



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

PENTECOST

15 May 2016

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and Martin Heath preaches. Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions. Children's Church in Choir Vestry.

Hymns: 175, 178, 181 (i) and 191

Setting: Thorne

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

Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Benington in our Diocese
The Diocese of North East India, Purely Lyngdoh its Bishop and
all its people

The work of Church Army across the world

The World: Fundraising for Christian Aid this week

The work of Anglican Churches with vulnerable migrants in the
Gulf Region

The fight against the Zika virus in South America

The Community and Parish: Our Mothers' Union Members

Our Childrens Church members and leaders

Churches Together in Central, South and West Watford

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, Kristine Jenkins, Mary Kearns,

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

Helen Perry, Christina Simon, Mark Simon and Karen Stride.

The Departed: Bill Carey

Collect

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 2.1–21

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.
⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.
⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in their native language.
⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?
⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?
⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
¹¹ Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'
¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'
¹³ But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'
¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.
¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.
¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:
¹⁷ "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

- ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
- ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
- ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

SECOND READING Romans 8.14–17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ¹⁴ All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
- ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’
- ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
- ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

GOSPEL John 14.8–17

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

- ⁸ Philip said to Jesus, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’
- ⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”?’
- ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.
- ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.
- ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.
- ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.
- ¹⁵ If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
- ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever.
- ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.
- ²⁷ 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.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	16	May	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	18	May	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	19	May	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			followed by coffee in Choir Vestry	
			Funeral in Church	1.00pm
			NO Choir Practice	
Sun	22	May	TRINITY SUNDAY	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			;	
			Children's Church	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

CHRISTIAN AID 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.

FINAL COPY DATE for June Sword is next Sunday, 22 May. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@googlemail.com.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Monday 30 May (Bank Holiday) Celebration 2016, 12 noon - 4 pm in Multicultural Community Centre,
St Michael's Church and Littlebury Hall
- 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.