



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

SECOND SUNDAY before LENT

7 February 2010

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

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

Hymns: 6, 269, 278 and 267

Setting: Wilson

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

There is a United Evening Service at Trinity Methodist at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

University Chaplains
The Diocese of the Bahamas
The Church of the Province of Central Africa

The World:

The people of Haiti
Peace in the Middle East
The victims of crime, terrorism and oppression

The Community and Parish: Our PCC committees

The prayer life of our Church
People preparing for Baptism, Marriage and Confirmation

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, 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, Jacqui Lyons, 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

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns
supreme over all things, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 2.4b–9, 15–25

A reading from the book of Genesis.

4 In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,
5 when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung
up – for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one
to till the ground;
6 but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground –
7 then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his
nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.
8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man
whom he had formed.
9 Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight
and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil.
15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.
16 And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the
garden;
17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that
you eat of it you shall die.’
18 Then the LORD God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him
a helper as his partner.’
19 So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of
the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever
the man called every living creature, that was its name.
20 The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the
field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.
21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took
one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.
22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and
brought her to the man.
23 Then the man said, ‘This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall
be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.’
24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they
become one flesh.
25 And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

SECOND READING Revelation 4

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ¹ After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.'
- ² At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne!
- ³ And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald.
- ⁴ Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads.
- ⁵ Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God;
- ⁶ and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:
- ⁷ the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle.
- ⁸ And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.'
- ⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever,
- ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,
- ¹¹ 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'

GOSPEL Luke 8.22–25

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

- ²² One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out,
- ²³ and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger.
- ²⁴ They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.
- ²⁵ He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

THIS WEEK

Mon	8	Feb	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Publicity Committee	10.00am
Wed	10	Feb	Mission and Stewardship Committee (Clergy Vestry)	10.00am
			Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
			Social Committee (Clergy Vestry)	8.00pm
Thur	11	Feb	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 - 8.30pm
Sat	13	Feb	RSCM Examinations	from 9.30am
			Ecumenical Pastoral Group	10.00am
Sun	14	Feb	<u>SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School (President: Fr George; Preacher: Martin Heath)	9.30am
			11.15 Service of Thanksgiving & Praise	11.15am
			Youth Group Lunch (in Church)	12.30pm
			Service at River Court	3.00pm
			Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

NOTICES

THE SIX O'CLOCK SERIES: The next Service in the series is at 6 pm on Sunday, 21 February, when Fr Geoff will be leading Stations of the Cross. Please make a note in your diary and take the handbills to give to your friends and neighbours.

LENT GROUPS: Arrangements are being made for our usual Churches Together ecumenical Lent Groups starting w/c 21 February. If you would like to join one of the groups, please see information at the back of church and sign up indicating days and times you could manage. There will also be a St Michael's Lent Group and a sheet for signing up for that is also on the signings table.

LAST SUNDAY'S BRING-&-BUY raised £83. Many thanks.

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.

LENT LUNCH: This will be on Saturday, 27 February, at the back of the Church. There will be a Bring-&-Buy stall from 11.30 am and the Brownies will be serving a soup and bread and cheese lunch from 12 noon – 1.30 pm. All the proceeds will be for the Church Army. Please make a note of the date. Volunteers to make soup will be most welcome. Please see Sylvia.

SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2010 are now due. Valerie Alvarez has kindly agreed to collect them. £6 for the year thus giving you 12 issues for the price of 10!