



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EPIPHANY 2
14 January 2018

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches. Pat Beach leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 163 (i), 83, 87 and 430

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm.)

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

- The Church:** The Parish of Flitton in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church in Australia, Philip Leslie Freier, Archbishop, and all its people.
Church Army evangelists working with children.
- The World:** The people of Southern California affected by mudslides.
Christian Aid's work against violence and promoting peace around the world.
Everyone working under pressure in the NHS.
- The Community and Parish:** Our PCC members.
Watford Interfaith Association.
Our Mothers' Union members.
- The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Christopher Bilson, Janet Bridge, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Kate Dickinson, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia Dixon, Sister Dominic, Claire Dunning, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey, Blossom Hutchinson, Kristine Jenkins, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Michele Rodford, Rick Sear, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Peter White; and all who care for them.
- The Departed:** Maxwell Richards (Past President of Trinidad and Tobago);
Albert "Harry" Andrews.
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Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal
of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
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 I Samuel 3.1–10

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

- ¹ The boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.
- ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room;
- ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.
- ⁴ Then the LORD called, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ and he said, ‘Here I am!’
- ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call; lie down again.’ So he went and lay down.
- ⁶ The LORD called again, ‘Samuel!’ Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call, my son; lie down again.’
- ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.
- ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.
- ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.”’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
- ¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’

SECOND READING Revelation 5.1–10

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ¹ I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals;
- ² and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, ‘Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?’
- ³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it.

4 And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll
or to look into it.

5 Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of
Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its
seven seals.'

6 Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders
a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes,
which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

7 He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the
throne.

8 When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders
fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are
the prayers of the saints.

9 They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for
you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every
tribe and language and people and nation;

10 you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will
reign on earth.'

GOSPEL John 1.43–51

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

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him,
'Follow me.'

44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in
the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.'

46 Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to
him, 'Come and see.'

47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an
Israelite in whom there is no deceit!'

48 Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw
you under the fig tree before Philip called you.'

49 Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'

50 Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig
tree? You will see greater things than these.'

51 And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the
angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	15	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	16	Jan	Intercessory Prayer group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	17	Jan	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.25pm
Thur	18	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
Sun	21	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY 3</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres & Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service at Beechen Grove	
			Baptist Church	3.30pm
			NO Evening Prayer	

NOTICES

SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2018 are now due. Valerie Alvarez has kindly agreed to collect subscriptions for the coming year. The cost of Sword is 60p per month. If you pay for the year in advance an annual subscription for 12 issues will be £6.00, thus giving you 12 issues for the price of 10!

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY is 18 to 25th January.

Services:

- *Wednesday 17 January* – St Mary's Church Centre at 12.30pm - bring packed lunch for afterwards
- *Sunday 21 January* – Beechen Grove at 3.30pm (United Service with Churches Across Watford)
- *Wednesday 24 January* - Holy Rood at 1pm for lunch (bring packed lunch) and 2pm service

THERE WILL BE LENT GROUPS on Monday afternoons in Lent, jointly led by Fr Geoff and the Revd Ruth Reynolds-Tyson, using the course "On the Third Day", by Bishop John Pritchard (York Courses), and taking place at Trinity Methodist Church. There is a sign-up list at the back of Church. An evening group can take place if enough people request one.

ANDY AND PAT BENOY are moving next week. If you would like their new address, please ask Sylvia.

THE CHRISTINGLE COLLECTION last Sunday raised £167.43 for The Children's Society. Many thanks.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

The Lent Lunch will be on the 24th February.