



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**EASTER 6**

**1 May 2016**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates. Kristine Jenkins leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: Leaflet**

**Setting: Thorne**

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

United Evening Service here at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Council for Discipleship and Mission in our Diocese.  
The Diocese of Newcastle, Martin Wharton its Bishop and all its people.

The Anglican Church in Japan reaching out to the homeless and marginalised.

**The World:** The families of those who died at Hillsborough in 1989.  
Christian Aid fighting violence against women in El Salvador.  
The struggling peace talks over Syria.

**The Community and Parish:** Residents and staff at River Court and Fairhaven.  
All those elected and appointed to office at our AGM.  
Families with young children in our Church and community.

**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:** Andrew Simpson.

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**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 16.13–15 (Message Bible)**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the Sabbath, we left the city and went down along the river where we had heard there was to be a prayer meeting. We took our place with the women who had gathered there and talked with them. One woman, Lydia, was from Thyatira and a dealer in expensive textiles, known to be a God-fearing woman. As she listened with intensity to what was being said, the Master gave her a trusting heart – and she believed!

After she was baptised, along with everyone else in her household, she said in a surge of hospitality, “If you're confident that I'm in this with you, and believe in the Master truly, come home with me and be my guests.” We hesitated, but she wouldn't take no for an answer.

## **GOSPEL John 14.23–29**

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

- <sup>23</sup> ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.
- <sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.
- <sup>25</sup> I have said these things to you while I am still with you.
- <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.
- <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.
- <sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I am coming to you.” If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.
- <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.’

## THIS WEEK

|      |   |     |   |                   |
|------|---|-----|---|-------------------|
| Mon  | 2 | May | <i>Bank Holiday</i><br>NO Toddlers' Group                 |                   |
| Tue  | 3 | May | Service at River Court                                    | 2.30pm            |
| Wed  | 4 | May | Food Bank   | 10.00am – 12 noon |
|      |   |     | Coffee in Church  | 10.30am – 12 noon |
|      |   |     | Holy Communion (in Lady Chapel)                           | 7.00pm            |
|      |   |     | Estates Committee (Choir Vestry)                          | 8.00pm            |
| Thur | 5 | May | <b>ASCENSION DAY</b><br><i>(Local Elections)</i>          |                   |
|      |   |     | Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)        | 10.00am           |
|      |   |     | Fairhaven   | morning           |
|      |   |     | Choir Practice  | 7.00 – 7.45pm     |
| Sun  | 8 | May | <b><u>SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION</u></b>                      |                   |
|      |   |     | Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)                           | 8.00am            |
|      |   |     | <b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b> (President and Preacher: Fr George) | <b>9.30am</b>     |
|      |   |     | Dedication of PCC; Children's Church                      |                   |
|      |   |     | Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church                           | 1.00 – 5.00pm     |
|      |   |     | Evening Prayer  | 6.00pm            |

## NOTICES

**NEW CHURCH OFFICERS:** At the Annual Meetings on Wednesday Elizabeth Watkin was re-elected and Gillian Heath was elected, as Churchwardens for the year. Kristine Jenkins, was thanked for everything she had done during the three years that she had been Churchwarden.

Penny Allen-Smith, Sue Ellison and Jane Talbot were elected as members of the PCC and Martin Matthews was elected as our second Deanery Synod member. Paul Chandler was re-elected as Assistant Churchwarden.

**LENT COLLECTION BOXES:** £140.18 was collected for The Church Army. Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

**THE DIOCESAN OFFICE** is looking to appoint a part-time (21 hpw) Parish Development Team Administrator at Diocesan Office. Details are available on the website at <http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/other-vacancies/>.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Sunday, 8 May     | Dedication of the new PCC during the 9.30 service                                  |
| Wednesday, 11 May | First meeting of new PCC at 7.55 pm.   |
| Sunday 12 June    | Big Lunch in church during the Queen's official 90th Birthday Celebration weekend. |
| Sunday 17 July    | Tea on the Triangle with sales stalls.   |