



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

EASTER DAY

23 March 2008

A warm welcome to our services today and a very happy Easter to you all. At the 9.30 am Eucharist the Easter Garden is blessed; Fr John celebrates and preaches and Phil Gough leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 137, 159, 161, 162 and 147**

**Setting: Wilson**

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

Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

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

**The Church:** All churches as they celebrate the Resurrection of Christ.  
The Community of the Resurrection (Mirfield).  
Rowan, our Archbishop.

**The World:** Peace in Iraq and Afghanistan.  
All tempted to commit violent crime.  
Peace in Jerusalem, and between Israel and Palestinians.

**The Community and Parish:** The work of the Sure-Start Children's Centre in Littlebury Hall.  
All who will go on pilgrimage to St Alban's shrine on Easter Monday.

**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:**

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**Collect**

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

**FIRST READING Jeremiah 31.1–6**

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- <sup>1</sup> At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.
- <sup>2</sup> Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest,
- <sup>3</sup> the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.
- <sup>4</sup> Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.
- <sup>5</sup> Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit.
- <sup>6</sup> For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: 'Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God.'

**SECOND READING Acts 10.34–43**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- <sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality,
- <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.
- <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all.
- <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:
- <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
- <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;
- <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,
- <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

- 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one  
ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.
- 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives  
forgiveness of sins through his name.'

## **GOSPEL John 20.1-18**

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

- 1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to  
the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.
- 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus  
loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not  
know where they have laid him.'
- 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb.
- 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached  
the tomb first.
- 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go  
in.
- 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen  
wrappings lying there,
- 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but  
rolled up in a place by itself.
- 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and  
believed;
- 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.
- 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.
- 11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look  
into the tomb;
- 12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one  
at the head and the other at the feet.
- 13 They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have  
taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.'
- 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she  
did not know that it was Jesus.
- 15 Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?'  
Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him  
away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.'
- 16 Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which  
means Teacher.
- 17 Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the  
Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and  
your Father, to my God and your God."'
- 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and  
she told them that he had said these things to her.

## **THIS WEEK**

Mon	24	Mar	<b><u>EASTER MONDAY</u></b>	
			Pilgrimage to St Albans commences	9.00am
Wed	26	Mar	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thu	27	Mar	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 - 8.30pm
Sun	30	Mar	<b><u>EASTER 2</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			<b>Sung Eucharist</b> (crèche available)	9.30am
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			Evensong in the Lady Chapel	6.30pm

## **NOTICES**

Fr **JOHN, VIOLET** and **MARTIN** wish you all a very happy and joyful Easter!

**VERY MANY THANKS** to all who contributed to beautifying and preparing the Church for the Festival – all who donated money for flowers, all who arranged them – prepared the Altar of Repose and the Easter Garden. Thank you also to those who arranged and presented the Lenten meditations. Fr John.

**EASTER MONDAY PILGRIMAGE:** On Monday, please bring appropriate clothes, stout shoes, packed lunch and **train fare back!**

**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).

**ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION:** This year's revision commenced on 16<sup>th</sup> March and finishes 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.

**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 today, 23 March. Please submit copy before this time if possible. Hard copy, floppy disc or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

**PLEASE SIGN UP** for the monthly Bring-&-Share Lunch on Wednesday 2 April.

**PARISH WALK:** – Saturday 5 April. Please sign up on the list.