



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 2
8 April 2018

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 157, 150, 137 and 161

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Great Barford in our Diocese.
The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean, James Richard Wong Yin Song, Archbishop, and all its people.
The Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

The World: Work to bring sustainable economic development in the developing world.
Sufferers from Parkinson's Disease.
Organisations promoting World Health.

The Community and Parish: The Watford Youth Sinfonia.
Residents and staff at Home Manor and St Anthony's.
Our members coming to terms with Data Protection requirements.

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, 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:

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 4.32–35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ³² The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.
- ³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.
- ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.
- ³⁵ They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

SECOND READING I John 1.1 – 2.2

A reading from the first letter of John.

- ¹ We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life –
- ² this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us –
- ³ we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
- ⁴ We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.
- ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.
- ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;
- ⁷ but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
- ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
2 and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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	9	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Concert Rehearsal WYS	1.00pm – 7.30pm
Tue	10	Apr	Concert Rehearsal WYS	1.00pm – 7.30pm
Wed	11	Apr	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	2.30pm
			Concert Rehearsal WYS	2.30pm
			Concert by Watford Youth Sinfonia	7.30pm
Thur	12	Apr	Service at St Anthony's Care Home	morning
			Meeting to discuss Data Protection	7.30pm
Sun	15	Apr	<u>EASTER 3</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			Holy Baptism	3.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: The revised Electoral Roll is displayed on the notice board. Please check your entry for any errors or omissions and inform Fr Geoff or Henry or Sylvia Moring if there are any inaccuracies. Additional names can be added any time after the Annual Meetings on **MONDAY 23 April**. Only persons on the Electoral Roll can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

CONCERT BY WATFORD YOUTH SINFONIA at St Michael's on Wednesday 11 April at 7.30pm. They will be playing:

Dvorak – Serenade for Wind Instruments
Mendelssohn – Violin Concerto (Katie Mazur, violin)
Beethoven – Symphony No. 3 'Eroica'

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS: please note the annual report and accounts will be distributed electronically. A list will be available at the rear of the church which please sign if you do not have the facility to receive the report electronically and would like a printed copy.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES and LENT COLLECTING BOXES FOR MISSION: Please return as soon as possible if you still have any. Thank you.