



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
3 BEFORE ADVENT
9 November 2014**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Jamie Wareham leads the intercessions. The service will include the laying of a poppy wreath.

Hymns: 537, 553, 427 and 442

Setting: White

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm.)

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of St Michael, St Albans, in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Bermuda, its Bishop Nicholas Dill and all its people.
The Church of Bangladesh.

The World: All those disabled, traumatised or bereaved by war.
Our serving Armed Forces personnel.
All those engaged in seeking world peace.

The Community and Parish: Residents and Staff at Home Manor and St Anthony's.
Our local ex-service organisations.
New Brownies making their promises.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Pamela Cutler, Audrey Dixon, Sandra Fullerton, Jenny Houghton, Audrey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Audrey Morgan, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Karen Stride, Betty Westney and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the king of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Wisdom of Solomon 6.12–16

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- ¹² Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.
¹³ She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
¹⁴ One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate.
¹⁵ To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
¹⁶ because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

SECOND READING I Thessalonians 4.13–18

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

- ¹³ We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.
¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.
¹⁶ For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever.
¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.1–13

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples:

- 1 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
- 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
- 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them;
- 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
- 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.
- 6 But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him."
- 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.
- 8 The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out."
- 9 But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves."
- 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.
- 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us."
- 12 But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you."
- 13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'



THIS WEEK

Mon	10	Nov	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	11	Nov	(Littlebury Children's Centre Advisory Board in Choir Vestry	11.30)
			Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	12	Nov	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30 - 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thur	13	Nov	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	16	Nov	<u>SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			followed by Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			Messy Church	11.15
			Watford Interfaith Pilgrimage (see Notices)	1.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

THE WATFORD INTERFAITH PILGRIMAGE takes place on Sunday 16th November, beginning at 1.00 pm at the Synagogue, with visits to St Mary's, Gurdwara, and Mosque, then joining the Hindu Community in the Parade for the Lighting of the Divas as part of their Diwali Celebrations. This is a growing and inspiring event in our town every year. Leaflets available at the back.

HELP FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR (29 NOVEMBER 2014): volunteers still needed to serve tea and coffee during the Fair and also to move furniture, set up stalls and tables, or clearing up afterwards. Does anyone have an uplighter/standard lamp and a mobile clothes rack we could borrow for the day? Please contact Kristine on 07572601529 or jenkinskristine@hotmail.com or Elizabeth Watkin on 01923 255715.

This is an important occasion when we open our doors to all the community and aim to raise money to help to pay our 'household' bills. There are fliers and posters at the back of church for distribution.

FOOD BANK: Don't forget that we are still collecting food as well as acting as a distribution centre. There is a list at the back of church of the items of food that can be included in the parcels. If you would like to donate any of these items please bring them to church and put them in the box at the west end.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

Advent Sunday, 30 November at 6.00 pm: Advent Sequence - "A procession of light, with anthems, hymns, readings and prayers for Advent".