



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**SUNDAY 3rd March
SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

8.00am BCP Communion

10.00am Parish Communion

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

**WEDNESDAY 5th MARCH
ASH WEDNESDAY**

**Midday Service
7pm Service**

**SUNDAY 9th MARCH
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8am BCP Communion
10.00am Morning Worship**

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 2nd March 2025:

Sunday Before Lent.

Old Testament Reading:

Exodus 34: 29 – 35

²⁹When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses and behold, the skin of his face shone and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him and Moses talked with them. ³²Afterwards all the people of Israel came near and he commanded them all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. ³³And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. ³⁴Whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, ³⁵the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with Him.

New Testament Reading:

2 Corinthians 3: 7 – 4: 6

⁷Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, ⁸will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? ⁹For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. ¹⁰Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. ¹¹For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory. ¹²Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. ⁴¹ Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ²But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practise cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants

for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness", has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading:

Luke 9: 28 – 36

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings* [Jesus] took with Him Peter, John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹As He was praying, the appearance of His face was altered and His clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰And behold! two men were talking with Him, Moses and Elijah, ³¹who appeared in glory and spoke of His departure, which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and those who were with Him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him. ³³And as the men were parting from Him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah" — not knowing what he said. ³⁴As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to Him!" ³⁶And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

**The sayings referred to can be found in Luke 9:21–27*

COLLECT

Holy God, You know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love Your goodness and Your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, we see Your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at His table reflect His life in word and deed, that all the world may know His power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, for He is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

Readings for 5th March 2025:

Ash Wednesday

Old Testament Reading:

Joel 2: 1 – 3 & 12 – 17

¹Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near, ²a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations. ³Fire devours before them and behind them a flame burns. The land is

like the garden of Eden before them, but behind them a desolate wilderness and nothing escapes them. ¹²"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping and with mourning; ¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster. ¹⁴Who knows whether He will not turn and relent and leave a blessing behind Him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD and make not Your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10

^{20b}We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. ^{6:1}Working together with Him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For He says, "In a favourable time I listened to you and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favourable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honour and dishonour, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors and yet are true; ⁹as unknown and yet well known; as dying and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 6: 1 – 21

¹"Beware of practising your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ²"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others.

Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. ⁹Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹Give us this day our daily bread,¹²and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.¹³And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.¹⁴For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. ¹⁶“And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

COLLECT

Holy God, our lives are laid open before You: rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of Your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, You have given Your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive these His inestimable gifts, and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of His most holy life; 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 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.

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

Home and Sick Communion – If you are sick or housebound and would like to receive home communion, please let either Keith (07796 585 407) or Val Houghton (val.houghton1@btinternet.com) know.

Shrove Tuesday 4 March Pancake Party in The Burgage Hall. Please put the evening in your diaries and – in preparation – please begin saving milk cartons for the batter. Gentlemen – get your frying pans and spatulas ready for action!

Friends of Ledbury Parish Church - Tour of the bell tower. Wednesday 5 March, 2.30pm. Tim Keyes, Tower Captain, will conduct a 75 minute tour of the bell tower in which major work has been done to the bells and all the main spaces over the last two years. You will learn about the history of the tower, about craftsmanship old and new and about the art of bell ringing. *Maximum number 20. Places must be booked in advance.* (thkeyes28@hotmail.com/ 07577 720154). Tickets £5.00 / £4.00 for members.

Ash Wednesday. After the Ash Wednesday service at noon on **Wednesday 5 March** there will be a soup lunch. All are welcome to join us after the service.

Coffee Stop Friday 7 March 10am - 12 noon. Come and join us for coffee, cakes, chat & company. All welcome! Invite someone new to share with them our beautiful church. For more information Contact Sonia Bowen on 07878 173 919.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday March 7 at 2.00 pm. We are hosting the service this year in St Michael's. The service has been prepared by the Christian Women in the Cook Islands. All are welcome to join us that afternoon.

At **Morning Worship on Sunday 9 March** we will be welcoming a young man called Matty who works with Green Pastures helping homeless people. Several members of the congregation support this innovative work to house, to offer training and to watch change in people's lives.

LEAF Forest Fun at Ledbury Primary School, Saturday 15 March 11am – 1pm Volunteers needed setting up, help with crats, making cakes, clearing away. If you are able to help, or want to know more, please contact Mary Anne Keyes on makeyes25@hotmail.com or phone 07962323454. Thank you.

Saturday March 15 at 7.30 in Saint Michael and All Angels, **Ledbury Choral Society will perform Parry *Blest Pair of Sirens* and Brahms *German Requiem*.** The works will be accompanied by professional soloists and piano duet. Tickets: £16 from Ledbury Books & Maps and on the door. Under 18s free. There will be a pre- concert bar with wine and soft drinks. No interval.

There will be three **Lent lunches** to raise money for Christian Aid on **18 March, 27 March and 4 April**. Do pick up a leaflet, with further details, at the back of the Church. **If anyone could help on the day 4 April event** please contact Elaine Toyer or Hugh Wakeling on wakelinghugh@gmail.com

Man Chat at the **Market House Café, Thursday 20 March, 7pm – 9pm**. This will be an informal time, eating a meal and talking together about things we enjoy doing as well as things that concern us. Please feel free to invite a friend. As an indicator the meal costs around £10 per head and donations on the evening will be welcome. Please feel free to bring your own bottle of refreshment. RSVP to Davidhoughton955@btinternet.com or 01531 890696.

LEAF Mum's the Word at Ledbury Baptist Church Saturday **29 March, 2.30pm – 4.30pm**. Activities and crafts preparing for Mothering Sunday, tea provided. If you are able to help, or want to know more, please contact Mary Anne Keyes on makeyes25@hotmail.com or phone 07962323454. Thank you.

There will be a memorial service for **John Sutton** in church on **Wednesday 23 April**, at a time to be confirmed.

A full programme of events has been planned by the **Friends of Ledbury Parish Church**. Events are open to members and non-members except the Summer Social. Full details are available at the back of the church, by email, thkeyes28@hotmail.com, or on the church website.

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

Lucy Orchard	Andrew Hicks	Gillian Hewin	Stephen Vicarage
Annee Kettle	Stacey Ross	David Gates	Terry Dold
Elizabeth Watson	Vanessa Skelton	Sue Holland	

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

Geoffrey Douglas	David Kirkham	James Smith	Tony Wargent
Philip Gray	John Tyler	John Holland	Sheila Jones
Rodney Jarrett	Margaret Westwood	Richard Gladwin	Doreen Selwyn
Elizabeth Crossley	Gwen Kirkham	Judy Street	Hilary Sharpe
Jim Large	Richard Tyrell	Pam Robinson	John Sutton
Jim Loveridge	Eileen Haynes		