



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

7 February 2016

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Service Fr George celebrates and preaches. Paul Chandler leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 2, 383, 414 (ii) and 299

Setting: Thorne

Refreshments will be served in church after the 9.30 service - please stay on.

United Service at Trinity Methodist Church at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Tingrith in our Diocese.

The Anglican Church of Canada, Frederick Hiltz its Primate and all its people.

Us' "Journey with Us" programme providing placements for young people in the worldwide Church.

The World: All efforts to bring peace with justice in Syria.

Church Army's work with vulnerable families and young people in Selby.

Communities in Bangladesh threatened by flooding.

The Community and Parish: Residents and Staff at Home Manor and St Anthony's

Spiritual growth for each and all of us in Lent.

The care of our Church building and other properties.

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

Bennett, Christopher Bilson, Janet Bridge, 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, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Karen Stride and

Nicholas Weeks.

The Departed: Jean Caton

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Collect

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross:

give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Exodus 34.29–35

A reading from the book of Exodus.

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.

³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him.

³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them.

³² Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face;

³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded,

³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 3.12 – 4.2

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

¹² Since we have such a hope, we act with great boldness,

¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside.

¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside.

¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds;

- 16 but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.
- 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
- 18 And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.
- 1 Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.
- 2 We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

GOSPEL Luke 9.28–36

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

- 28 Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.
- 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.
- 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him.
- 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.
- 32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.
- 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' Peter did not know what he said.
- 34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud.
- 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!'
- 36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And the disciples kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

THIS WEEK

Mon	8	Feb	Toddlers' Group	10.00am – 11.30am
Tue	9	Feb	Pancakes and Prayers (see Notices)	7.00pm
Wed	10	Feb	ASH WEDNESDAY <i>(Lent books will be distributed today)</i>	
			Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes	10..00am
			Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			Home Manor	2.30pm
			Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes	8.00pm
Thu	11	Feb	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	14	Feb	<u>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			Sunday School	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

PANCAKES AND PRAYERS A social occasion on Shrove Tuesday, 9 February 2016, starting at 7 pm in Church. Pancakes, with savoury or sweet fillings, and hot drinks will be served. The evening will end with Compline. In between we will hear about traditions which lead us to serve pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and other traditions that happen at this time in the Church's year. Tickets: £5 available from Sylvia Moring. There are lists at the back of the church asking for help for this event.

- Could you sign if you are able to deliver some flyers to local roads
- Could you sign if you are able to help by making fillings for the pancakes?
- Could you help put up some tables after the 9.30 service today?

LENT PRAYER DIARY: US(PG) has produced a (free) booklet on the theme of migration with stories, reflections and prayers from around the world. If you would like one please see Gillian Heath.

I WOULD LIKE TO RUN A SHORT TRAINING COURSE (one or possibly two sessions) for those who lead intercessions during the 9.30 Sunday Morning Service, both for people currently undertaking this role, and anyone who would like to take it on. I will be contacting everyone in due course, but if there is anyone who would like to lead intercessions and doesn't already, I would love to hear from you. Fr Geoff

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15 February at 2.30pm and 16 February at 7.30pm: Lent Study Groups
 27 February Lent Lunch: Coffee morning and Bring-& Buy Sale. Frugal lunch served by St Michael's Brownies. Proceeds for mission.
 6 March Mothering Sunday

St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010