



THE PARISHES OF
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR



*Worshipping God,
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**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 Michael Llewelyn Jones

5.30 Choral Evensong Led by William Simmonds

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

SUNDAY 22nd MARCH 2026 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8am BCP Communion Led by Rev'd Val Tait

10:00am Holy Communion Led by the Rev' Val Tait

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

Please provide information for our weekly pewsheets by Wednesday each week. Thank you. Please email to Annie Lindon annielindon@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 know if you would like to receive prayer chain messages. If you have a request for prayer please use the same contacts.

Repairs and maintenance queries should be directed to Andrew Beech.

SERVICES

LEDBURY Services

8am Sunday BCP Communion

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

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

Notices

We have had difficulty with the passwords to connect to Youtube so we can live stream services. However, if we have 50 subscribers to the channel we can access YouTube directly. **So please, if you can, subscribe to the channel.** Go to YouTube, search Ledbury Parish Church, click 'subscribe' 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 contact her by email vanessawilen@hotmail.com

Please note: Easter Lily Sponsorship 2026 – I am sorry to report that support for this appeal has been very poor to date. Without funding, the Flower Guild will not be able to decorate the church at Easter as we have done in the past. The closing date for sponsorship is **20th March** if you wish to contribute. Forms are available on the table at the North door entrance. If you have any queries please contact the coordinator Chris Lynch on 07794934091 or email Chris.lynych54@btinternet.com

'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.

We pray for:

Our link CMS Mission partners, our Leprosy Mission partners and St Michael and All Angels, Mtwara and St 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

We were saddened to learn of the death of Barbara Morris this week. Barbara was a member of our congregation for many years. Details of a funeral or memorial service will be published when available.

The death of the Reverend Ros Trafford- Roberts occurred in Hereford on March 8 th. She served as a curate at St. Michael's in the 1990s before moving to London and returned here on her retirement.

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. 01531 634896

25 March - St Katherine's Hall. Christine Walters. 07816 099951



These are to raise funds for Christian Aid

NB: **25th March**, we need help with making the soup for the lent lunch and with serving the lunch. If you can help please contact Christine Walters on 07816 099951. If you would like to come to the lunch, please contact Sonia Bowen tel 07878 173919

FAITH and UNCERTAINTY Ecumenical discussions in Lent 2026. This year these 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 4, 11 and 18 March at 7.15pm** (feel free to mix and match afternoon and evening meetings).

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

Ledbury Strömstad Twinning Association and Ledbury Community Choir are organising a community quiz for organisations in and around Ledbury. 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

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.

Invitation from Holy Trinity for Good Friday - In a warm ecumenical gesture, Father Thomas Regan of Holy Trinity has invited St Michael's congregation to join the service for Stations of the Cross there at **11am on Good Friday**.

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.

Coffee Concerts Saturday 18th April, Saturday 9th & 30th May, Saturday 27th June, Saturday 25th July, Saturday 29th August, Saturday 19th September Saturday 3rd October and Saturday 7th November

Our Annual Church meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 15th April. Unfortunately Charity Law requires for this year a full audit of our accounts, which will not be completed by then so we are forced to postpone the meeting. We will let you know the new date as soon as possible.

Thursday talks **Thursdays 14th May, 18th June, 16th July, 17th September and 15th October, 7:30 to 9:00 in the Burgage Hall**

Readings for 15th March 2026: *Mothing Sunday*

Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 1:20 – 28

²⁰Hannah conceived and bore a son and she called his name Samuel, for she said, "I have asked for him from the LORD."

²¹The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. ²²But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the LORD and dwell there for ever."

²³Elkanah her husband said to her, "Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the LORD establish His word."

So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. ²⁴And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine and she brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh.

And the child was young. ²⁵Then they slaughtered the bull and they brought the child to Eli. ²⁶And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. ²⁷For this child I prayed and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to Him. ²⁸Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD."

And he worshipped the LORD there.

New Testament Reading: Colossians 3: 12 – 17

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 33 – 35

³³[Jesus'] 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."

COLLECT

God of Love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast You feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted Your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**