



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

CHRIST THE KING
24 November 2019

A warm welcome to our services.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr George celebrates and we welcome a preacher from the Leprosy Mission. Pat Beach leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 563, 497, 601 and 163

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there is a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm in Littlebury Hall.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Bushey in our Diocese.

The Bishop to the Forces and to the Falkland Islands, Timothy Thornton.

The Church of North India's support to marginalised communities.

The World: The work of the Leprosy Mission.

All sufferers from leprosy, and those who work with them.

Reconciliation in Hong Kong.

The Community and Parish: Ascot Road Free School.

Monday's Election Hustings.

Thanksgiving for our Christmas Fair and all who took part.

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

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King; keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 23.1–6

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- 1 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.
- 2 Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.
- 3 Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply.
- 4 I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.
- 5 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
- 6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

SECOND READING Colossians 1.11–20

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and sisters:

- 11 May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience,
- 12 while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.
- 13 He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,

14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;
16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and
invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things
have been created through him and for him.
17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn
from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.
19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether
on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL Luke 23.33–43

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

33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus
there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.
34 Then Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are
doing.’ And they cast lots to divide his clothing.
35 And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,
‘He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his
chosen one!’
36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine,
37 and saying, ‘If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!’
38 There was also an inscription over him, ‘This is the King of the Jews.’
39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,
‘Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!’
40 But the other rebuked him, saying, ‘Do you not fear God, since you are
under the same sentence of condemnation?’
41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we
deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.’
42 Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’
43 Jesus replied, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	25	Nov	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	26	Nov	Ascot Road Free School	10.00am – 2.00pm
Wed	27	Nov	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
Thu	28	Nov	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
Sun	1	Dec	<u>ADVENT SUNDAY</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			FIRST SUNDAY of MONTH SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff; All-Age Presentation)	
			Followed by refreshments	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

EVERYONE IS INVITED to stay on after the 9.30 service to celebrate the 90th birthday of Jean Alexander with cake, nibbles and wine (apologies for the incorrect information last Sunday).

MANY THANKS to all those who planned, organised, helped at and supported our Christmas Fair last week. It was a great success and raised the grand total of £1824.50 including the additional sales on Sunday morning.

ST MICHAEL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGES BOOKLET 2019. Please submit your entries just as soon as possible for this year's booklet. Forms plus an envelope for them, Christian Aid envelopes for donations and another envelope to put them in are all on the table at the back of church - where magazines and sign-up forms are displayed. Donations for entries will as usual be sent to Christian Aid.

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 today, 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