



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 6
10 May 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and we welcome a preacher from the Church Army. Pat Beach leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 305, 483, 538 and 429

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1-9 pm)

Evening Prayer in Littlebury Hall at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Ashwell (Buntingford Deanery) in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Nike (Enugu, Nigeria): Evans Ibeagha its bishop and all its people.

Young people on church placements through “Journey with Us”.
The work of the Church Army.

The World: Our newly elected local and parliamentary representatives.
The relief effort for the people of Nepal.
World War Two veterans.

The Community and Parish: Residents and Staff at Home Manor and St Anthony’s.
All who lead intercessions in 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:

Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 10.44–48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ⁴⁴ While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.
- ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles,
- ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said,
- ⁴⁷ ‘Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’
- ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SECOND READING I John 5.1–6

A reading from the first letter of John.

- ¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.
- ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.
- ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,

- 4 for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.
- 5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
- 6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL John 15.9–17

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 9 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
- 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
- 12 This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	11	May	<i>CHRISTIAN AID WEEK</i> Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	12	May	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	13	May	Coffee in Church and Food Bank Service at Home Manor	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	14	May	<i>ASCENSION DAY</i> Holy Communion	10.00am
			Choir Practice <i>to be announced</i>	
			Parish Eucharist	8.00pm
Sat	16	May	(RSCM Examinations – in Choir Vestry)	8.30am – 7.00pm)
Sun	17	May	<u>SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST President and Preacher: Fr Geoff;	9.30am
			Sunday School	
			Messy Church	11.15am
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK is this week. St Michael's is no longer able to do a door-to-door collection for Christian Aid but we do hope that church members will donate giving towards the work of Christian Aid. Envelopes are at the back of the church and completed envelopes should be put in the box beside them. If you are able, please gift aid your donation. Thank you.

At the ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING Kristine Jenkins and Elizabeth Watkin were elected as Church Wardens for the coming year. Thanks were extended to Violet Allen-Smith who retired after serving as Church Warden for 2 years.

BIG LUNCH: On Sunday, 7 June 2015, St Michael's is to be one of many venues over the country that will be joining in the Big Lunch. This will be the third time we have done this and we shall be inviting our neighbours who live in the roads near the church to join in a bring-and-share lunch. The lunch will start at 12 noon and people may arrive with their food from 11.30 am. More details to follow.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Funeral of Bernard Hunt: Friday 22 May at 2.00 pm in church. All welcome.

Pentecost: Sunday, 24 May 2015

Celebration 2015 Monday, 25 May 2015

Animal Blessing Service: In St Michael's on Sunday, 31 May 2015

Parochial Church Council: 3 June 2015 at 7.55 pm