



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 2

11 April 2010

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches and John Adams leads the intercessions. A crèche and Sunday School are available.

Hymns: 154, 150, 138 and 612.

Setting: Rawsthorne

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and this is followed at 11.15 with our 11.15 service which this month is a Simple Eucharist – please stay on. Youth Group Lunch at 12.30pm.

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel is at 6.30pm

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Church of Ireland, and Alan Harper, its Archbishop
The International Miners' Mission
The USPG's Experience Exchange Programme

The World: Those standing for office in the forthcoming election
All who are unemployed
Young people thinking about careers

The Community and Parish: Our Annual Parochial Meetings
People preparing for marriage here
The Churches of Watford Deanery

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Christopher Browne, Peter Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Jocelyn Harewood, Gladys Holloway, Jenny Houghton, Lionel Jones, Susan 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: Gunter Bouché, friend from Mainz of Watkin family.

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 5.27–32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 27 When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying,
28 ‘We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.’
29 But Peter and the apostles answered, ‘We must obey God rather than any human authority.
30 The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.
31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.
32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.’

SECOND READING Revelation 1.4–8

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- 4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

- 7 Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.
- 8 'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL John 20.19–31

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

- 19 It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
- 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
- 21 Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'
- 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.
- 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'
- 24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
- 25 So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'
- 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'
- 27 Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'
- 28 Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'
- 29 Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'
- 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.
- 31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.
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THIS WEEK

Mon	12	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	13	Apr	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	14	Apr	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor (Violet)	3.00pm
			Bible Study (John Ch 12), Choir Vestry	8.00pm
Thur	15	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union; followed by a meeting in Choir Vestry	
			(Speaker: Fr Geoff) – all welcome	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	18	Apr	<u>EASTER 3</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			EUCHARIST with hymns: crèche available	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff; Preacher: Martin Heath)	
			THE SIX O'CLOCK SERIES: A TAIZE SERVICE	6.00pm

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL: The revised Electoral Roll is displayed on the notice board. Please check your entry for any errors or omissions and inform Henry Moring or a churchwarden if there are any inaccuracies. Additional names can be added any time after the Annual Meetings on 28th April.

VERY MANY THANKS to all who contributed to beautifying and preparing the Church for the Festival – all who donated money for flowers, all who arranged them – prepared the Altar of Repose and the Easter Garden.

AGMs: Don't forget the AGMs on 28th April. Agendas will be sent to all members of the Electoral Roll. **NOMINATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR THE PCC AND CHURCHWARDENS:** Forms for nominations are at the back of the church. Please return them to Vicki Matthews or the churchwardens. Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: **Sale and Coffee Morning for St Michaels** – 24 April 10.30 – 12 noon. **Pre-election forums** – 20 & 26 April. **Trinity Methodist Quiz Night** in aid of Christian Aid- 8 May. **Plant Sale** – 15 May 10 am – 12 noon We hope your seedlings and cuttings are prospering and will be ready for this occasion. We also sell anything relating to plants and gardens and hope to have stalls with cakes and preserves, gifts, books, bric-a-brac and anything else that may sell. All gifts and help for any of the stalls gratefully accepted please see Sylvia (231917). *More details available next week.*

THE PEACE HOSPICE STARLIGHT WALK: Starting at midnight on Saturday, 22 May and volunteers are needed to marshal the route. If you can help please telephone Simon Fowle (01923 229624). There are forms at the back of the church for any women who wish to take part in the walk. All proceeds go to the Peace Hospice which, as you may know, is facing a large deficit this year.