



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

PALM SUNDAY

16 March 2008

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr John celebrates and Paul Chandler leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**We all meet outside the main west door for the beginning of the Palm procession.**

**There is a special service book including the first THREE hymns and the Passion Gospel.**

**Hymns: 433, 128, 119, 112 and 123**

**Setting: White**

Sunday School is in Littlebury Hall at 9.30am.

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

At 3 pm today in Cassiobury Park there is to be a football match between St Michael & All Angels' Youth Group and St Luke's. All spectators welcome!

Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

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## **For your prayers this week:**

### **The Church:**

The Church in Jerusalem: Bishop Suheil Dawani.

The Parish of St Peter's, Bedford: Mike Fudger, Vicar.

For all Christian people as we observe together the last week of our Lord's life on earth.

### **The World:**

Peace in Gaza and the Middle East.

All who work for a solution to the situation in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Those who work to provide utilities: electricity, gas, water.

### **The Community and Parish:**

For the many rootless people who we see in our parish.

Local shopkeepers, and those who provide us with everyday services locally.

### **The Ill and the Housebound:**

Especially Ray Angles, Monica Batt, Ellen Benoy, Mel Browne, John Burn, Marjorie Carlisle, Claire Challis, Jennifer Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Ifagaani Desiderio, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Jocelyn Harewood, Sarah Heath, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Eva Portas, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Gladys Robertson, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Bill Widdowson, Anne Wightman and Maureen Williams.

### **The Departed:**

Alfred Carter (aged 63), Hagden Lane.

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**COLLECT**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
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.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING Isaiah 50.4–9a**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The servant of the LORD said:

- 4 The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may  
know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he  
wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.
- 5 The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not  
turn backwards.
- 6 I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who  
pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
- 7 The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be  
put to shame;
- 8 he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us  
stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.
- 9 It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Today's Gospel is the Passion Narrative According to St Matthew and is found in the service booklets.

## **PRINCIPAL HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES 2008**

### **Maundy Thursday – 20 March**

(NO 10 am service)

8.00 pm United Sung Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar  
followed by Watch Through the Night

### **Good Friday – 21 March**

12.00 noon – 3.00 pm The Last Three Hours  
12-1pm Stations of the Cross  
1-2 pm Frugal Lunch in Hall; Meditation & Music in Church  
2-3 pm Liturgy

### **Holy Saturday – 22 March**

9.00 pm Easter Eve Ceremonies

### **Easter Day – 23 March**

8.00 am Holy Communion  
9.30 am Sung Eucharist & Blessing of Easter Garden  
6.30 pm Evensong

### **Easter Monday - 24 March**

The Pilgrimage to St Albans starts from St Michael's at 9.00 am  
with prayers in the Lady Chapel



## THIS WEEK

**Principal service times for this week are on the inside page**

Mon	17	Mar	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	19	Mar	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Holy Communion (said)	7.15pm
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 for 7.55pm
Thur	20	Mar	<u>MAUNDY THURSDAY</u> (see inside)	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.00pm
Fri	21	Mar	<u>GOOD FRIDAY</u> (see inside)	
Sat	22	Mar	<u>EASTER EVE</u> (see inside)	
			Easter Workshop (in Church)	2.00 – 4.00pm
Sun	23	Mar	<u>EASTER DAY</u> (see inside)	
Mon	24	Mar	<u>EASTER MONDAY</u>	
			Pilgrimage to St Albans commences	9.00am

## NOTICES

THE VIGIL LIST for Maundy Thursday/Good Friday is on the table at the Mildred Avenue door. Please sign soon.

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER – CAN YOU HELP?

By delivering some Easter Leaflets to local roads? (sign list and take cards)

By volunteering to have your feet washed at the Maundy Thursday Sung Eucharist? (see Vicar)

By signing to keep watch for one hour during the Vigil on Maundy Thursday/Good Friday

By making soup or helping to serve the frugal lunch on Good Friday (see Valerie Alvarez)

By joining the choir for Easter (see Andy Benoy or Pat Beach).

EASTER FLOWERS: If you wish to make a donation towards the Easter flowers please see Fay Storey. If you are able to gift aid your donation please use a small white envelope.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS: It has been the custom for many years at Easter-tide to invite you to contribute to the Vicar's miscellaneous expenses. Envelopes for your contribution are available at the doors around the church and can be returned to us (in strictest confidence) or placed in the collection. Many thanks – Paul Chandler and Sylvia Moring (Churchwardens).

CONGRATULATIONS to Peter and Anne Coley as they celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Thursday, 20 March 2008.

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: This year's revision will commence on 16<sup>th</sup> March and finish on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April. A copy of the current Roll is on the notice board at the back of the Church for you to check. If anyone would like their name added to the Roll, please get a form from the Clergy or Henry Moring.

HELP PLEASE! We badly need volunteers to join the rota for Sunday morning crèche (please see Alison Makin), serving coffee (please see Pat Brown) and sidespeople (please see one of the churchwardens).

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE APRIL SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 23 March. Please submit copy before this time if possible. Hard copy, floppy disc or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2008 are now due. Please see Valerie Alvarez who has again kindly agreed to collect the subscriptions for the coming year, which remain the same as last year, £5.00 if you pay for the year instead of 50p per month.