



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 2
3 April 2016

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 148, 150, 138 and 160

Setting: Thorne

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

United Evening Service at Trinity Methodist Church at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Cockayne Hatley in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Muyinga (Burundi), Paisible Ndacayisaba its Bishop, and all its people.
Church Army's Training Team.

The World: The people of Lahore, especially the Christian Community at this time.
The Church and Government leaders of Myanmar.
British Steel workers and their companies.

The Community and Parish: Our PCC members.
Residents and staff at River Court and Fairhaven.
That our AGM may bring volunteers to help our Church activities.

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, Simon Fowle, Sandra Fullerton, Kristine Jenkins, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Christina Simon, Mark Simon and Karen Stride.

The Departed: Roger John Coultham and Lilian Moseley.

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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 5.27–32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 27 When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying,
28 ‘We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.’
29 But Peter and the apostles answered, ‘We must obey God rather than any human authority.
30 The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.
31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.
32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.’

SECOND READING Revelation 1.4–8

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- 4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
7 Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

8 'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL John 20.19–31

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

- 19 It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
- 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
- 21 Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'
- 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.
- 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'
- 24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
- 25 So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'
- 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
- 27 Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'
- 28 Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'
- 29 Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'
- 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.
- 31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THIS WEEK

Mon	4	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	5	Apr	River Court	2.30pm
Wed	6	Apr	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.55pm
Thur	7	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.00pm
Fri	8	Apr	Funeral in church	11.30am
Sun	10	Apr	<u>EASTER 3</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00 – 5.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: This year's revision finishes today Sunday 3rd April. A copy of the current Roll is on the notice board at the back of the Church for you to check. If anyone would like their name added to the Roll, please get a form from Fr Geoff, a Churchwarden or Henry or Sylvia Moring. If you have changed your email address or telephone number could you inform us please.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES: Please return these as soon as possible.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES: Please return the boxes and their contents to church as soon as possible..

BRING-&-BUY SALE on Palm Sunday raised £32 which will go to church funds. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

ANNUAL MEETINGS: These are to be held on Wednesday, 27 April 2016. There are amended agendas for people at the west end of the church. Please help yourself to one. Before that date the secretary needs nominations for churchwardens, PCC members, and sidespeople. Jean Alexander will provide the appropriate nomination forms.