



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

**FIFTH SUNDAY in LENT –
PASSION SUNDAY 22 March 2015**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions. Sunday School.

Hymns: 499 (omit *s), 126, 112 and 122 (i) **Setting: Missa Seraphica**

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 Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Little Gaddesden in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Morogoro (Tanzania): Godfrey Sehaba its bishop and all its people.

The work of Us with the Church in the Philippines.

The World: The people of Vanuatu and the work of reconstruction.
The people of Syria and Iraq living as refugees.
People affected by shootings in Tunisia.

The Community and Parish: Leaders of faith communities in Watford.

Staff, pupils and families at our local schools..

The work of Watford Food Bank and the families who access it here.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Sonia Anderson, 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, John Paisley, Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Karen Stride, and Anne Wightman.

The Departed: Jeanie Trotter.

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.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31.31–34

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- 31 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.
33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

SECOND READING Hebrews 5.5–10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- 5 Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, ‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you’;
6 as he says also in another place, ‘You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’
7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.
8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered;
9 and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,
10 having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL John 12.20–33

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

- ²⁰ Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.
- ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.'
- ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.
- ²³ Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
- ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
- ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.
- ²⁷ 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.
- ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'
- ²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.'
- ³⁰ Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.
- ³¹ Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.
- ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.'
- ³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

THIS WEEK

Mon	23	Mar	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Lent Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
			(25th Birthday Service of New Hope at St Mary's Church	7.30 – 9.30 pm)
Tue	24	Mar	Lent Group (Choir Vestry)	7.30pm
Wed	25	Mar	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	26	Mar	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			(St Anthony's School visit to Church)	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	28	Mar	(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	6.00 – 9.00pm)
Sun	29	Mar	<u>PALM SUNDAY</u>	
			<i>(British Summer Time begins – put clocks forward one hour)</i>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: President: Fr Geoff	9.30am
			Liturgy of the Passion according to St Mark; Sunday School	
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	afternoon)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: This year's revision has commenced, and finishes on Sunday 5th April. A copy of the current Roll is on the notice board at the back of the Church for you to check. If anyone would like their name added to the Roll, please get a form from Fr Geoff, a Churchwarden or Henry or Sylvia Moring. If you have changed your email address or telephone number could you also inform us please.

THE FUNERAL of Jeanie Trotter will be on Monday 30 March at 11.30am in

EASTER FLOWERS: It is our custom to invite people to make a donation towards the Easter flowers, perhaps in memory of a loved one. If you would like to do this, please give your donation to Fay Storey or Jean Alexander. If you are able to gift aid your donation it should go in one of the white gift aid envelopes.

MAUNDY WATCH If you are able to take part for an hour or more at the Maundy Watch please sign the list on the desk by the Mildred Avenue door. At present there are very few names on the list.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES for the Church Army are available at the back of church. Please take one. These will be collected on Easter Day.

FINAL COPY DATE for April Sword is today Sunday 22 March. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES: Thank you for the boxes that were brought to church last Sunday. There must still be some to be returned. If yours is one of them please bring it to be counted as soon as possible.