



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

CHRISTMAS 2

1 January 2012

A Very Happy New Year to everyone and a warm welcome to our services this morning.

The 9.30am Service will be Carols round the Crib with a Simple Eucharist.. Celebrant and Preacher is Fr Geoff.

There is no Evening Service today.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Rt Revd Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans.
The Anglican Church in Aoterea, New Zealand and Polynesia.
USPG Mission Companions working in Brazil.

The World: A peaceful year for our nation and world.
The new nation of South Sudan.
Economic recovery in the coming year.

The Community and Parish: Social events in the life of our Church.
The growth of our Church in faith, love and attracting new people.
Our Church's work of pastoral care.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Billie Bainbridge (age 4), Christopher Bilson, Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Darrell Dunning, David and Janet Freeman, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby, Leena Hosie, Jenny Houghton, Harvey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Faith Nkugwa, Dorcas Ochola, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, David Simon, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed: Dorothy Kiddle.

Collect

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
- ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.
- ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

SECOND READING Galatians 4.4–7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- ⁴ When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
⁵ in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.
⁶ And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'
⁷ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

GOSPEL Luke 2.15–21

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

- ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'
¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.
¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;
¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.
¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.
²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
²¹ After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

THIS WEEK

Mon	2	Jan	<i>Bank Holiday</i> <i>No Toddlers' Group</i>	
Wed	4	Jan	NO Coffee in Church today Funeral in Church of Dorothy Kiddle	11.00am
			Social Committee (Choir Vestry)	7.30pm
Thur	5	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	8	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres. and preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Simple Eucharist	11.15am
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

Mrs DOROTHY KIDDLE: A funeral service for Dorothy will be held in church on Wednesday, 4 January 2012, at 11 am. Everyone is welcome. No flowers please. Donations if desired to St Michael's Church. After the cremation everyone is welcome to come back to 282 Hempstead Road.

BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH: There will not be a lunch in January.

FLOWER FUND: Any contributions towards the Christmas and Epiphany flowers will be gratefully received. If you are able to gift aid your contribution, please use a white gift aid envelope. A list of those in whose memory the flowers have been given is displayed at the west end and at the entrance to the Lady Chapel.

BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATION: This will be on 25 January at the west end of the church. Tickets (price £8) will be available in the new year.