



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 3

8 May 2011

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches and John Adams leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 612, 159, 501 and 468

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

The monthly Service of Praise & Thanksgiving is at 11.15am

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel is at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Brian Farran, Bishop of Newcastle, Australia and Peter Stuart, Suffragan Bishop of Newcastle.

Our Church of St Michael and All Angels - on the Abbey prayer list for next Saturday 14 May; our clergy and readers.

The World: All who work to improve international relationships.

Those in our armed forces working for peace.

Areas troubled by forest fires.

The Community and Parish: Local Ecumenical Partnership of St Michael's and West Watford Free Church.

Pray for the Open Day of the New Hope Trust on 14th May.

Those elected as councillors in last Thursday's elections.

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: Queenie Hellen Redman, Croxley View.

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:

give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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 ACTS 2.14a, 36–41

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,

³⁶ ‘Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.’

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’

³⁸ Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.’

⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’

⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

SECOND READING I Peter 1.17–23

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.

¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold,

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.
²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.

²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

GOSPEL Luke 24.13–35

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

- ¹³ On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,
¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.
¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,
¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.
¹⁷ And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad.
¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’
¹⁹ Jesus asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,
²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.
²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.
²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,
²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.
²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.’
²⁵ Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!
²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’
²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.
²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.
²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them.
³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.
³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight.
³² They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’
³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.
³⁴ They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’
³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

THIS WEEK

Mon	9	May	Toddlers' Group restarts River Court Service	10 – 11.30am 3.00pm
Wed	11	May	Coffee in Church Service at Home Manor	10.30am-12 noon 3.00pm
Thur	12	May	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) St Anthony's Choir Practice	10.00am morning 7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	13	May	Set up for Plant Sale	
Sat	14	May	PLANT SALE	10.00am – 12 noon
Sun	15	May	<u>EASTER 4</u> <i>Start of Christian Aid Week</i> Holy Communion SUNG EUCHARIST: crèche and Sunday School (Celebrant Fr Geoff and Preacher Violet Allen-Smith) The dedication of the new PCC will be during this service. Six O'Clock Series – "Stations of the Resurrection"	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm

NOTICES

CHURCH ARMY EASTER OFFERING BOXES: Thank you to everyone who have returned their boxes. A total of £70.09 has been raised so far. There are still 5 boxes to be returned so could you please bring yours back if you still have one at home.

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. We would particularly like volunteers to run stalls. If you are able to give any time please see Norma or Sylvia. Items for sale are also very welcome. All proceeds go towards our mission and charitable giving. Please support this in any way that you can. Posters and handbills are available. The sale will take place inside the church if the weather is inclement.

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.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES: The time has come for these to be emptied and the proceeds sent to the Children's Society. Please let Norma have your box as soon as convenient.

PRAYING FOR WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOLS: The next meeting of the Prayer Group is tomorrow, 9th May, at 8pm at 10 Swiss Close, WD18 7LW. All welcome. Phone 01923 461042 for more details.

BRING-&-BUY sale held last Sunday raised £34.50 for church funds. Many thanks to all who supported it.