



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

7 March 2010

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

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

Hymns: 605 (t 416ii), 306 (T AMR), 469 and 467 **Setting: Oldroyd**

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

Holy Baptism of Callie Elizabeth Kelly Myerthal at 2.30pm

Evening Lenten Meditation lead by the Pause group is at 6.30pm

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Deanery of Sharnbrook.

The Anglican Church and the work of USPG in Ethiopia.

The Hong Kong Anglican Church and Paul Kwong, its Archbishop

The World: Those who care for people with terminal illness

The people of Chile, Madeira and Haiti recovering from natural disaster

Those likely to be affected by local government cuts in funding

The Community and Parish: Callie Elizabeth Kelly Myerthal to be baptised this afternoon and her parents and godparents

Our Churchwardens, PCC and committee members

All who give time and commitment to the work of our Church

Those preparing for marriage

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Gunter Bouché, Christopher Browne, Mel Browne, John Brown, , 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, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 55.1–9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this:

- 1 Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
- 2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.
- 3 Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.
- 4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.
- 5 See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.
- 6 Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;
- 7 let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
- 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

SECOND READING I Corinthians 10.1–13

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

- 1 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,
- 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,
- 3 and all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock
that followed them, and the rock was Christ.
5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck
down in the wilderness.
6 Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil
as they did.
7 Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, ‘The people sat
down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.’
8 We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-
three thousand fell in a single day.
9 We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed
by serpents.
10 And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the
destroyer.
11 These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written
down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.
12 So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall.
13 No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful,
and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he
will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

GOSPEL Luke 13.1–9

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

1 There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood
Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
2 He asked them ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way
they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?
3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.
4 Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them – do
you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?
5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’
6 Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he
came looking for fruit on it and found none.
7 So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for
fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be
wasting the soil?”
8 He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put
manure on it.
9 If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”’

THIS WEEK

Mon	8	Mar	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	9	Mar	St Michael's Lent Groups (see below)	
Wed	10	Mar	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thur	11	Mar	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 - 8.30pm
Sat	13	Mar	Tom Vos's Quiz Night	7.30 for 7.45pm start
Sun	14	Mar	<u>MOTHERING SUNDAY</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST with Holy Baptism: crèche available	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff; Preacher: Violet Allen-Smith)	
			Youth Group Lunch (in Church)	12.30pm
			Service at River Court	3.00pm
			Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

NOTICES

ST MICHAEL'S LENT GROUPS: There are 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. It is not too late to start

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: This year's revision will commence on 14th March and finish on Sunday 4th April. A copy of the current Roll is on the notice board at the back of the Church for you to check. If anyone would like their name added to the Roll, please get a form from Fr Geoff or Henry or Sylvia Moring. If you have changed your email address or telephone number could you also inform us please.

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

HELP IS NEEDED TO MAKE simnel cakes for Mothering Sunday (14 March) to be eaten after the 9.30 service on that day. Please see Sylvia if you can make one.

POSIES FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY Please see Fay if you are able to help make the posies on Saturday, 13 March.

THE MAUNDY VIGIL is from the evening of Maundy Thursday to the morning of Good Friday. Please sign the list by the Mildred Avenue door if you are able to keep watch for an hour or more.

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

St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010