



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

SECOND SUNDAY

before ADVENT

15 November 2009

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Paul Chandler leads the intercessions. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

Hymns: 368, 395, 598 (i) and 423

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

The Confirmation Group will meet at 4 pm in the Vicarage.

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

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Hospital, University, Workplace and other Chaplains.

The Church's relationship with the Media.

Christians in local and national government.

The World: Young people in further and higher education.

Young people seeking employment.

All efforts to reduce industrial unrest.

The Community and Parish: Thanksgiving for our Christmas Fair.

Our confirmation candidates.

Our Mothers' Union.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Ellen Benoy, Gunter Bouché,

Christopher Browne, John Brown, Marjorie Carlisle, Peter Coley, Bill

Craddock-Jones, Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, June Dickinson,

Kate Dickinson, Jocelyn Harewood, Neil Hart, Gladys Holloway, Jenny

Houghton, Lionel Jones, Mary Kearns, Kate Kirwan, Loretta Lynch,

Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne,

Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Elaine Robinson, Maureen

Swann, June Tatnall, Anne Wightman and Eric Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:

grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure;

that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;

where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Daniel 12.1–3

A reading from the book of Daniel.

In the third year of King Cyrus a word was revealed to Daniel.

¹ ‘At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.

² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.’

SECOND READING Hebrews 10.11–14, 19–25

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

¹¹ Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins.

¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, ‘he sat down at the right hand of God,’

¹³ and since then has been waiting ‘until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.’

¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,

²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),

²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.

²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds,

²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

GOSPEL Mark 13.1–8

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

¹ As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!’

² Then Jesus asked him, ‘Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.’

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately,

⁴ ‘Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?’

⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, ‘Beware that no one leads you astray.

⁶ Many will come in my name and say, “I am he!” and they will lead many astray.

⁷ When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come.

⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	16	Nov	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Memorial Service for Stella Meager at St Luke's	2.30 pm
			Finance & General Purposes Committee (5 Greenbury Cl)	8.00pm
Tue	17	Nov	Service at Chase Care Home	3.00pm
Wed	18	Nov	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	19	Nov	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			followed by meeting of the Mothers' Union	
			Kids' Club	3.30 – 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	21	Nov	RSCM Exams in Choir Vestry	9.30 – 11.30 am
Sun	22	Nov	<u>CHRIST THE KING</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff; Preacher: Fr George)	
			RSCM Exams in Choir Vestry	12 noon to 1.30 pm
			Confirmation Group (Vicarage)	4.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.30pm

NOTICES

CHRISTMAS FAIR: Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make the Fair a success and to those who supported our efforts. Items that were left over from yesterday will be on sale after the 9.30 service.

SERVICE FOR STELLA MEAGER: If anyone would like a lift please see Pat Ricketts or Sylvia Moring.

Fr JOHN wishes very much to thank all who have sent him cards and messages after his diagnosis of cancer of the bladder in August. The cancer was quickly removed and he is having chemotherapy. Another operation will follow, probably in late November. Fr John is in good heart and has been told to expect a good outcome of treatment. In the meantime he feels fine in himself. Thank you all so much for your concern and prayers which he greatly appreciates.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE DECEMBER SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 22 November. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

24-HOUR SERMON introducing every book in the Bible; 14th - 15th November 7.30pm - 7.30pm, Drop in at any time and stay for as long as you wish. Raising money for a much needed Church Hall at St Thomas's Stopsley in Luton.

EUROPEAN PRAYDAY FOR SCHOOLS 17th November 2009

The Watford Schools Trust is leading two prayer events on that day, 12.30–2.00 and 4.00–5.30, in the Urban Retreat at Presence, on the High Street. These are for:

- * Christians who work in schools;
- * students and children who study in school;
- * parents and anyone who is committed to education in schools.