



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

Sunday after Ascension Day

5 June 2011

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions. There is Sunday School and a crèche is available.

**Hymns: 380 (i), 419, 318 and 165**

**Setting: Wilson**

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

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel is at 6.00pm.

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

**The Church:** The Anglican Church in Nigeria.

The church in Madagascar, giving thanks for ecumenical cooperation.

The Church's Healing Ministry.

**The World:** Protection of the Environment.

People continuing to rebuild lives after natural disaster.

Our armed forces personnel, and those serving in war zones.

**The Community and Parish:** Giving thanks for the success of Celebration 2011.

Our Churchwardens and PCC members.

Our work with Children and Young People.

**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, Faith Nkugwa, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor

Osbourne, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, June Tatnall,

Eric and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

O God the king of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Acts 1.6–14**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- <sup>6</sup> When the apostles had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’
- <sup>7</sup> He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.
- <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’
- <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.
- <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.
- <sup>11</sup> They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’
- <sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.
- <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.
- <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

**SECOND READING I Peter 4.12–14; 5.6–11**

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- <sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

- <sup>13</sup> But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.
- <sup>14</sup> If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.
- <sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.
- <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.
- <sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.
- <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.
- <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.
- <sup>11</sup> To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

## **GOSPEL John 17.1-11**

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

- <sup>1</sup> Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,
- <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.
- <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
- <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do.
- <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.
- <sup>6</sup> I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.
- <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;
- <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.
- <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.
- <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.
- <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	6	June	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			River Court Service	3.00pm
Tue	7	June	Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	8	June	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thur	9	June	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	12	June	<b><u>PENTECOST</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> crèche and Sunday School	<b>9.30am</b>
			(Pres: Fr George, Preacher: Martin Heath)	
			Service of Thanksgiving and Praise	11.15am
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## **NOTICES**

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** – For many years St Michael's has taken part in the street collection in Watford. Unfortunately, it has been getting more difficult to find people willing to go out and knock on doors for donations. Using different methods of fund-raising in 2010 we sent just over £900 to Christian Aid. **IF YOU NORMALLY PUT SOMETHING IN AN ENVELOPE AND NO C.A. ENVELOPE HAS COME THROUGH YOUR DOOR, WOULD YOU PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHRISTIAN AID AND PLACE ONE OF THE ENVELOPES IN THE BOX AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.** Thank you.

**CELEBRATION! 2011:** This was a great success and we have received this letter of thanks. "I would like to thank you and your congregation for welcoming the Watford celebration into your beautiful church! Many thanks for your kindness and support and to all the wonderful ladies who served tea/ coffee and refreshment throughout the day! We had a wonderful day together! Bringing under one roof all people from various backgrounds. All God's children! Many thanks again for your warm welcome and hospitality! God bless you and your church!" – Françoise Murphy.

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

**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 soon.

**SIX O'CLOCK SERIES:** The next service will be on Sunday, 19 June, and will be Choral Evensong. Please make a note of the date in your diary. Would anyone like to help with the refreshments? Please see Sylvia.

**BRING-AND-BUY SALE:** Last Sunday this raised £52 for church funds. Many thanks.

**PRAYER FOR WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOLS:** The next prayer meeting is on Monday 6th June at 8pm, at 10 Swiss Close, WD18 7LW. All are welcome.

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