



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**SUNDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2026
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
CANDLEMASS**

8am BCP Communion
Led by Rev'd Bill McKenzie
Preacher Mary Anne Keyes

10:00am Parish Communion
Led by Rev'd Bill McKenzie
Preacher Mary Anne Keyes

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

**SUNDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2026
SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

8am BCP Communion
Led by Rev'd Bill McKenzie

10:30am Morning Worship

Church office: phone number: 01531 631 531.

Email: admin@stmichaelsledbury.org

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 Readings for 1st February 2026: *Presentation of Christ in the Temple
(Candlemas)*

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3: 1 – 5

¹“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of His coming and who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. ⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgement. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 22 – 40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons”. ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took Him up in his arms, blessed God and said, ²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel.” ³³And His father and His mother marvelled at what was said about Him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that

thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day.³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon Him.

Testament Reading: Hebrews 2: 14 – 18

¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, [the Son of God] Himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.¹⁶For surely it is not angels that He helps, but He helps the offspring of Abraham.¹⁷Therefore He had to be made like His brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.¹⁸For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

COLLECT

God of heaven, You send the Gospel to the ends of the earth and Your messengers to every nation: send Your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of Your love: help us to live out our days that we may be signs of Your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **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 us know.

Elizabeth Watson Andrew Broughton Stephen Vicarage Terry Dodd
Peter Tattersall Christabel Panter

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

Jean Gabb Olive Bramley Jean Hosegood Val Hale Glenda Dixon
Sandra Thomas Ann Roberts Louis Lock Bryan Turner Richard Green
Barbara Price Ann Blandford Barbara Meikle Alison Williams
Colin MacKenzie

SERVICES

LEDBURY Services

8am Sunday BCP Communion held in church

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.

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) churchwardens@stmichaelsledbury.org

Please begin your subject line with *Pewsheets*.

Sunday parking is for Blue Badge holders only. Town car parks free on Sundays.

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

Prayer Chain. Please let Val or one of the wardens or know if you would like to receive prayer chain messages. If you have a request for prayer please use the same contacts.

Queries and suggestions about **repairs and maintenance** should be directed to Andrew Beech.

Notices

Vanessa Skelton has kindly agreed to take on **producing the intercessions rota**. This is a very important ministry within the church, if you feel you would like to join the rota please have a word with Vanessa please contact her by email vanessawilen@hotmail.com

The Flower Guild is responsible for arranging flowers in the church at festivals times – Easter, Patronal, Harvest and Christmas. Previously, we maintained a rota for a fortnightly pedestal at the north door. However, due to the small number of members, this has now ceased. We are keen to re-instate this arrangement, and invite new members to join us. No experience is necessary - just a keenness to learn and enjoy flowers! If you have a well-stocked garden, or can help with a particular event, we'd love to hear from you too.
Please contact Chris Lynch, Flower Guild Coordinator for more details:
Chris.lynch54@btinternet.com or phone 01531 670037/mobile 07794934091.
Thank you

Easter Lilly Sponsorship 2026 – Contributions for lilies and palms for Easter would be most welcome in memory of someone special. Forms will be available on the table at the North door entrance from 18 February (Ash Wednesday) until 20 March 2026. Thank you in anticipation, if you have any queries please contact the co-ordinator Chris Lynch as above.

Dates for your Diary

Wed 4 Feb 2026, 2.30pm: 75 minute Tour of the bell tower. The general tour of the tower includes the history of the tower, major work carried out the bells 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.

Coffee Stop Friday 6th February 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.

Man Chat will take place at The New Market House Cafe, Ledbury on **Thursday 12 February between 19.00 and 21.00**. As usual this will be an informal time, eating a meal and talking together about things that we enjoy doing as well as things that concern us. Please feel free to invite a friend. If you would like to come, please contact David Houghton - davidhoughton955@btinternet.com or 01531890696

Llangasty Quiet Weekend 2026. 'God's Abundant Love' led by Rosa Speyer – **Friday 13 - Sunday 15 February 2026**. Booking Forms with information will be available at the end of November. or if you wish to secure a place now, please contact Cherry on 01531 660261 or email cherryvabt@gmail.com

February 14 - 9.30 – 12.30 Church spring clean. Bring your own dusters, brushes and brooms and sense of humour. Refreshments provided - more details from the wardens

The Lent Lunches will be held at **12noon to 2pm** on the following dates:
25 February - Richard & Frances Nightingale, 26 Bramley Close. Tel 01531 635301
7 March - The Roman Catholic Church, New Street. Christine Walters. Tel 07816 099951
19 March - Methodist Church. 4A Bye St. Gillian Chowns. Tel 01531 634896
25 March - St Katherine's Hall Sonia Bowen. Tel 07878 173919
These are to raise funds for Christian Aid

Saturday 7 March 2026, 7.00pm: Quiz Night and supper. St Katherine's Hall. Teams of 6 (max). Bring your own drink. Supper provided. Tickets £14.00 must be purchased in advance. (thkeyes28@hotmail.com / 07577 720154)