



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

First Sunday of Lent

13 March 2011

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches and Paul Chandler leads the intercessions. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

Hymns: 95, 416(i), 541 and 496

Setting: Oldroyd

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 of Thanksgiving and Praise including the Baptism of Chloe Jeffs – please stay on.

Youth Group Lunch at 12.30pm.

There is Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Daniel Yisa, Bishop of Minna, Nigeria, and the people of that Diocese.

USPG in Britain and Ireland

Links between our Diocese and Caribbean Churches.

The World: Those affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan

The people of Libya

Pensioners in Britain

Our Police, Fire, Ambulance and other emergency services.

The Community and Parish: Our Mothers' Union Branch

Our PCC

The Chase Care Centre.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Christopher Bilson, Mary Calvert, Peter

Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Darrell

Dunning, David and Janet Freeman, Jocelyn Harewood, Susetta

Hartropp, Peter Hatswell, Ben Heath, Gladys Holloway, Leena

Hosie, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Dorothy Kiddle, Lesley

Kinch, Vera Levinson, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie

Maguire, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Helen Perry, Myrtle

Powell, Bryony Purse, June Tatnall, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:

give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;

and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save;

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 Genesis 2.15–17; 3.1–7

A reading from the book of Genesis.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;

¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden”?’

² The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³ but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’

⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die;

⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’

⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.

⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

SECOND READING Romans 5.12–19

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

¹² Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned –

¹³ sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law.

- ¹⁴ Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.
- ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.
- ¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification.
- ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.
- ¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all.
- ¹⁹ For just as by the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL Matthew 4.1-11

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

- ¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
- ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.
- ³ The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.'
- ⁴ But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'
- ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him,
- ⁶ 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."'
- ⁷ Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."'
- ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour;
- ⁹ and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.'
- ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."'
- ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

THIS WEEK

Mon	14	Mar	<i>Lent Groups start this week</i>	
			Toddlers Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	16	Mar	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Meeting of the Parochial Church Council	7.55pm
Thur	17	Mar	St PATRICK	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union and followed by meeting	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	19	Mar	RSCM Examinations (Choir Vestry)	morning
			LENT LUNCH with a Bring-&-Buy stall (see below)	11.30-1.30pm
Sun	20	Mar	LENT 2	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	
			SIX O'CLOCK SERIES: Stations of the Cross	6.00pm

NOTICES

LENT COURSE: we shall be taking part in the Ecumenical course 'Rich Inheritance – Jesus' legacy of love'. The courses are likely to start this week. If you have signed the list but have heard nothing please see Martin Matthews.

AT THE BACK OF CHURCH ARE COLLECTING BOXES which you can take away and put your loose change in during Lent. Proceeds are to the Church Army, which we have traditionally supported during Lent.

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION: This year's revision will commence on 13th March and finish on Sunday 3rd 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.

LENT LUNCH: This is on Saturday, 19 March, from 12 noon to 1.30 pm and will be served by the Brownies.. There will be a bring-and-buy stall opening at 11.30 am. If you are able to make some soup for the lunch and/or help with the clearing up, please see Sylvia Moring.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: Are you able to make a simnel cake for 3 April? Please see Sylvia Moring if you would like to make one.

METAL DETECTOR: The Estates Committee needs the use of one to search for a manhole cover. If you have one that you could lend for a short time, please see Phil Gough or Paul Chandler.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE APRIL SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 20 March. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

SWORD: SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2011 are now due. Valerie Alvarez has kindly agreed to collect subscriptions for this year. If you don't subscribe at present and wish to take out a new annual subscription (£6), please see Dennis Beach.