



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 3
15 April 2018

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 435, 159, 109 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.

Holy baptism 3.00 pm.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Sutton in our Diocese.
The Church of Ireland, Richard Clarke its primate, and all its people.
People who volunteer as Street Pastors.

The World: Victims of chemical weapons.
That world leaders may seek peace and the good of all people.
High Street workers facing redundancy.

The Community and Parish: Our toddlers group.
Faith leaders in Watford.
Preparations for our AGMs.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Christopher Bilson, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Kate Dickinson, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia Dixon, Sister Dominic, Claire Dunning, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Michele Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Peter White; and all who care for them.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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 Acts 3.12–19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹² Peter addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?
- ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him.
- ¹⁴ But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you,
- ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.
- ¹⁶ And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.
- ¹⁷ And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.
- ¹⁸ In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer.
- ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.’

SECOND READING I John 3.1–7

A reading from the first letter of John.

- ¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

- 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.
- 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.
- 4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.
- 5 You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.
- 6 No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.
- 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

GOSPEL Luke 24.36–48

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

- 36 While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'
- 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.
- 38 He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?
- 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'
- 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.
- 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?'
- 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
- 43 and he took it and ate in their presence.
- 44 Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'
- 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
- 46 and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,
- 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
- 48 You are witnesses of these things.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	16	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	17	Apr	Estates Committee	2.30pm
Wed	18	Apr	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	6.00 – 11.00pm
Thur	19	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Followed by Coffee in Choir vestry	
Sun	22	Apr	<u>EASTER 4</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President: Fr Geoff	
			and Preacher from the Church Army)	9.30am
			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

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: The revised Electoral Roll is displayed on the notice board. Please check your entry for any errors or omissions and inform Fr Geoff or Henry or Sylvia Moring if there are any inaccuracies. Additional names can be added any time after the Annual Meetings on **MONDAY 23 April**. Only persons on the Electoral Roll can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS: please note the annual report and accounts, and the Agenda and Minutes for the Annual Meetings will be distributed electronically. A list is available at the rear of the church which please sign if you do not have the facility to receive these electronically and would like a printed copy.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE MAY SWORD is MIDDAY Sunday, 22 April. Hard copy to Rob White or email to swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES and LENT COLLECTING BOXES FOR MISSION: Please return as soon as possible if you still have any. Thank you.