



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

PASSION SUNDAY

10 April 2011

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 499 (omit \*s), 127 (alt), 119 and 122 (ii)**

**Setting: Oldroyd**

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

At 11.15am there is our monthly service of Thanksgiving & Praise which is a Simple Eucharist.

There is a Youth Group Lunch at 12.30pm.

Evening Prayer is at 6.00pm.

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

**The Church:** Paul Dupare, Bishop of Nagpur, North India  
The USPG Experience Exchange Programme  
Retired clergy.

**The World:** The people of Libya and Ivory Coast  
People being made redundant and people looking for jobs  
The people of Northern Ireland.

**The Community and Parish:** Residents and Staff at Home Manor and St Anthony's  
Our local police and police community support officers  
Trinity Methodist Church and West Watford Free Church.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Christopher Bilson, Mary Calvert, Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Kate Dickinson, Darrell Dunning, David and Janet Freeman, Jocelyn Harewood, Susetta Hartropp, Ben Heath, Gladys Holloway, Leena Hosie, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Dorothy Kiddle, Lesley Kinch, Vera Levinson, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, June Tatnall, Eric and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
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 Ezekiel 37.1–14**

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- <sup>1</sup> The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.
- <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry.
- <sup>3</sup> He said to me, ‘Mortal, can these bones live?’ I answered, ‘O Lord GOD, you know.’
- <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.
- <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.
- <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.’
- <sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.
- <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them.
- <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’
- <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.
- <sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.”
- <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.
- <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people.

<sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

## **SECOND READING Romans 8.6-11**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

<sup>6</sup> To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.  
<sup>7</sup> For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot,  
<sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.  
<sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.  
<sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.  
<sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

## **GOSPEL John 11.17-27**

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

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.  
<sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away,  
<sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.  
<sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.  
<sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.  
<sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.'  
<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.'  
<sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.'  
<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,  
<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'  
<sup>27</sup> She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	11	Apr	Toddlers Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	13	Apr	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thur	14	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	17	Apr	<b><u>PALM SUNDAY</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST with Procession of Palms and	
			Passion Narrative (crèche available)	9.30am
			Choral Passiontide Service - "The Cross of Christ"	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, Fr Geoff or a churchwarden if there are any inaccuracies. Additional names can be added any time after the Annual Meetings on 27<sup>th</sup> April.

**EASTER WORKSHOP:** On Saturday, 23 April, there will be an Easter Workshop in Church from 10 am-12 noon. It will have craft activities, simple worship, and refreshments and is open to primary school children (or younger if accompanied by an adult). For more information please telephone 01923 232460.

**THE CROSS OF CHRIST:** This is a special Choral Passiontide Service for Choir and Congregation which will include a sequence of meditational music, hymns, anthems, readings and prayers. Sunday, 17 April, at 6 pm. Please come.

**The ANNUAL REPORT** is available on the Signings Table. Please help yourself to one – one per family, please. Members of the PCC have individually named copies. The annual meetings are on Wednesday, 27 April. Before then we should like nominations for churchwardens, lay PCC members, and Deanery Synod representatives. In addition, there are vacancies for PCC Secretary and Treasurer. Nomination forms on the Signings Table.

**EASTER CARDS:** We have 5000 Easter Cards to distribute round the parish. There is a list of roads for people to sign and the cards are also available. They need to be delivered before 17 April. Please help with the distribution.

**MAUNDY VIGIL:** If you are able to keep watch in the Lady Chapel at some time between 9 pm to 8 am, please sign the list on the table by the Lady Chapel. We would like 2 people to keep watch for each hour.

**EASTER FLOWERS:** It is our custom to invite people to make a donation towards the Easter flowers, perhaps in memory of a loved one. If you would like to do this, please give your donation to Fay Storey or Jean Alexander. If you are able to gift aid your donation it should go in one of the white or brown gift aid envelopes.