



**THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**SUNDAY 8th MARCH 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

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

**10:00am Parish Communion
Led by the Rev'd Bill Mackenzie**

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

www.stmichaelsledbury.org
then available later on video

**SUNDAY 15th MARCH 2026
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MOTHERING SUNDAY**

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

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

**5.30 Choral Evensong
Led by Rev'd William Simmonds**

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 March 2026:

Lent III

Old Testament Reading:

Exodus 17: 1 – 7

¹ All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² Therefore the people quarrelled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried to the LORD,

"What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb and you shall strike the rock and water shall come out of it and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

⁷ And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling

of the people of Israel and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

New Testament Reading:

Romans 5: 1 – 11

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance ⁴ and endurance produces character and character produces hope ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's

love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — ⁸ but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life. ¹¹ More than that, we also

rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel Reading:

John 4: 1 – 42

¹ When Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptising more disciples than John ²(although Jesus Himself did not baptise, but only His disciples), ³ He left Judea and departed again for Galilee. ⁴ And He had to pass through Samaria. ⁵ So He came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as He was from His journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷ A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink', you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do You get that living water? ¹² Are You greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." ¹⁷ The woman answered Him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹ The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but You say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. ²⁴ God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to

Him, "I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ). When He comes, He will tell us all things." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." ²⁷ Just then His disciples came back. They marvelled that He was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" ³⁰ They went out of the town and were coming to Him. ³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." ³² But He said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him something to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to accomplish His work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes and see that the fields are white for harvest. ³⁶ Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured and you have entered into their labour." ³⁹ Many Samaritans from that town believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them and He stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of His word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world."

COLLECT

Eternal God, give us insight to discern Your will for us, to give up what harms us and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; 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

10am Sunday Parish Communion (2nd Sunday Morning Worship)

Thursday 7am and midday prayers

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. Thank you. Please email to Annie Linton annielinton@gmail.com and to (cc) churchwardens@stmichaelsledbury.org

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

We have had difficulty with the passwords to connect to You Tube so we can live stream services. However if we have 50 subscribers to the channel we can access You Tube directly. **So please, if you can, subscribe to the channel.** Go to You 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

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 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:

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’. Three Lent Meetings will be held at Ledbury Methodist Church **Tuesday 10 and 17 March at 2.15pm.** Evening meetings covering the same ground will be held on **Wednesday 11th and 18 March at 7.15pm** (feel free to mix and match afternoon and evening meetings).

The next **Spotlight on Prayer** will be on **Saturday morning 14 March**, in Church. The 'Spotlights' will be on the Vacancy, and there will be ideas and suggestions for individual prayer and group prayer. Our theme will be Jesus' words to his disciples 'I will build my Church', and we will be discussing and practising Intercession.

Saturday 14th March 2.30pm - 4.30pm Leaf Mum's the word at Ledbury Baptist Church Crafts Refreshments Games Fun & Music Free of Charge. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For more info email: Mary Anne Keyes maryannekeyes@leafledbury.com. www.leafledbury.com If you are able to make **traybakes or biscuits** for this event I would be delighted to hear from you.

Saturday 14 March 7.30pm at St. Michaels & all angels, MOZART REQUIEM, HADYN Te Deum & Little Organ Mass with Central England Camerata, Tickets £16 available from 3 Counties bookshop.

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.

The Praying Litter Pickers will resume **on Saturday 4 April** meeting at 11 am in the recreation car park. At 12.30pm we will move to the New Market House Cafe for coffee and/or lunch.



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