



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**

*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*



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

8.00am BCP Communion

10.00am Holy Communion

**TUESDAY 24th DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS EVE**

4pm Christingle Service

11:30pm Midnight Communion

**WEDNESDAY 25th DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS DAY**

8am BCP Communion with Christmas Carol in St Katherine's Chapel,
10am Christmas Communion

Services in the church building and streamed live on the website

www.stmichaelsledbury.org

then available later on video

**SUNDAY 29th DECEMBER
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

8am BCP Communion

10.00am Holy Communion (no service streaming)

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

Readings for 22nd December 2024:

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." ⁴⁶And 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. ¹He 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.

Readings for 25th December 2024:

Christmas Day

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah chapter 52: verses 7 – 10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” ⁸The voice of your watchmen — they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

New Testament Reading: Hebrews chapter 1: verses 1 - 4

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Gospel Reading:

John chapter 1: verses 1- 14

¹ In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him and without Him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own and His own people did not receive Him. ¹² But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ, Your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship You, our Saviour and our eternal God.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through Him who is Christ the 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: we have amended the list below, but if you know of anyone who should still be included, please let the office know.

David Hicks
Dean Jackson
Lucy Orchard

Thomas Heffner
Andrew Hicks
Stacey Ross

Adam Ross
Gillian Hewin
Sue Simpson

Terry Dold
Stephen Vicarage
David Gates

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

Geoffrey Douglas
Philip Gray
Rodney Jarrett
Elizabeth Crossley
Jim Large

David Kirkham
John Tyler
Margaret Westwood
Gwen Kirkham
Richard Tyrell

James Smith
John Holland
Richard Gladwin
Judy Street
Pam Robinson

Tony Wargent
Sheila Jones
Doreen Selwage
Hilary Sharpe

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 and to (cc) 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.

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 St 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.

The PCC agreed to donate the spare pew that has been stored in the Chapter House for a number of years to the Peace and Hope Trust, a charity that was a personal favourite of James Smith. The Trust has written to thank us all for our donation. If you would like to know more about the work of the Peace and Hope Trust visit www.peaceandhope.org.uk.

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.

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