



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

LENT 5 / PASSION SUNDAY
7 April 2019

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 499, 421, 109 and 598

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 2.00 pm

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Eyeworth in our Diocese.
The Church of Ireland, Richard Clarke Archbishop of Armagh and all the people.
All who lead Children's Church and Sunday School.

The World: Marginalized Dalit and Tribal people in India.
Church Army's work with disadvantaged teenagers.
Victims of knife crime.

The Community and Parish: The family celebrating their child's baptism this afternoon.
Residents and Staff at Home Manor, The Chase and St Anthony's.
Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Christopher Bilson, 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, Michelle Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Malcolm Talbot, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care for them.

The Departed: Salli Davis.

Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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 43.16–21

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

SECOND READING Philippians 3.4b–14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- ⁴ If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:
⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;
⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.
⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him,

- 9 not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.
- 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,
- 11 if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.
- 12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.
- 13 Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
- 14 I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL John 12.1-8

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

- 1 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.
- 2 There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him.
- 3 Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.
- 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said,
- 5 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?'
- 6 (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)
- 7 Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.
- 8 You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

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MAUNDY THURSDAY - 18 APRIL 2019

8 pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper with foot washing and stripping of the altar. Followed by

MAUNDY THURSDAY WATCH

If you are able to take part for an hour or more at the Maundy Watch on 18/19th April, please sign the list on the desk by the Mildred Avenue door.

THIS WEEK

Mon	8	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Lent Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	10	Apr	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	2.30pm
Thur	11	Apr	Holy Communion	10.00am
			Holy Communion at St Anthony's	11.00am
Sun	14	Apr	<u>PALM SUNDAY</u>	
			Holy Communion	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			with dramatised Gospel reading and distribution of palm crosses	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

THE NEW ELECTORAL ROLL is on display at the back of Church for inspection. If there are any errors, please let us know. No more names can be added at this stage unless a form was handed in on or before 27th March, but names can be added after the Annual Meetings. There are envelopes at the back of Church for all those whose names appear on the New Roll.

P.C.C.: There are several vacancies that need to be filled. We shall be coming to seek your help! *Elizabeth and Gillian.*

CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS - On Maundy Thursday, 18th April, please join us in church, however old you are, to "Walk with Jesus" as we explore the Stations of the Cross through art, craft, songs and stories. Bring a packed lunch and be ready for fun 11.00 - 14.00.

CONCERT: We are thinking about inviting the Gwalia Choir, a Welsh Male Voice choir, to come and perform for us in December. We would like to make this a fundraising event. So first of all, we would like to know if you would support this concert, and, if you would be able to bring friends and family to help with the sale of tickets. Please talk to Fr Geoff, Elizabeth, Iola and Valerie B with your ideas.

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).

ADVANCE NOTICE

Tuesday 16 April: Agape

Good Friday 19 April from 12 noon: The Last Three Hours

Sunday, 21 April: Easter Day

Wednesday 24 April – Annual Meetings

7.00pm Holy Communion

7.45pm Annual Vestry Meeting

8.00pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting