



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

**SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION
EASTER 7
13 May 2018**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Pat Beach leads the intercessions. The service will include the Dedication of the Parochial Church Council.

Hymns: 398, 168, 167 and 163

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 Barkway in our Diocese.
The work of the Anglican Centre in Rome.
The Diocese of Christchurch, New Zealand, Victoria Matthews its Bishop and all its people.

The World: People who live in areas of high poverty and deprivation.
Christian Aid Week, and the work of the charity with needy people across the world.

Victims of terrorism and the work of the security services.

The Community and Parish: “Thy Kingdom Come” – the global ecumenical prayer initiative.

Our PCC members.

The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church.

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

O God the king of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 1.15–17, 21–26

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 15 In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people). He said,
16 ‘Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus –
17 for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.
21 So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,
22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.’
23 So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.
24 Then they prayed and said, ‘Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen
25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.’
26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

SECOND READING I John 5.9–13

A reading from the first letter of John.

- 9 If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.
10 Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son.

- 11 And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.
13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

GOSPEL John 17.6–19

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed:

- 6 ‘Father, I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.
7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;
8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.
9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.
10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.
11 And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.
12 While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled.
13 But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.
14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.
15 I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.
16 They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.
17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.
18 As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	14	May	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Finance Committee	7.30pm
Wed	16	May	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.25pm
Thur	17	May	Holy Communion	10.00am
			followed by coffee in Choir Vestry	
Sun	20	May	<u>PENTECOST</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Holy Baptism	3.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: This week: 13-19 May. See Vicki Matthews' note in Sword. Envelopes for your gifts are at the back of the church.

PEOPLE ARE NEEDED to serve on our PCC Committees, Finance, Social, Mission, Estates. Please sign up on lists at the back of Church if you can help

CONCERT COMING UP – “A CELEBRATION OF SONG”

St Michael and All Angels Church
in conjunction with Watford Peace Hospice present a Charity Benefit Concert:

A Celebration of Song

New Tottenham Singers with contemporary, traditional and sacred music in the church on

Saturday 30th June 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Followed by CHEESE and BISCUITS (Cash bar also available) Tickets £15.00

Please see Elizabeth Watkin for more details.

BIG LUNCH on 3 June, 12 noon – 2.00 pm. Bring and Share Lunch – all welcome.