



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MOTHERING SUNDAY

22 March 2009

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr George celebrates, there is a presentation on the theme of mothering in many forms and the Youth Group leads the intercessions. There will be a presentation of posies. A crèche is available.

There is a special service book for Mothering Sunday but the hymns are on a separate sheet.

Setting: Oldroyd

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

There is a Lent Meditation by the Pause Group in the Lady Chapel at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Prakash Patole, Bishop of Mumbai, North India.
Berkhamsted Team Ministry.

Our mothers, whether with us still, or departed – give thanks for their influence on us for the good.

The World: Peace in all troubled places.

Our service personnel working overseas.

Refugees, searching for a new place to live.

The Community and Parish: The work of the Mothers' Union.

All surveyors, estate agents and property developers.

Watford's Women's Refuges and the mothers and children who are housed in them.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Ellen Benoy, Gunter Bouché, Christopher Browne, Mel Browne, John Burn, Marjorie Carlisle, Jennifer Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Simon Fowle, Jocelyn Harewood, Gladys Holloway, Jenny Houghton, Lionel Jones, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Gladys Robertson, Elaine Robinson, Pauline Surtees, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Matthew Tigwell, Anne Wightman, Eric Wightman and Maureen Williams.

The Departed: Lesley Watkin, Australia (Mark's sister-in-law).

Collect

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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 Exodus 2.1–10

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- ¹ A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.
- ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months.
- ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.
- ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.
- ⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.
- ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said.
- ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?'
- ⁸ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother.
- ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it.
- ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

SECOND READING Colossians 3.12–17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- ¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
- ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
- ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.
- ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.
- ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL John 19.25b–27

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

- ²⁵ Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
- ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'
- ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

THIS WEEK

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| Mon | 23 | Mar | Toddlers' Group | 10.00 – 11.30am |
| | | | Youth & Education Committee (Clergy Vestry) | 7.30 pm |
| Wed | 25 | Mar | Coffee in Church | 10.30am-12 noon |
| | | | (Mothers' Union Deanery Lady Day Service at St Mary's – Preacher: Violet Allen Smith | 2.30pm) |
| | | | Bible Study (Choir Vestry) | 8.00pm |
| Thu | 26 | Mar | Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) | 10.00am |
| | | | Kids' Club | 3.30-5.00pm |
| | | | Choir Practice | 7.00-8.30pm |
| Fri | 27 | Mar | St Anthony's School in Church | All day |
| Sat | 28 | Mar | LENT LUNCH and Bring-&-Buy | 11.30am-1.30pm |
| | | | <i>Clock go forward one hour tonight</i> | |
| Sun | 29 | Mar | <u>PASSION SUNDAY</u> | |
| | | | SUNG EUCHARIST: (crèche available) | 9.30 am |
| | | | Sunday School in Littlebury Hall. | |
| | | | Followed by Bring-&-Buy Sale | |
| | | | Tea and Scones served by Martin Heath | 5.30pm |
| | | | 'The Way of the Cross' – A Passion Sequence of Words and Music | 6.30pm |

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: This year's revision has now commenced and finishes on Sunday 5th 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 Henry or Sylvia Moring. If you have changed your email address or telephone number could you also inform us please.

LENT LUNCH & BRING-&-BUY: Our annual event in aid of the Church Army when the lunch is served by St Michael's Brownies, will be on Saturday, 28 March.

TALENTS FOR BANGLADESH: Talents envelopes and information about the cause we are supporting are on the bier. Items for sale can be put on the Talents Table.

Sue Winterbotham is offering Open House on Tuesdays 2.30 - 4.30 pm for craft/creativity to sell items on the Talents Table. Ideas welcome.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED a) to take part in the Vigil during the night of Maundy Thursday until the morning of Good Friday. Please sign the list on the Signings table at the west end. b) to deliver a meditation at the time of meditation and music on Good Friday from 1-2 pm.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE APRIL SWORD is MIDDAY today Sunday, 22 March. Hard copy or floppy disc or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

On **SATURDAY, 28 MARCH 2009**, at **8.30 pm** people, businesses and iconic buildings around the world will switch off their lights for one hour – WWF's Earth Hour. For more information see www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour and Valerie O'Riordan. They want a billion people around the world to sign up to show they care about people wildlife and the planet.