



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

ADVENT 2

5 December 2010

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 26, 92, 444 and 29

Setting: Missa Seraphica

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale in aid of Christingle - please stay on.

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel is at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

The World:

The Community and Parish:

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Christopher Bilson, Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Thomas Cristensen, Jean Crouch, Darrell Dunning, David and Janet Freeman, Jocelyn Harewood, Susetta Hartropp, Peter Hatswell, Gladys Holloway, Leena Hosie, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Dorothy Kiddle, Vera Levinson, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Celia Pain, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Marianne Rees, Elaine Robinson, June Tatnall, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 11.1–10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;
- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
- ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

SECOND READING Romans 15.4–13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.
- ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,
- ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of
God.
8 For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the
truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,
9 and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,
‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name’;
10 and again he says, ‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;
11 and again, ‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him’;
12 and again Isaiah says, ‘The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the
Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.’
13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may
abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL Matthew 3.1–12

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

1 In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,
2 ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’
3 This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, ‘The voice of one
crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths
straight.”’
4 Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his
food was locusts and wild honey.
5 Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region
along the Jordan,
6 and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.
7 But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to
them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
8 Bear fruit worthy of repentance.
9 Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I
tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.
10 Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does
not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
11 I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is
coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with
the Holy Spirit and fire.
12 His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will
gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable
fire.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	6	Dec	Toddlers Group River Court Service	10.00 – 11.30am 3.00pm
Tue	7	Dec	Laurence Haines Carol Service	morning
Wed	8	Dec	Coffee in Church Mothers' Union Short Service in Lady Chapel followed by coffee, mince pies and bring-and-buy in Church. Everyone welcome	10.30am-12 noon 10.00am 10.30am
			St Anthony's Service at Home Manor Pause (134 Mildred Ave)	morning 3.00pm 7.30pm
Thur	9	Dec	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Choir Practice	10.00am 7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	12	Dec	<u>ADVENT 3</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff) SUNG EUCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School (Pres and Preacher: Fr George) CHRISTINGLE SERVICE Service for the Compassionate Friends	8.00am 9.30am 11.15am 6.30pm

NOTICES

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: Please note that the Christingle Service this year will be at 11.15 am next Sunday, 12 December. All proceeds are in aid of The Children's Society. Please help yourself to the candles or envelopes for your donations. If you are able to help with making the Christingles on Saturday, 11 December, please see Norma Twitchin or Fay Storey.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD: These are available for delivery.. Please sign the list to indicate where you can deliver them and collect your cards.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: There will be no flowers in church during Advent but Fay and Jean will be very pleased to receive any donations you wish to make towards the Christmas flowers. If you are able to gift aid your donation please use a gift aid envelope and mark it 'Flower Fund'. Thank you.

WEDNESDAY MORNING COFFEE this week will be run by the Mothers' Union. Hot mince pies will be served with your coffee and there will be a Bring-&-Buy stall run by Norma. Proceeds will go to the Mothers' Union work.

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