



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**EASTER 6**

9 May 2010

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates, Violet Allen-Smith preaches and Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions. A crèche and Sunday School are available.

**Hymns: 626, 386, 516 (ii) and 254**

**Aston**

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 our annual Baptism Renewal Service – please stay on.

Youth Group Lunch with Quiz in aid of Christian Aid at 12 noon.

Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel is at 6.30pm.

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

### **The Church:**

Christian Aid.

The Anglican Church of Korea and Solomon Yoon, its Presiding Bishop.

The Church of Bangladesh.

### **The World:**

Newly elected MPs, councillors, and Mayors.

Our troops serving in Afghanistan.

The people of Greece.

### **The Community and Parish:**

All those baptised over the last two years, and their families.

Our young people.

The Multicultural Community Centre.

### **The Ill and the Housebound:**

Especially Brian Barnard, Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, June Dickinson, David and Janet Freeman, Jocelyn Harewood, Susetta Hartropp, Gladys Holloway, Jenny Houghton, Susan Jones, Mary Kearns, Kate Kirwan, Vera Levinson, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Elaine Robinson, June Tatnall, Margaret Taylor, Eric and Anne Wightman.

### **The Departed:**

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**Collect**

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:  
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;  
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 Acts 16.9–15**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- <sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’
- <sup>10</sup> When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.
- <sup>11</sup> We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis,
- <sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.
- <sup>13</sup> On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.
- <sup>14</sup> A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.
- <sup>15</sup> When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, ‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.’ And she prevailed upon us.

**SECOND READING Revelation 21.10, 22 – 22.5**

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- <sup>10</sup> In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.
- <sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.
- <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their  
glory into it.  
25 Its gates will never be shut by day – and there will be no night there.  
26 People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations.  
27 But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or  
falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.  
1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal,  
flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb  
2 through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is  
the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month;  
and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.  
3 Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and  
of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him;  
4 they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.  
5 And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the  
Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

## **GOSPEL John 14.23–29**

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

23 ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and  
we will come to them and make our home with them.  
24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that  
you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.  
25 I have said these things to you while I am still with you.  
26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.  
27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the  
world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be  
afraid.  
28 You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I am coming to you.” If  
you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the  
Father is greater than I.  
29 And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur,  
you may believe.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	10	May	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			River Court Service	3.00pm
			Worship Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Tue	11	May	Service for Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary	8.00pm
Wed	12	May	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thur	13	May	ASCENSION DAY	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.00pm
			Sung Eucharist	8.00pm
Fri	14	May	Set up for plant sale	afternoon and evening
Sat	15	May	<b>PLANT SALE</b>	<b>10.00am – 12 noon</b>
			Deanery "Away Day" (London Colney)	
Sun	16	May	<b><u>SUNDAY after ASCENSION</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> with crèche and Sunday School	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	
			<b>THE SIX O'CLOCK SERIES: CHORAL EVENSONG</b>	6.00pm

## NOTICES

**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, raffle prizes, items for any other stall and help with the stalls gratefully accepted please see Sylvia (231917). All proceeds are for our mission and charitable giving.

**VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE:** 21 May please sign the list if you are interested in going.

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES:** Please give your box to Norma for emptying.

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – 9-15 May 2010:** For many years St Michael's has taken part in the street collection in Watford. Unfortunately, it has been getting more difficult to find people willing to go out and knock on doors for donations and several of us feel that we can no longer organise this method of fund-raising. St Michael's has usually raised just over £1000; we need to think of alternative methods of fund-raising. If you normally put something in an envelope would you please continue to support Christian Aid by using an envelope from the back of the church. Can you think of other ways in which we can support Christian Aid? If you feel strongly that the street collection should continue in our area will you organise it?

**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.