



**THE PARISHES OF  
LEDBURY AND EASTNOR**



*Worshipping God,  
Following Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2020  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Following the Archbishop of Canterbury's guidance,  
we will not be holding church services  
until further notice

And this last week,  
He has asked that all churches be shut.

At 10am on Sunday mornings  
there will be a service on our website  
[www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk)  
so we can continue to worship God,  
read scripture and pray together.

Do join in from where you are.  
We may not be able to gather in one place,  
yet we can join together at one time.

Please visit  
our website [www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk),  
facebook page [fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsledbury)  
and twitter feed [@LedburyParish](https://twitter.com/LedburyParish)  
for updates and information.

**NEXT SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL is PALM SUNDAY**

Readings for 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020: *Lent V*

**Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1 – 14**

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD was upon me and He brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And He led me around among them and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know."

<sup>4</sup>Then He said to me, "Prophesy over these bones and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you and you shall live and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound and behold, a rattling and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked and behold, there were sinews on them and flesh had come upon them and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath and breathe on these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as He commanded me and the breath came into them and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'

<sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you and you shall live and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken and I will do it, declares the LORD."

**New Testament Reading: Romans 8: 5 – 11**

<sup>5</sup>Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

<sup>6</sup>For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him.

<sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

## Gospel Reading: John 11: 1 – 45

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

<sup>2</sup>It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, he whom You love is ill." <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it He said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

<sup>5</sup>Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup>When He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was. <sup>7</sup>Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone You and are You going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." <sup>11</sup>After saying these things, He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." <sup>13</sup>Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died <sup>15</sup>and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

<sup>17</sup>Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

<sup>18</sup>Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup>So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.

<sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give you."

<sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

<sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to Him.

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met Him. <sup>31</sup>When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in His spirit and greatly troubled.

<sup>34</sup>And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"

<sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not He who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave and a stone lay against it.

<sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odour, for he has been dead four days."

<sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that You always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that You sent me."

<sup>43</sup>When he had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."

<sup>44</sup>The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him and let him go."

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what He did, believed in Him.

### COLLECT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in Him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of His victory; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, You have taught us that what we do for the least of our fellow men we do also for You: give us the will to be the servant of others as You were the servant of all and gave up Your life and died for us, yet are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

#### We pray for:

) Our link CMS mission partners, our Leprosy Mission partners and S<sup>1</sup> Michael and All Angels, Mtwara and S<sup>1</sup> John the Baptist Church, Likonde.

#### Those who are sick:

Phyl Sykes	Steve Taylor	Dean Jackson	Mike Wakeford
Barbara Williams	Sheila Anthony	Kate Greenall	Miles Oliver

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

Peter Attenborough	Sandra Peters	Robert Orrett	David Strutt
Helen Hadfield	Peter Adams	Patricia Holmes	John Boyle

## NOTICES

**Young Church** will be cancelled until further notice.

**Tower floodlights:** The tower will not be lit at night during the bells project as the power will have to be disconnected. Normal service should resume in **late July**. Apologies to those affected

'**Real**' **Easter Eggs**' Akin to the 'real' advent calendars, these eggs are made of Fairly traded chocolate and have materials with them telling the Easter Story. If you would like to order please contact Mary Anne Keyes on 07962 323454 or makeyes25@hotmail.com

**Thank you** for all your financial support over the last year, through the Parish Giving Scheme, Standing Orders and Envelopes. A special thank you to Tony and Lesley Goodall for all their work over several years as Recorder and Secretary of our Stewardship Scheme. If you want to know how much you gave, please see or call David Kirkham (our new Stewardship Recorder), If you want to give regularly to the work and maintenance of S<sup>t</sup> Michael's or if you want to join the PGS (and if you give by envelope or SO already I suggest strongly that you should) please contact me on 01531 637227 or david.kirkham2@btinternet.com

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Parish Away Day** in Wellington Heath Hall. We hope that we will be able to hold this event. More details to come.

**April's parish magazine** will be published online on the website only this month. It will not be printed. Please let people you know who normally take a printed copy, so they can continue to enjoy it.

Bishop Richard Jackson was enthroned on 21<sup>st</sup> March. His inaugural sermon can be watched here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnP8zvJD9TQ>

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**ALL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**Parish office: phone number:** 01531 631 531.  
**Email:** ledbury.ministry@talktalk.net

Please visit our website [www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ledburyparishchurch.org.uk)  
**Facebook – The church's facebook page:** [fb.me/stmichaelsledbury](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsledbury) –  
Do have a look, like and participate.  
**Twitter** – Do sign-up to S. Michael's twitter account: @LedburyParish

## Hidden Books – now Un-hidden

After hearing a reMARK by KoPHI LEMONtes about hidden books of the bible, Hector RamirEZ RAised this controversial matter with his father Roman, WHOSE Answer was that there are at least thirty as described in a book by JONAH Spong on his discovery of the book of Lulu. LuLU KEpt some lookING So hard that it was a complete REVELATION that Spong's fACTS were wrong, as he had not made a proper JOB of his research.

In his book 'CORINTH', IAN SeGENES IS emphatic that the book of Lulu is as factual as the novel 'FreEZE KIEL Canal!' by JoNA HUMBolt. "Lulu - less a new debutante, more an old HAG" GAIJUD Exclaimed on her late night show!

This left some in a JAM, ESpecially Lulu's supporters when the tRUTH came out; but NUMBERS found this coMIC, A Happy diversion. It was A MOST interesting time and yES, THERE are many who JUDGE Spong easily misled and others whose LAMENTATIONS on the topic are almost apocalyptic. The book was short buT IT UShered in another chapter in the CHRONICLES of modern liberal biblical criticism and contributed to a further EXODUS of despairing people from churches.

Hector's mother **Susanna** says sHE BREWS strong coffee whenever he visits as he and his father compETE Ridiculously. Over the coffee, Hector claimed it was all **apocryphal**, pulling the story **to bits**. ROMAN Said that may be so, but hearing it sung by DANI, ELton John's friend accompanied by a banJO ELevated it beyond mere truth, expressing as it did, the **wisdom of Solomon!** "Every stanza seemed to be a **PROVERB**" Said **TIMOTHY SMAL, A CHinese** neighbour who had just come round having smelled Susanna's coffee!

This report was compiled by MATTHEW JOHNson who found there were 37 plus 4 from the apocrypha... so was he right or wrong?!

How many did you find?