



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

21 February 2010

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 95, 421, 96 and 533**

**Setting: Oldroyd**

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

**At 6pm there is “Stations of the Cross” in our 6 o’Clock Series.**

This is followed by refreshments.

---

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

**The Church:** People preparing for Ordained or Licensed Ministry  
Ecumenical and other Lent Courses in our Diocese  
The Church of the Province of Congo

**The World:** People who are unemployed  
Elderly and infirm people  
People with learning disabilities

**The Community and Parish:** Our confirmation candidates  
Our Bishops  
Our keeping of Lent

**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:** Patricia Prickett and John Douglas Scaplehorn.

---

**Collect**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save;  
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 Deuteronomy 26.1-11**

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people, saying:

- <sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it,  
<sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.  
<sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.'  
<sup>4</sup> When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God,  
<sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.  
<sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us,  
<sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.  
<sup>8</sup> The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;  
<sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.  
<sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.  
<sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

## SECOND READING Romans 10.8b–13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

<sup>8</sup> What does scripture say? ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

<sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

<sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

<sup>11</sup> The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’

<sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

<sup>13</sup> For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

## GOSPEL Luke 4.1–13

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

<sup>1</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,

<sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

<sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone.”’

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.

<sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.

<sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’

<sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,

<sup>10</sup> for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,”

<sup>11</sup> and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’

<sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	22	Feb	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	23	Feb	St Michael's Lent Groups start (see below)	
Wed	24	Feb	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			CONFIRMATION and EUCHARIST taken by the BISHOP of HERTFORD. All welcome	8.00pm
Thur	25	Feb	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) attended by Mothers' Union and followed by AGM	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 - 8.30pm
Sat	27	Feb	Lent Lunch (served by Brownies) and Bring-&-Buy Sale in aid of Church Army	11.30-1.30pm
			Kids' Saturday (in church)	2.00 – 4.00pm
Sun	28	Feb	<b><u>SECOND SUNDAY of LENT</u></b> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> with crèche and Sunday School (President and Preacher: Fr George)	<b>9.30am</b>
			followed by Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel	6.30pm

## **NOTICES**

**ST MICHAEL'S LENT GROUPS:** There will be two Lent Groups, following the Lent Course written by the Bishops of St Albans, Hertford and Bedford, "Words of Challenge, Words of Life". An introduction to the course is available at the back of Church. They will be on Tuesday Evenings, 8.00pm at 134 Mildred Avenue, and Tuesday Afternoons, 3.00pm, at the Vicarage. Signing sheet at back of Church.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT GROUPS:** The usual ecumenical Lent Groups are starting this week. 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.

**CHALLENGE:** The sheets for the Bishop's Challenge for Lent are available at the back of Church

**HELP IS NEEDED TO** – serve the Lent lunch (28 February) with the Brownies; make soup for the lunch (please see Sylvia); provide a plate of finger food for the refreshments after the Confirmation; make a simnel cake for Mothering Sunday (14 March) to be eaten after the 9.30 service.

**PUBLICITY** for many different services and activities is available by the west door. Please display where you can.

**KIDS' SATURDAY** is this week on 27 February from 2-4 pm.

**An EVENING LENTEN MEDITATION** lead by the Pause Group will be held at 6.30 pm on Sunday, 7 March.

**FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE MARCH SWORD** is MIDDAY today Sunday, 21 February. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.