



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EPIPHANY 2

16 January 2011

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and Phil Gough leads the intercessions. The sermon is given from a CD by the Bishop of St Albans. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

Hymns: 87, 233 (i), 308 (i), and 453

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

At 6p m there is a Healing Service in the 6 O'Clock series.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Nicholas Okoh, Bishop of Abuja, Nigeria
The "Living God's Love" initiative in St Albans Diocese
The Anglican Province of Melanesia.

The World: The work of Crisis, ministry to those who are homeless or poorly housed
Flood victims in Australia
All those affected by the shootings in Arizona.

The Community and Parish: Our Mothers' Union
Residents and Staff at the Chase Care Centre
Neighbourhood police officers and community support officers.

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, June Tatnall, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the
renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
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 49.1-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- 1 Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- 2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.
- 3 And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
- 4 But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God.'
- 5 And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength.
- 6 The LORD says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'
- 7 Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

SECOND READING I Corinthians 1.1-9

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

- 1 From Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
- 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
- 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,

5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of
every kind –
6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you –
7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of
our Lord Jesus Christ.
8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the
day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL John 1.29–42

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

29 John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, ‘Here is the Lamb
of God who takes away the sin of the world!’

30 This is he of whom I said, “After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me
because he was before me.”

31 I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that
he might be revealed to Israel.’

32 And John testified, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it
remained on him.

33 I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said
to me, “He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who
baptizes with the Holy Spirit.”

34 And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.’

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,

36 and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, ‘Look, here is the Lamb of
God!’

37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, ‘What are you
looking for?’ They said to him, ‘Rabbi’ (which translated means Teacher),
‘where are you staying?’

39 He said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw where he was staying,
and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the
afternoon.

40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon
Peter’s brother.

41 He first found his brother Simon and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’
(which is translated Anointed).

42 He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon son of
John. You are to be called Cephas’ (which is translated Peter).

THIS WEEK

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| Mon | 17 | Jan | Toddlers Group | 10.00 – 11.30am |
| Tue | 18 | Jan | Intercessory Prayer group (Choir Vestry) | 2.30pm |
| | | | Service at the Chase Care Home | 3.00pm |
| Wed | 19 | Jan | Coffee in Church | 10.30am-12 noon |
| Thur | 20 | Jan | Mothers' Union attend the Service of Holy Communion | 10.00am |
| | | | followed by meeting in Choir Vestry | |
| | | | Choir Practice | 7.00 – 8.30pm |
| Sun | 23 | Jan | <u>EPIPHANY 3</u> | |
| | | | Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff) | 8.00am |
| | | | SUNG EUCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School | 9.30am |
| | | | (President: Fr Geoff; Preacher: Violet Allen-Smith) | |
| | | | Evening Prayer | 6.00pm |

NOTICES

SWORD: The Christmas/New Year edition is available to take and distribute. SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2011 are now due. Valerie Alvarez has kindly agreed to collect subscriptions for the coming year. The cost of Sword is 60p per month. If you pay for the year in advance an annual subscription for 12 issues will be £6.00, thus giving you 12 issues for the price of 10! If you don't subscribe at present and would like to take out a new annual subscription, please see Dennis Beach.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE FEBRUARY SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 23 January. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

POST: There are still some giving envelopes and Christmas cards to be collected from a table in the north aisle. Please check to see if anything on the table is addressed to you.

BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATION: Following the success of a small celebration last year, the Social Committee, making use of the expertise of Fr Geoff, is arranging a Burns Night Celebration on Tuesday, **25 January 2011**, starting at 7.30 pm, sitting down to supper at 8 pm and finishing the celebration at 10 pm. We plan to hold this occasion in the Littlebury Hall. Supper will be the traditional menu of haggis and root vegetables followed by special desserts. Vegetarian haggis will be available but please state if you wish to have this when you buy your tickets. Tickets cost £7.50 and are available from members of the Social Committee. We ask you to bring your own drinks (whisky is customary but wine or other alternatives are very acceptable). We plan to finish the evening with suitable entertainment.

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