



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

SUNDAY 2 BEFORE ADVENT
15 November 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and Richard Chewter (Town Centre Chaplain) preaches. Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 246, 547, 368 and 430

Setting: Thorne

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

Messy Church is at 11.15am.

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Graveley in our Diocese.

The Diocese of Venezuela: Orlando Guerrero its Bishop and all its People.

Church Army's North Belfast Centre of Mission.

The World: The work of Us in Malawi improving futures for young women.

The work of Christian Aid with children in Lebanon.

Support in society for people with Mental Health Issues.

The Community and Parish: The work of Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy.

The work of New Hope with homeless people in Watford.

Our Mothers' Union members.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Sonia Anderson,

Tina Bennett, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, Peter Coley,

Marion Craddock-Jones, Audrey Dixon, Claire Dunning, Sandra

Fullerton, Jenny Houghton, Kristine Jenkins, Mary Kearns,

Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan,

Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard, Christina Simon, Mark Simon,

Karen Stride and Nicholas Weeks.

The Departed:

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Daniel 12.1–3

A reading from the book of Daniel.

In the third year of King Cyrus a word was revealed to Daniel.

- 1 'At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.
- 2 Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.
- 3 Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.'

SECOND READING Hebrews 10.11–14, 19–25

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- 11 Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins.
- 12 But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God,'
- 13 and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.'
- 14 For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.
- 19 Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,
- 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),
- 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

- 22 let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
- 23 Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.
- 24 And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds,
- 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

GOSPEL Mark 13.1-8

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

- 1 As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!'
- 2 Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'
- 3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately,
- 4 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?'
- 5 Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray.
- 7 When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come.
- 8 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	16	Nov	Toddlers' Group	10.00am – 11.30am
Tue	17	Nov	Wedding rehearsal	8.00pm
Wed	18	Nov	Mission Committee	10.00am
			Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			Visit to church of Ascot Road School	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Thu	19	Nov	Holy Communion (followed by coffee in Choir Vestry)	10.00am
			NO Choir Practice	
Sat	21	Nov	Wedding	1.00pm
Sun	22	Nov	<u>CHRIST THE KING</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Interfaith Pilgrimage starting from Friends Meeting House	12 noon
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00pm – 5.00pm)
			NO Evening Prayer	

NOTICES

HELP FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR Help needed from EVERYONE! Please sign up at the back of church to run a stall, serve lunches and refreshments, move furniture, set up stalls and tables, or clearing up afterwards. Please contact Elizabeth Watkin (Tel 01923 255715), elizabethwatkin@yahoo.co.uk, or Fr Geoff for further information or if you have an idea for a stall, or maybe a children's activity/game. This is an important occasion when we open our doors to all the community and aim to raise money to help to pay our 'household' bills. There are fliers and posters at the back of church for distribution. Please distribute some if you can.

FINAL COPY DATE for December Sword is 22nd November. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk. Items welcome from church members of any age.

THE CHRISTMAS MEALS AT WEST HERTS COLLEGE are now fully booked. Sorry if you did not manage to book in time. Any queries to Martin Matthews.

SUNDAY SCHOOL If you would like to help with a session during this term please see Fr Geoff, Sue Ellison or Elizabeth Watkin.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

28th November Christmas Fair - 11 am - 2.30 pm

13th December Christingle service at 11.15 am.