



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

EASTER 7

4 May 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr John celebrates and preaches and Jane Talbot leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 166, 419, 318 and 563**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

Sunday School in Littlebury Hall is at 9.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

The Baptism of Edward Dunn is at 12.30pm

The Baptism of Miyah and Corey Hutchinson is at 3.00pm

There is a United Evening Service at West Watford Free Church at 6.30 pm.

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

**The Church:** All churches in the Anglican Communion.

The Dunstable Team Ministry: Richard Andrews, Rector.

Edward Dunn and Miyah and Corey Hutchinson, baptised today.

**The World:** Peace in Iraq and Afghanistan and in all troubled places..

Leaders of our political parties.

**The Community and Parish:** The work of the Watford Schools Trust, aiming to work in schools to give each child a clear understanding of the Christian faith.

Our newly-elected office-holders following our AGMs – especially Churchwardens, Sylvia and Paul.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Ray Angles, Monica Batt, Ellen Benoy, Mel Browne, John Burn, Marjorie Carlisle, Maureen Clark, Jennifer Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Ifagaani Desiderio, Jim Dibben, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Jocelyn Harewood, Sarah Heath, Margery Holt, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Gladys Robertson, Elaine Robinson, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Bill Widdowson, Anne Wightman and Maureen Williams.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

O God the king of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Acts 1.6–14**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- <sup>6</sup> When the apostles had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’
- <sup>7</sup> He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.
- <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’
- <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.
- <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.
- <sup>11</sup> They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’
- <sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.
- <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.
- <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

**SECOND READING I Peter 4.12–14; 5.6–11**

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- <sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
- <sup>13</sup> But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.
- <sup>14</sup> If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

- 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.
- 7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.
- 8 Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.
- 9 Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.
- 10 And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.
- 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

## **GOSPEL John 17.1-11**

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

- 1 Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,
- 2 since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.
- 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
- 4 I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do.
- 5 So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.
- 6 I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.
- 7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;
- 8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.
- 9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.
- 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.
- 11 And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	5	May	<i>Bank Holiday</i>	
Tue	6	May	Youth & Education Committee (to be confirmed)	8.00pm
Wed	7	May	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Bring-&-Share Lunch	12.30pm
Thu	8	May	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Kids' Club	3.30 – 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	9	May	Set up for Plant Sale	
Sat	10	May	RSCM Examinations in Choir Vestry all day	
			PLANT SALE	10am – 12 noon
Sun	11	May	<b><u>PENTECOST</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			<b>Sung Eucharist</b> (crèche available)	9.30am
			including Dedication of new PCC	
			Baptism Renewal Service (all welcome)	11.15am
			CHORAL EVENSONG	6.30pm

## **NOTICES**

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK:** This is from 11 – 17 May 2008. Volunteers needed for collection please. Contact Valerie Blacklock on 251312 or sign the list at the back of Church on the sign-up table, please.

**PLANT SALE** Saturday, 10 May 2008, from 10 am – 12 noon. We welcome plants from as many people as possible. All help welcome both for set up during Friday afternoon and evening (liaise with Sylvia about time) or during the sale. Would anyone like to run a stall; sell raffle tickets, make cakes, jam and marmalade - please see Sylvia or Norma. All proceeds go to our mission and charitable giving.

**BIBLE STUDY** is on Wednesday 14 May at 8.00 pm. We start on the Book of Exodus.

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY:** Please return boxes to Norma or Pat Beach as soon as possible.

**TEENAGE QUIZ NIGHT** on Friday May 16. Volunteers to make chocolate cakes please. See Jane Talbot for further information.

**BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH** Wednesday 7 May. Please sign the list on the sign-up table at the back of the church.

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