



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**EPIPHANY**  
**6 January 2019**

Welcome to our services today.

There is our monthly “First Sunday of the Month Service” at 9.30 am. Fr Geoff celebrates and there will be an All-age Presentation. Paul Chandler leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 84, 383, 55 and 91

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

Bring & Share Lunch 12 noon

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE 2.00pm

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Aspley Guise in our Diocese.  
The Anglican Church in Aoterea, New Zealand and Polynesia,  
its Primate Don Tamihere, and all its people.

**The World:** Street Angels and Street Pastors.  
Protection of poor and indigenous communities in the Philippines.  
Use of renewable energy to help developing countries.

**The Community and Parish:** Preparations for Watford Celebration 2019.  
Residents and Staff at Chase Care Home, Home Manor, and St  
Anthony’s.  
The Children’s Society.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Christopher Bilson, Fr John Brown,  
Marion Craddock-Jones, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia Dixon, Claire  
Dunning, Fr Robert Featherstone, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey,  
Michael Jennings, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Craig  
McKay, Lisa Mills, Sylvia Obeng, Dorcas Ochola, Christina Simon,  
Mark Simon, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care  
for them.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face;  
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 Isaiah 60.1–6**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- <sup>1</sup> Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- <sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
- <sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- <sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
- <sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- <sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

## GOSPEL Matthew 2.1–12

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

- 1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,
- 2 ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’
- 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;
- 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.
- 5 They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:
- 6 “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.”’
- 7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.
- 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’
- 9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.
- 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.
- 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
- 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	7	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Intercessory Prayer Group	2.30pm
Wed	9	Jan	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	2.30pm
Thur	10	Jan	Holy Communion	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
Sun	13	Jan	<b><u>BAPTISM OF CHRIST / EPIPHANY 2</u></b>	
			Holy Communion	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres and preacher: Fr Geoff)</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00-5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## NOTICES

CHRISTINGLE – Today, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019. (1) Please pick up a Children's Society 'candle' to fill with coins to raise funds for this charity. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation please use a Christingle envelope. (2) This afternoon Bring and Share Lunch with our Jacobite friends at noon. (3) Join the service at 2:00pm. and donate your 'candle' or envelope at the offertory.

MY SINCERE APOLOGIES to the Stone family for omitting an important part of their very kind message for our Christmas booklet. I don't know how this happened. The lovely message should have read: "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, to everyone at St Michael's. Your love and support is greatly appreciated." *Vicki.*

SWORD. Please note that subscriptions for 2019 are now due. These should be paid to Valerie Alvarez. The cost is £7.50 for the year, ie 12 copies for the price of 10.

THE FUNERAL SERVICE OF NORMA STONE will be at 1.00 pm on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at St Michael's. The following committal will be family only.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO A PLANNING MORNING in Church on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 9.30am – 12.30pm, looking forward to the programme at St Michael's for 2019.

There is a sign-up list at the back of Church

PERSONAL CHRISTMAS CARD delivery –Please check and take any cards addressed to you.