



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

2nd BEFORE LENT
8 February 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and Fr Geoff preaches. Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions. Sunday School.

Hymns: 372, 474, 258 and 396 (1530)

Setting: Wilson

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

(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Westoning in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Maiduguri (Nigeria): Emmanuel Kana Mani its bishop and all its people.
The work of Us in Ghana.
Rev William Burke, past curate of St Michael's, who is retiring today.

The World: All people being held hostage, their families, friends and countries.
The protection of children from abuse.
People who work in science and research.

The Community and Parish: Residents and staff at Home Manor and St Anthony's.
All Churches and other religious groups who use our Church and halls.
Our local industries and those who work in them.

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:

Collect

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Proverbs 8.1, 22–31

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- ¹ Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?
²² The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.
²³ Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water.
²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth
—
²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.
²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
²⁸ when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep,
²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always,
³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

SECOND READING Colossians 1.15–20

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- ¹⁵ Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;
¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him.
¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.
¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL John 1.1–14

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

- ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
² He was in the beginning with God.
³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life,
⁴ and the life was the light of all people.
⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.
⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.
¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.
¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,
¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

THIS WEEK

Mon	9	Feb	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	11	Feb	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thu	12	Feb	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	15	Feb	<u>SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST:	9.30am
			Pres: Fr Geoff; Preacher: Violet Allen-Smith	
			Sunday School	
			Messy Church	11.15 am - 12.45 pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

SUMMER OUTINGS: The Social Committee held a meeting recently and started to think about summer, sunshine and outings. Members wonder if St Michael's people would be at all interested in going on a coach outing; we thought one of the following places might be of interest - Chichester, Bedford (with Bunyan associations), Gloucester, or can you suggest anywhere else? At this stage no one is committing to anything but if you would be interested in joining an outing and have suggestions of places we could go to could you please sign the list at the back of the church and we will see if it is worthwhile arranging something. It goes without saying that friends and family would be welcome to join in.

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!

THE LAST BRING-&-BUY SALE raised £64 - many thanks.

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.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: 15 March 2015. Please see Sylvia Moring if you would like to make a simnel cake for this occasion.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

18 February: Ash Wednesday. Services at 10 am and 7.30 pm.

7 March: Lent Lunch, in aid of mission, served by St Michael's Brownies.

St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010