



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**MOTHERING SUNDAY**  
**11 March 2018**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today on Mothering Sunday.

At the 9.30 am Service Fr Geoff celebrates and there will be a Presentation by the children and a distribution of posies.

We are using the "First Sunday" service booklet.

**Hymns: 368, 253, 619 and 530**

**Setting: Thorne**

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church

1.00pm – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Hulcote with Salford in our Diocese.  
The Church of England, Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury  
and all its people.

The work of the Mothers' Union.

**The World:** The strengthening of family life.  
Children in stressed and dysfunctional families.  
All who work in marriage guidance.

**The Community and Parish:** Our Mothers' Union members.

Residents and Staff at Home Manor.

All who have a mothering role in our Church family.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Christopher Bilson, Peter Coley,  
Marion Craddock-Jones, Kate Dickinson, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia  
Dixon, Sister Dominic, Claire Dunning, Jemima Hill, Peter  
Hinchey, Blossom Hutchinson, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch,  
Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Michele  
Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Peter White; and all who  
care for them.

**The Departed:**

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# MOTHERING SUNDAY

## Collect

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:  
strengthen us in our daily living  
that in joy and in sorrow  
we may know the power of your presence  
to bind together and to heal;  
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 Exodus 2.1–10

A man from the house of Levi went and married a woman from the tribe of Levi. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months.

When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with tar; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.

His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river.

She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.

When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said.

Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?'

Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother.

Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it.

When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

This is the word of the Lord

## **SECOND READING Colossians 3.12–17**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other;

just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the word of the Lord

## **GOSPEL John 19.25b–27**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

- 25 Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
- 26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'
- 27 Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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MAUNDY THURSDAY WATCH If you are able to take part for an hour or more at the Maundy Watch on 29/30th March, please sign the list on the desk by the Mildred Avenue door.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	12	Mar	Toddlers' Group Lent Group (at Trinity Methodist Church)	10 – 11.30am 2.30pm
Tue	13	Mar	GDPR meeting	10.00am
Wed	14	Mar	Food Bank Coffee in Church Service at Home Manor	10.00am – 12 noon 10.30am – 12 noon 2.30pm
Thur	15	Mar	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Followed by coffee in Choir Vestry	10.00am
Fri	16	Mar	St Anthony's School Retreat Day	8.30am – 3.30pm
Sun	18	Mar	<b><u>LENT 5</u></b> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) <b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> (Pres & Preacher: Fr George) Children's Church in Littlebury Hall Evening Prayer	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm

## NOTICES

**ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION:** This year's revision commences today, Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March, and finishes on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 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 also inform us please. Only persons on the Electoral Roll can vote at the Annual Meeting which will be held on **MONDAY 23 April**.

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES:** We would like to collect these today, Mothering Sunday, at the 9.30 Service. Thank you.

**THERE ARE LENT GROUPS** on Monday afternoons in Lent at 2.30 pm, 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.

**LENT COLLECTING BOXES FOR MISSION:** Collecting boxes for Church members to use during Lent are at the back of the church. The boxes will be collected on Easter Day (1st April).

**WATFORD FOODBANK** has issued an urgent appeal for the following specific items, of which they are very short indeed. In order of importance these are: tinned meat, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, biscuits, tinned custard, tinned rice and sugar. It would help enormously if you can take the items direct to the Watford Foodbank headquarters at, Unit 5, The Empire Centre, Imperial Way, WD24 4YH. Their phone number is 01923 804435 or 07925 813027, as they can use them more quickly that way than if you donate at church. 525 individuals and their families needed the services of Watford Foodbank alone in January of this year - the highest distribution ever in this town. Many thanks for your kindness and generosity. Jannice Mordue.