



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
24 February 2019

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 496, 557, 250 and 166

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 pm – 5.00 pm)

NO Evening Prayer tonight.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of St Andrew, Bedford, in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of the Central Region of America, Julio Murray Thompson its Primate and all its People.
Parish Prayer Groups.

The World: USPG-supported parenting courses in Jamaica.
The work of Fairtrade organisations.
People living in refugee camps in Myanmar.

The Community and Parish: All who worship at our Local Mosques.
The work of Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy.
Our police officers and police community support officers.

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, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Craig McKay, Lisa Mills, Sylvia Obeng, Dorcas Ochola, Martin Ranson, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Malcolm Talbot, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care for them.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image;
teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns
supreme over all things, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 2.4b–9, 15–25

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- 4 In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,
5 when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung
up – for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one
to till the ground;
6 but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground –
7 then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his
nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.
8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man
whom he had formed.
9 Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight
and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil.
15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.
16 And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the
garden;
17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that
you eat of it you shall die.’
18 Then the LORD God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him
a helper as his partner.’
19 So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of
the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever
the man called every living creature, that was its name.
20 The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the
field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.
21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took
one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.
22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and
brought her to the man.
23 Then the man said, ‘This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall
be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.’
24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they
become one flesh.
25 And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

SECOND READING Revelation 4

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ¹ After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.'
- ² At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne!
- ³ And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald.
- ⁴ Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads.
- ⁵ Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God;
- ⁶ and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:
- ⁷ the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle.
- ⁸ And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.'
- ⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever,
- ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,
- ¹¹ 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'

GOSPEL Luke 8.22–25

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

- ²² One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out,
- ²³ and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger.
- ²⁴ They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.
- ²⁵ He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

THIS WEEK

Mon	25	Feb	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	27	Feb	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	28	Feb	NO Holy Communion	
Sun	3	Mar	<u>SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT</u>	
			Holy Communion	8.00am
			FIRST SUNDAY of MONTH SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff; All-Age Presentation)	
			Followed by refreshments	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

LENT GROUPS will take place on Mondays 11th, 18th, 25th March, 1st and 8th April, at 2.30 pm in the Choir Vestry. The subject is Prayer, the Bible and Daily Life. Please sign up on the list at the back of Church. If you would like there to be an evening group, let Fr Geoff know

SIMNEL CAKES: It is our custom to serve slices of simnel cake after the 9.30 am service on Mothering Sunday (31 March). If you are able to make a simnel cake for this occasion please let Iola Bilson or Sylvia Moring know.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES FOR CHURCH ARMY: Collecting boxes for Church members to use during Lent are at the back of the church. The boxes will be collected on Easter Day (21st April).

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE MARCH SWORD is MIDDAY today, 24 February. Hard copy to Rob White or email to swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Ash Wednesday 6 March: Services at 10 am and 8 pm, both 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. All welcome

Mothering Sunday 31 March: Service at 9.30 am.

Annual Meetings: Wednesday 24 April, 7 pm