



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 2

1 May 2011

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates, Martin Heath preaches and Pam Hart leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 143 (t 2), 491 (vers.1), 154 and 328

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel is at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Allan Migi, Bishop of The New Guinea Islands
All who study and translate the scriptures
The Anglican Church of Australia.

The World: All who work in communications and the media
Prince William and Catherine and all newly married couples
The peoples of Syria and Libya.

The Community and Parish: All couples preparing for marriage at St Michael's
The Peace Hospice
Preparations for Watford Celebration 2011.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Christopher Bilson, Mary Calvert,
Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch,
Allan Darton, 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: Beryl Darton.

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification:

grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth;

through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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 2.14a, 22–32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. On the day of Pentecost,

¹⁴ Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd,

²² ‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know –

²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

²⁴ But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

²⁵ For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

²⁹ Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne.

³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.”

³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.’

SECOND READING 1 Peter 1.3–9

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven
for you,
5 who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to
be revealed in the last time.
6 In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various
trials,
7 so that the genuineness of your faith – being more precious than gold that, though
perishable, is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honour
when Jesus Christ is revealed.
8 Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see
him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
9 for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL John 20.19–31

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

19 When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house
where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood
among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’
20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples
rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
21 Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send
you.’
22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy
Spirit.
23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any,
they are retained.’
24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when
Jesus came.
25 So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them,
‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the
nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’
26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them.
Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace
be with you.’
27 Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your
hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’
28 Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’
29 Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those
who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’
30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not
written in this book.
31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the
Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THIS WEEK

Mon	2	May	<i>Bank Holiday</i> NO Toddlers' Group (restarts 9 May)	
Tue	3	May	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	4	May	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Bring-&Share Lunch	12.30pm
Thur	5	May	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	6	May	A SPRINGTIME GALA OF SONGS	7.30pm
Sat	7	May	Parish Walk	leave church at 10.00am
Sun	8	May	<u>EASTER 3</u> Holy Communion (Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: crèche and Sunday School (Celebrant and Preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Service of Praise & Thanksgiving	11.15am
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

MUSICAL SOIREE – A SPRINGTIME GALA OF SONGS 6 May 2011 at 7.30 pm given by the distinguished professional singers, Lise Christensen and Michael Bracegirdle accompanied by Andrew Benoy. Tickets (including finger buffet) £10 available in Church today (otherwise ring 231917 or 247619). This will be a lovely evening with well-known songs from opera, operetta and musical theatre. St Michael's is very fortunate to have Lise and Mike to entertain us. Please make every effort to come and encourage your friends and neighbours to come too. All proceeds go to the Church Masonry Fund.

CHURCH ARMY EASTER OFFERING BOXES: Please bring yours back if you still have it at home.

BRING-AND-SHARE LUNCH: Wednesday, 4 May 2011, at 12.30 pm. Please sign the list at the back of the church.

PARISH WALK: Saturday, 7 May. Please sign the list on the signings table.

PLANT SALE: The Plant Sale is on Saturday 14 May from 10 – 12 noon. We hope to have stalls that sell books, cakes, preserves, gifts, bric-a-brac, etc in addition to plants. All proceeds go towards our mission and charitable giving. Please support this in any way that you can. Posters and handbills are available.

PENDLEY SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL: Please sign the list if you are interested in going to this. There is more information in the May Sword.

STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION: A devotion for congregation and choir based on the Resurrection appearances of Christ. A service in the 6 o'Clock series - Sunday, 15 May, at 6 pm.