



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**EASTER 3**  
**19 April 2015**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and Violet Allen-Smith preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 409 (omit \*s), 158, 109 and 140**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

Messy Church is at 11.15 am.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

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## **For your prayers this week:**

**The Church:** The parish of Albury (Bishop's Stortford Deanery) in our Diocese.  
The Diocese of Nebbi (Uganda): Alphonse Wathokudi its Bishop,  
and all its people.

The Anglican Church in Bangladesh.

**The World:** All candidates seeking election.

People suffering from Parkinson's disease.

Our National Health Service.

**The Community and Parish:** Preparations for our Annual Parochial Church Meetings.

Preparations for Celebration 2015 (25 May).

Our Messy Church leaders and attenders.

**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:**

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**Collect**

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
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 Acts 3.12–19**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- <sup>12</sup> Peter addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?
- <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him.
- <sup>14</sup> But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you,
- <sup>15</sup> and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.
- <sup>16</sup> And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.
- <sup>17</sup> And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.
- <sup>18</sup> In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer.
- <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.'

**SECOND READING I John 3.1–7**

A reading from the first letter of John.

- <sup>1</sup> See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

- 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.
- 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.
- 4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.
- 5 You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.
- 6 No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.
- 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

## **GOSPEL Luke 24.36–48**

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

- 36 While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'
- 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.
- 38 He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?
- 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'
- 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.
- 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?'
- 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
- 43 and he took it and ate in their presence.
- 44 Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'
- 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
- 46 and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,
- 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
- 48 You are witnesses of these things.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	20	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			The Tutu Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
			Social Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Wed	22	Apr	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	23	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	<i>to be announced</i>
Sun	26	Apr	<b><u>EASTER 4</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b> President and Preacher: Fr Geoff;	<b>9.30am</b>
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale. Sunday School	
			(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			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 29<sup>th</sup> April.

**FINAL COPY DATE** for May Sword is next Sunday 26 April. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk

**ANNUAL MEETINGS:** These are to be held on WEDNESDAY, 29 April 2015. Before that date the secretary needs nominations for churchwardens, PCC members, and sidespeople. Jean Alexander will provide the appropriate nomination forms.

**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.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS:** please note the annual report and accounts will be distributed electronically. A list is available at the rear of the church which please sign if you do not have the facility to receive the report electronically and would like a hard copy – *Jean Alexander, PCC Secretary*

**LENT COLLECTING BOXES:** Thank you to those who made a donation to the Church Army via the Lent Collecting boxes. The amount received so far is £115.19. If you still have a box at home any further donations would be gratefully received.

**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.