



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**EPIPHANY 3**  
**20 January 2019**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Vicki Matthews leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 604, 474, 586 and 497**

**Setting: Thorne**

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

Holy Baptism at 3 pm.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** Christian Unity.

The World Council of Churches.

Leaders of Christian denominations.

**The World:** The people of Kenya.

The protection of persecuted minorities.

The work of the United Nations.

**The Community and Parish:** Churches Together in Central, South, and West Watford.

Trinity Methodist Church and West Watford Free Church.

Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Christopher Bilson, Fr John Brown, Juliette Cottam, 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, Martin Ranson, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care for them.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power;  
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 62.1–5**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this:

- 1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.
- 2 The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- 3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- 4 You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married.
- 5 For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

**SECOND READING I Corinthians 12.1–11**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

- 1 Concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.
- 2 You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak.
- 3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.
- 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
- 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord;

- 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.
- 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,
- 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,
- 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.
- 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

## **GOSPEL John 2.1-11**

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

- 1 There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.
- 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.
- 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'
- 4 And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.'
- 5 His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'
- 6 Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.
- 7 Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim.
- 8 He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it.
- 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him,
- 10 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.'
- 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## **THIS WEEK**

|      |    |     |   |                   |
|------|----|-----|---|-------------------|
| Mon  | 21 | Jan | Toddlers' Group                                     | 10.00 – 11.30am   |
| Wed  | 23 | Jan | Food Bank   | 10.00am – 12 noon |
|      |    |     | Coffee in Church                                    | 10.30am – 12 noon |
| Thur | 24 | Jan | Holy Communion                                      | 10.00am           |
| Sun  | 27 | Jan | <b><u>EPIPHANY 4</u></b>                            |                   |
|      |    |     | Holy Communion                                      | 8.00am            |
|      |    |     | <b>SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres and preacher: Fr Geoff)</b> | <b>9.30am</b>     |
|      |    |     | <b>Followed by Bring-&amp;-Buy Sale</b>             |                   |
|      |    |     | Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church                     | 1.00pm – 5.00pm   |
|      |    |     | Evening Prayer                                      | 6.00pm            |

## **NOTICES**

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICES:

Sunday 20th January, 6.00pm at Wellspring

Wednesday 23rd January, 1.00pm at Holy Rood

Sunday 27th January, 4.30pm at Soul Survivor

THE COLLECTION FOR THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY at the Christingle Service raised £187.80. Many thanks.

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 January Sword is available for collection at the back of the Church.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE FEBRUARY SWORD is next Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> January Hard copy to Rob White or email to swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com.

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

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Ash Wednesday 6 March: Services at 10 am and 8 pm with Imposition of Ashes.

Lent Lunch 23 March: Sale at 11.am; Lunch of homemade soup and bread and cheese from 12 noon to 1.30 pm. Proceeds to mission.

Mothering Sunday 31 March: Service at 9.30 am.

Annual Meetings: Wednesday 24 April, 7 pm