



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EPIPHANY
7 January 2018

A warm welcome to our services today.

At 9.30 am there is our First Sunday of the Month Eucharist; Fr Geoff celebrates and the children lead the intercessions. There is an all-age presentation.

Hymns: 84 (i), 91, 74 and 89

Setting: Thorne

Refreshments will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

Bring and Share Lunch

12.30pm

followed by **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**

2.00pm

This is a shared event with the Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church
(NO Evening Prayer)

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

The Parish of Astwick in our Diocese.

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia,
Winston Halapua, Archbishop and all its people.

People undertaking placements with the worldwide Church with USPG.

The World:

Peace in the Korean peninsula.

The people of Iran.

NHS staff and patients.

The Community and Parish: Trinity Methodist Church.

The Watford Celebration Committee.

Residents and staff at Home Manor and St Anthony's.

The Ill and the Housebound:

Especially Christopher Bilson, Janet Bridge, Peter Coley,
Marion Craddock-Jones, Kate Dickinson, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia
Dixon, Sister Dominic, Claire Dunning, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey,
Blossom Hutchinson, Kristine Jenkins, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch,
Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Michele Rodford,
Rick Sear, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Peter White; and all who care
for them.

The Departed:

Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face;
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 60.1–6

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹ Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- ² For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
- ³ Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
- ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord

GOSPEL Matthew 2.1–12

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

- ¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of
Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,
² ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we
observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’
³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem
with him;
⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he
inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.
⁵ They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by
the prophet:
⁶ “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least
among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to
shepherd my people Israel.”’
⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them
the exact time when the star had appeared.
⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for
the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I
may also go and pay him homage.’
⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of
them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped
over the place where the child was.
¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed
with joy.
¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and
they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-
 chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left
for their own country by another road

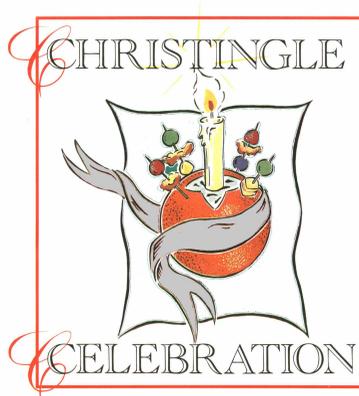
THIS WEEK

Mon	8	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	10	Jan	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	2.30pm
Thur	11	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Service at St Anthony's	11.00am
Sun	14	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY 2</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres & Preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

PERSONAL CHRISTMAS CARDS. Please check and take any cards from the table that are addressed to you.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: Candlesticks and collecting envelopes for today's Service are available at the back of the church.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 16 January Intercessory Prayer Group at 2.30 pm (Choir Vestry)
- 17 January PCC at 7.25 pm (Choir Vestry)
- 21 January Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service at Beechen Grove Baptist Church at 3.30 pm