



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

BAPTISM OF CHRIST

11 January 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 90 (i), 93, 118 and 89

Setting: Rawsthorne

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00-5.00pm)

Evening Service at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Clifton (Amphill and Shefford Deanery) in our Diocese.

The Diocese of Langtang (Jos, Nigeria): Stanley Fube its bishop and all its people.

The leadership training programmes Us is developing in African Asian and South American Churches..

The World: The people of France, shocked by the recent atrocity in Paris.

NHS A&E Departments and their staff.

Students and staff at our Universities.

The Community and Parish: Residents and Staff at Home Manor.

The work and members of our Estates and Publicity committees.

The work of Watford Interfaith Association.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Tina Bennett, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Pamela Cutler, Audrey Dixon, Claire Dunning, 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, Anne Wightman and Daniel Williamson (age 3).

The Departed: Ricky Vidler.

Collect

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
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.

FIRST READING Genesis 1.1–5

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- ¹ In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,
- ² the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.
- ³ Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light.
- ⁴ And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.
- ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

SECOND READING Acts 19.1–7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹ While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples.
- ² He said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?’ They replied, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’
- ³ Then he said, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’ They answered, ‘Into John’s baptism.’
- ⁴ Paul said, ‘John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.’
- ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

⁶ When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied –
⁷ altogether there were about twelve of them.

GOSPEL Mark 1.4–11

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

⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

⁷ He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	12	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Estates Committee (Choir Vestry)	2.00pm
Tue	13	Jan	Publicity Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Wed	14	Jan	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thu	15	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union	
			followed by Coffee for all	10.45am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	18	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY 2</u>	
			<i>Start of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST:	9.30am
			President and Preacher Fr Geoff	
			Messy Church	11.15am – 12.45pm
			United Evening Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	
			(Time and Venue tbc)	

NOTICES

BURNS' NIGHT SUPPER AT THE VICARAGE on the evening of Sunday 25th January. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church for anyone interested in attending.

SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2015 are now due. Valerie Alvarez has kindly agreed to collect subscriptions for the coming year. The cost of Sword is 60p per month. If you pay for the year in advance an annual subscription for 12 issues will be £6.00, thus giving you 12 issues for the price of 10!

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:

Saturday 24th January: Parish Awayday for planning, with John Kiddle, Diocesan Mission Advisor. Please put the date in your diary.

18 January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins.

27 January: Funeral of Ricky Vidler at 11.15 am in church

1 February: The preacher at the 9.30 Sung Eucharist will be from The Leprosy Mission.

18 February: Ash Wednesday