



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



***Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love***

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

**8am BCP Communion
Led by Rev'd Bill McKenzie**

**10:00am Morning Worship
Led by Second Sunday Team**

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

**SUNDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2026
SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

**8am BCP Communion
Led by Rev'd Joan Wakeling**

**10:00am Parish Communion
Led by the Ven Derek Chedzey**

**5.30pm Choral Evensong
Led by The Very Reverend Nick Bury**

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 8th February 2026:

Second Sunday Before Lent

Old Testament Reading:

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light" and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶ And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven.^[6] And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth and the waters that were gathered together He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds

and the livestock according to their kinds and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you

every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that He had made and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. 2: ¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished His work that He had done and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all His work that He had done in creation.

New Testament Reading:

Romans 8: 18 – 25

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 5: 13 – 20

[Jesus said] ²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror Your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our creator, by Your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of Your Church: may we who have been nourished at Your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour’s cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our 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 us know.

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

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.

Pastoral Care. The Pastoral Team consists of: Sue Cooper, Sue Simpson, Richard Nightingale and Val Houghton. If you have any Pastoral issues, or help is needed then please contact Val Houghton. (val.houghton1@btinternet.com).

Prayer Chain. Please let Val or one of the wardens 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 Lily 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 coordinator Chris Lynch as above.

Dates for your Diary

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

Funeral of Kirstine Bristow will be at Eastnor on **Saturday 14th Feb at 2pm**.

The Lent Lunches will be held at **12noon to 2pm** on the following dates:

25 February - Richard & Frances Nightingale, 26 Bramley Close. Tel 01531 826370 – **please note new number**

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. Christine Walters. Tel 07816 099951 – **please note change of lead**

These are to raise funds for Christian Aid

FAITH and UNCERTAINTY Ecumenical discussions in Lent 2026. This year our ecumenical reflections during Lent take the form of a short series of meetings based on themes suggested by the recent award-winning cinema film: 'Conclave'. The series begins with an act of ecumenical worship, at the Parish Room of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, New Street on **Tuesday 24 February, at 7.15pm**. Our guest speaker, Austen Ivereigh author and biographer of Pope Francis,. Three Lent Meetings will be held at Ledbury Methodist Church **Tuesday 3, 10 and 17 March at 2.15pm**. Evening meetings covering the same ground will be held on **Wednesday 4, 11 and 18 March at 7.15pm** (feel free to mix and match afternoon and evening meetings).

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).

Wednesday 18th March 1pm – 1.45pm: Lunchtime concert given jointly by John Masefield High School and St. Michael's Church musicians. Entrance FREE.

The St. John Passion by J. S. Bach will be performed in St. Michael's on **Saturday 28 March at 7pm** by Cradley Singers and The Hills Chamber Orchestra in anticipation of Holy Week. Tickets £20 (first two rows), £15 or £5 for under 18s from cradleysingers@gmail.com or 07812 743485.