephaniah 3: 14 – 20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgements against you; He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹Behold! At that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

New Testament Reading:

Philippians 4: 4 – 7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice! ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading:

Luke 3: 7 – 18

⁷[John] said to the crowds that came out to be baptised by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none and whoever has food is to do likewise." ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptised and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorised to do." ¹⁴Soldiers also

asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation and be content with your wages.” ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, “I baptise you with water, but He who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in His hand, to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people.

COLLECT

God for whom we watch and wait,
You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of Your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give You thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of Your Spirit that when Your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before His face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

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: we have amended the list below, but if you know of anyone who should still be included, please let the office know.

Pam Robinson
David Hicks
Dean Jackson

Thomas Heffner
Andrew Hicks
Stacey Ross
Lucy Orchard

Adam Ross
Gillian Hewin
Sue Simpson
Terry Dold

Richard Tyrell
Stephen Vicarage
David Gates

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

Sheila Ledbury
Geoffrey Douglas
Philip Gray
Rodney Jarrett
Elizabeth Crossley
Jim Large

Anthony Davis
David Kirkham
John Tyler
Margaret Westwood
Gwen Kirkham

Tony Davis
James Smith
John Holland
Richard Gladwin
Judy Street

Elizabeth Dold
Tony Wargent
Sheila Jones
Doreen Selwyn
Hilary Sharpe

Please provide information for our weekly pewsheets 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 and to (cc) rector@stmichaelsledbury.org

Please begin your subject line with **Pewsheets**. Thank You

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

LEDBURY

Services

8am Sunday BCP Communion in St Katherine’s Chapel

10am Sunday morning services held in church

Thursday 7am and midday prayers in church.

Friday 10.30am Holy Communion in S^t Katherine’s Chapel.

EASTNOR

Services on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 11.15am.

Special or additional services or events for December

24 Dec 4pm Eastnor Carol service, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

25 Dec 10am Christmas communion.

Please note: Queries and suggestions about repairs and maintenance should be directed to Andrew Beech. Thanks

Christmas Cards. If you would like to send a Christmas card to the whole congregation you can put it on the board by the Mothers Union display case.

Bookstall: Advent Books. There is a small selection of books on the bookstall for personal study in the build up to Christmas. In early December there will be some Children’s books very suitable for Grandchildren. The free church diaries have arrived, do take them and give to neighbours and friends.

We will be making Christingle Oranges on **Monday 23 December 2024 10.30 am – 12.30 pm** in St Katherine's Hall. There will be seasonal refreshments to enjoy and Christmas carols to listen to. We would love you to join us. The Christingle Oranges are being made for the Christingle Service on Tuesday 24 December 4.00 pm, St Michael and All Angels Parish Church. This service is a lovely start to Christmas, sharing the light and message of Christmas. For more information contact: Mary Anne Keyes maryannekeyes@leafledbury.com or Jill Jupp 07531 311 991.

Christingle Service on **Tuesday 24 December 4.00 pm**, St Michael and All Angels Parish Church. This service is a lovely start to Christmas, sharing the light and message of Christmas.

Christmas Day Lunch. As in previous years, a Christmas Day Lunch is being organised for people who will be on their own on Christmas day. Please think about anyone you know who may be alone at Christmas and encourage them to book a place. Phone Maggie on 01531 579009. Thank you.

Man Chat. The next Man Chat will be at The Market House Cafe, Ledbury on **Thursday 23 January 2025 at 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm.** This will once again be an informal time for men to eat a meal together and talk about things they enjoy doing as well as things that concern them. Full details are shown on the poster in the church porch, or have a word with David Houghton.

I want to give you good advance warning of the first event of next year's programme: A **Burns Night Supper** on **Saturday 25 January** in St Katherine's Hall. I need a team of people to help plan and put on this event. Let me know if you would like to be on the team. Tickets will be on sale from the afternoon of the AGM onwards. This will be our third Burns Night Supper. They have proved to be great fun. *Basically it is removing the help for buntings bit.*

There will be no **Coffee Stop** in January. The next Coffee Stop will take place on **Friday 7 February 10am - 12 noon.** Coffee stop is an informal time for coffee, cakes, mince pies, chat and company. All welcome! Invite someone new to share with them our beautiful church. For more information Contact Sonia Bowen on 07878 173 919.

People may wish to know that **Elizabeth Crossley's memorial service** will be on **Wednesday 18 December, 11.30am**, that **Judy Street's funeral** will be in **Eastnor at 10:30am Tuesday 31 December** and that **Gwen Kirkham's memorial service** will be on **Friday 3 January** (the time has yet to be agreed).

St Michael's Services for Christmastide 2024

You are invited to share the joy of the Christmas season at St Michael's Parish Church

Sunday 8th December 6.30pm

Town Carol Service with Brass Band
and Come & Sing Choir

Sunday 15th December 5.30pm

Traditional service of 9 Lessons and Carols
with candlelight

Christmas Eve 24th December

4pm Christingle Service

11:30pm Midnight Communion

Wednesday 25th December

Christmas day

8am Holy Communion

10am Christmas Communion

Sunday 5th January

Epiphany

8am Holy Communion

10am Parish Communion