



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

EPIPHANY 2

17 January 2010

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches and Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

**Hymns: 90, 425, 581 (ii) and 170**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

Confirmation Class at 4.30 pm.

There is **CHORAL EVENSONG** at 6.00 pm – please come and support the start of our new **6 O'clock Series**.

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

**The Church:** Deanery of Luton  
The World Council of Churches  
Churches Together in South Central and West Watford

**The World:** The people of Haiti  
Emergency rescue organisations  
Medical aid organisations

**The Community and Parish:** Our work with children and young people  
Our members affected by the cold weather  
West Watford Free Church and Trinity Methodist Church

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Ray Angles, Ellen Benoy, Gunter Bouché, Christopher Browne, Mel 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, Vera Levinson, 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:**

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**Collect**

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the  
renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;  
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 Isaiah 62.1–5**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this:

- 1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a  
burning torch.
- 2 The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you  
shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- 3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal  
diadem in the hand of your God.
- 4 You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be  
termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your  
land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married.
- 5 For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry  
you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God  
rejoice over you.

**SECOND READING I Corinthians 12.1–11**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

- 1 Concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be  
uninformed.
- 2 You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to  
idols that could not speak.
- 3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of  
God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord'  
except by the Holy Spirit.
- 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
- 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord;

- 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.
- 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,
- 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,
- 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.
- 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

## **GOSPEL John 2.1-11**

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

- 1 There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.
- 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.
- 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'
- 4 And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.'
- 5 His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'
- 6 Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.
- 7 Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim.
- 8 He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it.
- 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him,
- 10 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.'
- 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	18	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	19	Jan	Chase Care Home	3.00pm
Wed	20	Jan	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Bible Study	8.00pm
Thur	21	Jan	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion followed by meeting in Choir Vestry	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 - 8.30pm
Sun	24	Jan	<b><u>EPIPHANY 3</u></b> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) <b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> with crèche and Sunday School (President Fr Geoff and Preacher: Martin Heath) Confirmation Class United Service for Churches Together in Central South and West Watford at St Michael's	<b>9.30am</b>    4.30pm  6.30pm

## **NOTICES**

**THE SIX O'CLOCK SERIES:** This starts at 6 pm tonight Sunday, 17 January, with Choral Evensong which will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to discuss the year's plans for the Six O'Clock Series. Please tell anyone you think would be interested. A full list of the different types of evening worship that can be experienced in this series, which will be on the third Sunday each month, was given in the Advent Sword and is on the noticeboard at the back of the church.

**SMALL TRICYCLES** for use by toddlers and young children are needed. If anyone has any which they no longer require and would like to donate them to St Michael's, would they please see Lesley Kinch. Thank you.

**ANOTHER EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT** is being planned for Saturday, 6 February 2010 at 7 pm with a bring-and-share pot luck supper. Volunteers are invited to give 5 minutes of entertainment – singing, music, poetry, story, juggling, magic, any other talent. Please let Kristine Jenkins or Pat Beach know what you would like to do (01923 247982/463263). Tickets £5 per head (children free with one paying adult) are available now. BYO drinks. In aid of church funds.

**SUNDAY SERVICES** will be Epiphany 3 (not St Paul) on 24 January and Candlemas (not Epiphany 4) on 31 January.

**FREE WILL OFFERING** envelopes for 2010 are available for you to collect. If you would like to have a set of envelopes please see Valerie Alvarez.

**FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE FEBRUARY SWORD** is MIDDAY next Sunday, 24 January. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

**SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS** for 2010 are now due. Valerie Alvarez has kindly agreed to collect subscriptions for the coming year. The cost of Sword is 60p per month. If you pay for the year in advance an annual subscription for 12 issues will be £6.00, thus giving you 12 issues for the price of 10! If you don't subscribe at present and would like to take out a new annual subscription, please see Dennis Beach.