



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**SUNDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2026
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8am BCP Communion
Led by Rev'd Michael Gallagher**

**10:00am Parish Communion
Led by the Rev'd Michael Gallagher**

Services in the church building are often streamed live on the website

www.stmichaelsledbury.org
then available later on video

**SUNDAY 1st MARCH 2026
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8am BCP Communion
Led by Rev'd Michael Gallagher**

**10:00am Parish Communion
Led by the Rev'd Michael Gallagher**

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 *Lent I*

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 2: 15-17 & 3: 1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." ...^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" ²And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

New Testament Reading: Romans 5: 12 – 21

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin and so death spread to all men because all sinned — ¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be

made righteous. ²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 4: 1 – 11

¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴ But He answered, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”” ⁵ Then the devil took Him to the holy city and set Him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you’ and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”” ⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸ Again, the devil took [Jesus] to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, “All these I will give You, if You will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve.”” ¹¹ Then the devil left Him and behold, angels came and were ministering to Him.

COLLECT

Heavenly Father, Your Son battled with the powers of darkness and grew closer to You in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness Your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God, You have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it You nourish our faith, increase our hope and strengthen our love; teach us always to hunger for Him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from our of Your mouth; 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 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

Heartfelt thanks to those who came to clean and declutter the church on Valentines Day. Some of the results of our labours are on the table outside the Chapter House. If you think anything on that table still has a real purpose in the Church and has somewhere to stored, or is of use to you, please take it. What is left will be disposed of in two weeks. At the cleaning day we found, under the choir stalls a Hitachi cine camera, old (it uses cassette tape) but professional quality. If you know anything about this please speak to one of wardens - otherwise we will try and sell it.

We have had difficulty with the passwords to connect to U Tube so we can live stream services. However if we have 50 subscribers to the channel we can access U Tube directly. **So please, if you can, subscribe to the channel.** Go to U Tube, search Ledbury Parish Church, click subscribe and follow the instructions '

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.

'**Real**' **Easter eggs** (from the Meaningful chocolate company) are Fairly traded and come with an Easter story booklet, ideal for children & grandchildren. They are only available online with quite a bit of postage to pay, but if anyone is interested in clubbing together they become rather more affordable: a case of 6 works out at £6.50 each including p&p. Please let me know if you are interested. Mary Anne Keyes - makeyes25@hotmail.com or 07962 323454

Advance Notice. The church will be closed for two days on **16th and 17th March** when the audio system is being upgraded. The closure is necessary as it is one of the contractor's conditions of being on site. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this.

Dates for your Diary

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, Austen Ivereigh. 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).

World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer). Ledbury Methodist Church, Bye Street, Ledbury. **Friday 6 March 2.00pm.** This year's World Day of Prayer service has been prepared by the Christian women in Nigeria and is titled "I will give you rest, come". The day begins in Samoa and moves across the world in a continuous wave of prayer, finishing 38 hours later in American Samoa. It truly is a worldwide day of prayer! Please join us.

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.

Ledbury Strömstad Twinning Association and Ledbury Community Choir are organising a community quiz for organisations in and around Ledbury. See below for more information. Teams of 4. The date is **Saturday 21 March 2026 7.30 pm** Ledbury Community Hall. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets £4.00 per head in advance or on the night. The deadline for teams to be submitted is Saturday 7 March 2026; bookings on a 'first come first served basis'. Last year, we linked up with our Twin Town in Strömstad and all enjoyed taking part as a live event. Last year's participating teams had a great evening and requested a repeat. It would be really nice to have a team from St Michael and All Angels this year. Please contact Jill 07531 311 991 or jill_jupp@hotmail.co.uk.



LEDBURY TOWN COMMUNITY QUIZ

**ORGANISED BY LEDBURY STRÖMSTAD TWINNING ASSOCIATION
AND LEDBURY COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Saturday 21 March 2026 7.30 pm
Ledbury Community Hall

Tickets £4.00 Per Person – In Advance or On the Night

Tables of 4 People from Each Organisation

Bring Your Own Drinks and Nibbles

Contact: Jill 07531 311991

Or email: jill_jupp@hotmail.co.uk

Deadline for Entry of Teams - Saturday 7 March 2026