



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 5
19 May 2019

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Sylvia Moring leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 250 (vv 1-4), 156, 205 and 380.

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Cottered in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Melanesia, George Takeli its Archbishop and all its people.
Church Army's faith-sharing initiatives.

The World: HIV prevention work in the Anglican Church of Tanzania.
All Christian Aid volunteers.
Awareness of people with dementia.

The Community and Parish: Churches Together in Central, South and West Watford.
People living in residential and nursing homes in our Parish.
People in our parish with learning disabilities.

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, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care for them.

The Departed: Charles Moore, Rona Clayton-Robb.

Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 11.1-18

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹ The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God.
- ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him,
- ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?"
- ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying,
- ⁵ 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me.
- ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air.
- ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat."
- ⁸ But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth."
- ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane."
- ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.
- ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were.
- ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house.
- ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter;
- ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved."
- ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.
- ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

- ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?’
- ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, ‘Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.’

SECOND READING Revelation 21.1–6

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ¹ I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.
- ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;
- ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’
- ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’
- ⁶ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.’

GOSPEL John 13.31–35

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

- ³¹ During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him.
- ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.
- ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.”
- ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.
- ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	20	May	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	21	May	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	22	May	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
			Finance Committee	7.30pm
Thur	23	May	Holy Communion	10.00am
			Funeral in church	2.30pm
Sun	26	May	<u>EASTER 6</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres and preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00pm – 10.00pm
			Evening Prayer (Littlebury Hall)	6.00pm

NOTICES

NEW HOPE COMMUNITY MARKET GARDEN OPEN DAY SATURDAY 25TH MAY: Music, storytelling, refreshments, children's activities, plants and produce - at 64 Rickmansworth Road from 10.30am to 3.00pm.

This is always a very enjoyable event -Do Come!

PAUL CHANDLER IN THE CHOIR AND HIS DAUGHTER REBECCA WILL BE TREKKING 26 MILES AROUND LONDON on 1st June in support of Alzheimer's Society. If you'd like to make a donation you can do so via www.justgiving.com/fundraising/paulandrebecca2019 or by speaking to Paul in person. Paul, Rebecca and family are very grateful for all the generous support already received from their friends at St. Michael's.

RONA CLAYTON-ROBB died on 4th May 2019. The funeral will be at West Herts Crematorium at 2 pm, Friday 24th May.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE JUNE SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 26 May. Hard copy to Rob White or email to swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES and **LENT COLLECTING BOXES:** Please return any remaining boxes and their contents to church as soon as possible.