



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 6

17 May 2009

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, the Rev David Tuck celebrates and preaches and Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions. A crèche is available. Sunday School is in Littlebury Hall.

Hymns: 273, 565, 295 and 328.

Setting: Aston

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

There is Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Marcelino Rivera-Delgado, Bishop of Northern Mexico. Wilbury; Vicar Rev Barry Pate; Reader Peter Wilcox.
All who study and translate the scriptures.

The World: Peace in all troubled places.
All who work on the land, at sea or in our industries and the chaplains who serve them.
The problems arising from MPs' expenses and those who are working out a fair solution.

The Community and Parish:
The work of the Multi-Cultural Community Centre and the Littlebury Children's Centre..
The churchwardens who have now been to the Archdeacon's Visitation.
All who are taking on extra responsibilities during the vacancy.

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

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 10.44–48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

⁴⁴ While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.

⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles,

⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said,

⁴⁷ ‘Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’

⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SECOND READING I John 5.1–6

A reading from the first letter of John.

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,

⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.

- 5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that
Jesus is the Son of God?
- 6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with
the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is
the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL John 15.9–17

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 9 ‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I
have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love.
11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that
your joy may be complete.
12 This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved
you.
13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s
friends.
14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.
15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not
know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because
I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my
Father.
16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go
and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you
whatever you ask him in my name.
17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.’

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CHRISTIAN AID: Thank you to all who delivered and collected envelopes
during this past week.

THIS WEEK

Mon	18	May	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	19	May	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
			Service at Chase Care Home	3.00pm
			Youth & Education Meeting (Clergy Vestry)	7.30pm
Wed	20	May	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	21	May	ASCENSION DAY	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Kids' Club	3.30-5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00-7.45pm
			SUNG EUCHARIST	8.00pm
Sun	24	May	<u>EASTER 7</u>	
			SUNG EUCHARIST:	9.30 am
			(crèche available). Sunday School in Littlebury Hall	
			Evening Prayer	6.30pm

NOTICES

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS: It has been the custom for many years at Pentecost to invite you to contribute to the Curate's miscellaneous expenses. As you know Fr George is a non-stipendiary curate and this means that he does not receive any fees for the work he does for St Michael's. Envelopes for your contributions are available at the doors around the church and can be returned to us (in strictest confidence) or placed in the collection plate. We do encourage you to be generous. Many thanks – Paul Chandler and Sylvia Moring (Churchwardens).

MOTHERS' UNION: The date of the MU Garden Party has been changed to Wednesday, 27 May 2009, from 2 pm, at 15 Lynbury Court. There will be tea, cakes, and bring-and-buy. Everyone is very welcome to this social afternoon.

CHURCH COMMITTEES: Any member of St Michael's is eligible for membership of one of the church committees. If you would like to join one (or more) please sign the list on the signings table at the back of the church. The first meeting of each committee is likely to be in the next few weeks.

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

VOLUNTEERS to keep the Vicarage garden tidy would be much appreciated. Please see Paul Chandler (252926) if you can help.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE JUNE SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 24 May. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

ST ALBANS FESTIVAL PILGRIMAGE – 20 June 2009. Details are around the church – a very worthwhile day out. Speak to Pat Beach for further information and/or for a free parking voucher.

PLANT SALE: Many thanks to all who contributed in any way to the Plant Sale yesterday. All the proceeds will be added to our mission and charitable giving. Anything that is left will be available for sale today after the 9.30 service.