



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**EASTER 4**  
**26 April 2015**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 589 (i), 478, 555 and 599**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of All Saints Hockerill, in our Diocese.  
The Diocese of New Jersey (USA): William Stokes, its Bishop and all its people.  
Christians in Gaza.

**The World:** A wise and compassionate solution to the migrant crisis in the Mediterranean.  
People who struggle financially.  
Young people looking for jobs.

**The Community and Parish:** Our APCM, and all who hold office in our Church.  
The Sankt Annæ choir visiting from Denmark this week.  
All those preparing for Marriage in our Church.

**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 God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Acts 4.5–12**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 5 The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem,  
6 with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were  
of the high-priestly family.  
7 When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, ‘By  
what power or by what name did you do this?’  
8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, ‘Rulers of the people  
and elders,  
9 if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who  
was sick and are asked how this man has been healed,  
10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is  
standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,  
whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.  
11 This Jesus is “the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has  
become the cornerstone.”  
12 There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven  
given among mortals by which we must be saved.’

**SECOND READING I John 3.16–24**

A reading from the first letter of John.

- 16 We know love by this, that the Son of God laid down his life for us – and  
we ought to lay down our lives for one another.  
17 How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees  
a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?  
18 Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.  
19 And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our  
hearts before him

- 20 whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.
- 21 Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God;
- 22 and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases God.
- 23 And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
- 24 All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

## **GOSPEL John 10.11–18**

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

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

- 11 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
- 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.
- 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.
- 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
- 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.
- 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.
- 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
- 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	27	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	29	Apr	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30am – 12 noon
			<b>ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING</b>	<b>7.45pm</b>
			<b>ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING</b>	<b>8.00pm</b>
Thu	30	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice <i>to be announced</i>	
Sat	2	May	<b>Concert by Sankt Annæ Chamber Choir in Church</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>
Sun	3	May	<b>EASTER 5</b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b> President and Preacher: Fr Geoff;	<b>9.30am</b>
			Sunday School	
			United Evening Service at St Michael's	6.00pm

## NOTICES

SUPPER CONCERT: There will be a concert at St Michaels on Saturday 2nd May, 7.30pm, given by a visiting Danish Youth Choir, the Sankt Annæ Chamber Choir. They will be singing music by Niels la Cour, Benjamin Britten, Claude Debussy and Svend S Schultz.

Admission is free, and there will be refreshments (for which a donation is requested) after the music. Bring your own drinks (glasses provided).

Please find time to be with us, if you can, on what promises to be a lovely occasion.

Publicise if possible, and let your friends know. More information in the April Sword.

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 today Sunday 26 April. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to [robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk](mailto: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.

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*

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.