



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EPIPHANY 2
15 January 2012

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Paul Chandler leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 90, 233 (i), 308 (i), and 470

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

The monthly Six O’Clock Series is a Celtic Service and is at 6.00pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Christian Unity.

The Church of Bangladesh, the Most Revd Paul Sarker, Moderator Church of Bangladesh and Bishop of Dhaka.

The ministers and people of the parish of Aston in our Diocese.

USPG's work with Communities.

The World: The effects of poverty, disease, corruption, war and civil strife on children.

The people of Syria.

The Community and Parish: Our PCC.

Our Mothers' Union.

Plans to create a food bank in Watford.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Billie Bainbridge (age 4), Lucie Bennett, 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, Christine and David Simon, Rosie Waite, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal
of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
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 I Samuel 3.1–10

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

- ¹ The boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.
- ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room;
- ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.
- ⁴ Then the LORD called, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ and he said, ‘Here I am!’
- ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call; lie down again.’ So he went and lay down.
- ⁶ The LORD called again, ‘Samuel!’ Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call, my son; lie down again.’
- ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.
- ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.
- ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.”’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
- ¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’

SECOND READING Revelation 5.1–10

- ¹ I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals;
- ² and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, ‘Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?’
- ³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it.
- ⁴ And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.

⁵ Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.'

⁶ Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

⁷ He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne.

⁸ When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

⁹ They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;

¹⁰ you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.'

GOSPEL John 1.43-51

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

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.'

⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.'

⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.'

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!'

⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.'

⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'

⁵⁰ Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.'

⁵¹ And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

SERVICES FOR WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:

Wednesday 18th January, St Mary's. Service at 12.30pm, led by Fr Geoff; soup, coffee & tea available from 12.00 noon and bring your own sandwiches.

Sunday 22nd January, Service at 6.30pm, at "Wellspring" (the new Watford Community Church building).

THIS WEEK

Mon	16	Jan	Toddlers Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Worship Committee (Clergy Vestry via Mildred Ave door)	7.45pm
Tue	17	Jan	Service at the Chase Care Home	2.30pm
Wed	18	Jan	<i>Start of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	
			Service at St Mary's led by Fr Geoff	12 noon for 12.30pm
			Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 for 7.55pm
Thur	19	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union; followed by meeting in Choir Vestry	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	22	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY 3</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres and preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at "Wellspring"	6.30 pm

NOTICES

SWORD: The Christmas/New Year edition is available to take and distribute. SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2012 are now due. Valerie Alvarez has kindly agreed to collect subscriptions for the coming year. The cost of Sword is 60p per month. If you pay for the year in advance an annual subscription for 12 issues will be £6.00, thus giving you 12 issues for the price of 10! If you don't subscribe at present and would like to take out a new annual subscription, please see Dennis Beach.

POST: There are still some giving envelopes and Christmas cards to be collected from a table in the north aisle. Please check to see if anything on the table is addressed to you.

BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATION: Following the success of the celebration last year, the Social Committee, making use of the expertise of Fr Geoff, is arranging a Burns Night Celebration on Wednesday, 25 January 2012. Punch will be served on arrival (from 7.00 pm) and soup will be served at 7.15 pm, haggis (vegetarian or meat) will be served with due ceremony at 7.45 pm. Desserts and cheese will follow. We plan to hold this occasion at the west end of the church. Tickets cost £8 and are available now from members of the Social Committee. For a portion of vegetarian haggis please purchase a green ticket. We ask you to bring your own drinks (whisky is customary but wine or other alternatives are very acceptable). The evening will finish at 10 pm after some appropriate dancing.

THE NEW HOPE TRUST is looking for help with delivering postcards in Chorleywood and Cassiobury estate 27-29 January. Please let Martin Heath know if you can help.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR FEBRUARY SWORD: Midday on Sunday 22nd January. Please submit copy before this date if possible - hard copy, floppy disc or e-mail to:- dhbeach@sky.com