



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 2
12 April 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches and Graham Mordue leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 138, 328, 609 and 157

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 Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Potton in our Diocese.

The Diocese of Nandyal (South India): Eggoni Pushpalalitha its Bishop and all its People.

The work of Churches in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia in the Ebola outbreak.

The World: All those involved in the General Election Campaign.

Civilians caught up in fighting, especially in Yemen.

Young people vulnerable to radicalisation.

The Community and Parish:.. Our organist, Andy Benoy.

The work of the Mothers' Union.

Preparations for Celebration 2015.

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, Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Karen Stride, and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification:

grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth;

through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 4.32–35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

³² The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.

³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.

³⁵ They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

SECOND READING I John 1.1 – 2.2

A reading from the first letter of John.

¹ We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life –

² this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us –

³ we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

⁴ We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.

⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;

⁷ but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

⁹ If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
² and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL John 20.19–31

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

¹⁹ It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'
²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.
²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'
²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'
²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'
²⁸ Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'
²⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'
³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.
³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THIS WEEK

Mon	13	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	15	Apr	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	16	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union	
			followed by Coffee for all	10.45am
			Choir Practice	<i>to be announced</i>
Sun	19	Apr	<u>EASTER 3</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President: Fr Geoff and Preacher: Violet Allen-Smith); Sunday School	9.30am
			Messy Church	11.15am – 12.45pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL: The revised Electoral Roll is displayed on the notice board. Please check your entry for any errors or omissions and inform Fr Geoff or Henry Moring if there are any inaccuracies. Additional names can be added any time after the Annual Meetings on Wednesday 29th April.

EASTER: Thank you most particularly to Jean and Fay for all their time and work put into making our church look beautiful at Eastertide. It is our custom to invite people to make a donation towards the Easter flowers, perhaps in memory of a loved one. Thank you to everyone who has made a donation. A list of those people who are especially remembered in this way is displayed by the Lady Chapel.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES: Thank you to those who made a donation to the Church Army via the Lent Collecting boxes. If you still have a box at home any further donations would be gratefully received.

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

FOOD BANK: Don't forget that we are still collecting. 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. Thank you.