



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
17 November 2019

A warm welcome to our services.

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

Hymns: 2, 356, 577 and 609

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

NO Evening Prayer tonight.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Holy Trinity Stevenage in our Diocese.
The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain, Carlos Lopez-Lozano its Bishop and all its People.

The Partners in World Mission Conference in Swanwick.

The World: People suffering through Flooding on Northern England.
People suffering through Wild Fires in California and Australia.
People lacking proper hygiene provision.

The Community and Parish: This afternoon's Interfaith Pilgrimage.

Our PCC members.

Thanksgiving for all who give of their time, talents and money for our Church.

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

The Departed:

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Malachi 4.1–2a

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

- ¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.
- ² But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

SECOND READING 2 Thessalonians 3.6–13

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

- ⁶ We command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us.
- ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you,
- ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you.
- ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate.
- ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.
- ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.
- ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.
- ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

GOSPEL Luke 21.5–19

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

- 5 When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said,
- 6 ‘As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.’
- 7 They asked him, ‘Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?’
- 8 And Jesus said, ‘Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, “I am he!” and, “The time is near!” Do not go after them.
- 9 When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.’
- 10 Then he said to them, ‘Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
- 11 there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.
- 12 But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.
- 13 This will give you an opportunity to testify.
- 14 So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance;
- 15 for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.
- 16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.
- 17 You will be hated by all because of my name.
- 18 But not a hair of your head will perish.
- 19 By your endurance you will gain your souls.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	18	Nov	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	20	Nov	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.25pm
Thu	21	Nov	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Followed by coffee for all in Choir Vestry	
Sat	23	Nov	(Littlegrove Quiz Night	7.30pm)
Sun	24	Nov	<u>CHRIST THE KING</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President: Fr George)	9.30am
			Preacher from the Leprosy Mission	
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.	
			Followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale.	
			Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00 – 5.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

INTERFAITH PILGRIMAGE: Today, Sunday 17th November. Starting at Watford and District Synagogue at 12.00 and calling at Central Mosque, St Mary's Church, Al-Zahra Centre, Holy Rood Catholic Church, and finishing at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara at about 5pm.

MANY THANKS to Jamie and Holly Wareham, Nicky Brighton, Norma Twitchen and of course, Ron Ryall, for the Country Music Evening, which was very enjoyable, and raised £290.00 to boot!

ALSO MANY THANKS to all those who planned, organised, helped at and supported our Christmas Fair yesterday. Result not known at the time of printing, but well done everyone!

CHURCHES TOGETHER are sponsoring a General Election Forum at Beechen Grove Baptist Church on Monday 25th November, 7.45pm – 9.30pm. Questions for candidates can be submitted on the night or in advance to vicar@standrewswatford.org.uk

FINAL COPY DATE for November Sword is next Sunday, 24 November. Hard copy to Rob White or email to swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com

ADVANCE DATES FOR DECEMBER:

Tuesday 10 th : St Michaels Christmas Dinner	6.30pm
Wednesday 11 th : Christmas Coffee Morning with Bring-&-Buy Sale.	
All proceeds to Christingle.	10.00am – 12 noon
Sunday 22 nd : Carol Service	6.00pm
Monday 30 th : Watford Youth Sinfonia Concert	7.30pm

St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010