



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 3
26 April 2009

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, the Rev Ian Pankhurst celebrates and preaches and Pam Hart leads the intercessions. A crèche is available. Sunday School is in Littlebury Hall.

Hymns: 409, 150, 54 (Easter 2nd verse in Music Notes) and 157. Setting: Rawsthorne Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

The church will be in use this afternoon for a rehearsal for the concert this evening at 7.45pm arranged by the Octagon Music Society (see Notices for more details).

There is NO Evening Prayer here this evening.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Sturdie Downs, Bishop of Nicaragua, Central America.
David Elliot, Chaplain West Herts Hospitals NHS Trust.
The Diocesan Vision for Action Initiative – Children and Young People.

The World: Peace in all troubled places.
Gap year young people on their travels: for their safety.
The worldwide work of the Mothers' Union.

The Community and Parish: All flower arrangers and those who beautify our churches.

God's blessing on our Annual Meetings and on those to be elected to various offices.

The work of the Multi-Cultural Community Centre.

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, Kate Kirwan, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Brian Rees, Gladys Robertson, Elaine Robinson, Pauline Surtees, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Matthew Tigwell, Anne Wightman, Eric Wightman and Maureen Williams.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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 Acts 3.12–19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹² Peter addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?
- ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him.
- ¹⁴ But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you,
- ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.
- ¹⁶ And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.
- ¹⁷ And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.
- ¹⁸ In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer.
- ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.'

SECOND READING I John 3.1–7

A reading from the first letter of John.

- ¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
- ² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.
- ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.
- ⁴ Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.
- ⁵ You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.
- ⁶ No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.
- ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

GOSPEL Luke 24.36–48

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

- ³⁶ While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'
- ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.
- ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?
- ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'
- ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.
- ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?'
- ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
- ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.
- ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'
- ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
- ⁴⁶ and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,
- ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
- ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	27	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	29	Apr	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING (Littlebury Hall)	7.45pm
			ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING	8.00pm
Thur	30	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Kids' Club	3.30-5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm
Sun	3	May	<u>EASTER 4</u>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST:	9.30 am
			(crèche available). Sunday School in Littlebury Hall	
			United Evening Service at Trinity Methodist Church	6.30pm

NOTICES

CONCERT IN CHURCH TONIGHT Sunday, 26 April, at 7.45 pm arranged by the Octagon Music Society. Alec Frank-Gemmill (French horn) and Geoffrey Paterson (piano). Tickets (£11) from Valerie O'Riordan.

ELECTORAL ROLL: The revised Electoral Roll is displayed on the notice board. Please check your entry for any errors or omissions and inform Henry Moring or a churchwarden if there are any inaccuracies. Additional names can be added any time after the Annual Meetings on 29th April.

AGM: Don't forget the AGM on 29th April. Agendas are available for all members of the Electoral Roll. NOMINATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR THE PCC AND CHURCHWARDENS: Forms for nominations are on the Signings Table at the back of the church. Please return them to Vicki Matthews or the churchwardens. Thank you.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE APRIL SWORD is MIDDAY today Sunday, 26 April. Hard copy or floppy disc or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

TALENTS CHALLENGE: The present total is a magnificent £766.66 and there are still some envelopes outstanding. Well done everyone! If you wish to gift aid your own contribution will you please see Pat Beach. If you still have an envelope please may we have it returned.

THE PLANT SALE will take place on Saturday, 16 May, from 10.30-12 noon. In addition to plants we have a variety of other stalls – books, preserves, coffee, gifts, cakes, raffle etc. If you are able to help with one of these please see Norma Twitchin or Sylvia Moring.

QUIZ NIGHT at Trinity Methodist Church Saturday May 9th! Proceeds to Christian Aid. Do try and support this event – further details are in The Sword and on the Poster in Church. If you are planning to come, please let me know. Thanks. Martin Heath.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES Please bring your box in either to Pat Beach or Norma Twitchin so that it can be emptied.

BLUEBELL STROLL! On a fine afternoon –maybe tomorrow or Tuesday - followed by tea at Cha Cha Cha and viewing of art by Martin Matthews. If you are interested please let Gillian Heath know today!