



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

PENTECOST

27 May 2012

A warm welcome to our services today.

Christians Across Watford have organised a “flame run”, with a flame being taken around the Churches in Watford. The flame will be arriving here at 9.25am, and there will be a short service (5min).

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and Jamie Wareham preaches. Pam Hart leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 175, 178, 182 (i) and 191

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

Evening Prayer is at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Anglican Church in Mexico, and The Most Revd Carlos Touche-Porter, Presiding Bishop.
The Parish of Hockliffe in our Diocese.
USPG’s “Growing the Church” programmes.

The World: The work of Christian Aid.
Preparations for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.
Preparations for the 2012 Olympics.

The Community and Parish: The Churches of Watford Deanery.
The people of the Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church meeting here.
The YMCA and Littlebury Children’s Centre.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Billie Bainbridge (age 5), Christopher Bilson, Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Darrell Dunning, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby, Leena Hosie, Jenny Houghton, Audrey and Harvey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Faith Nkugwa, Dorcas Ochola, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Christina and David Simon, Rosie Waite, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 2.1–21

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.
⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.
⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in their native language.
⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?
⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?
⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
¹¹ Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'
¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'
¹³ But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'
¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.
¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.
¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:
¹⁷ "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.
¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

- 20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
- 21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

SECOND READING Romans 8.22–27

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now;
- 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.
- 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen?
- 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
- 26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
- 27 And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

GOSPEL John 15.26–27, 16.4b–15

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

Jesus spoke to his disciples:

- 26 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf.
- 27 You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.
- 4 I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.
- 5 But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?"
- 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.
- 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement:
- 9 about sin, because they do not believe in me;
- 10 about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer;
- 11 about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.
- 12 I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.
- 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
- 14 He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
- 15 All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	28	May	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	29	May	Pause (134 Mildred Ave)	7.30pm
Wed	30	May	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	31	May	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	3	June	<u>TRINITY SUNDAY</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			<u>INSIDE STREET PARTY</u>	12.30pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

THE JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH from India is seeking for a church in the Watford area for worship two Sundays a month. They have approached St Michael's and the Vicar and Churchwarden have agreed that they can use St Michael's for a trial period. They will start today and because it is Pentecost they plan to be in church from 12 noon to 5 pm. Normally it will be from 1 – 5 pm.

PENTECOST IN THE PARK - TODAY! From 1pm in Cassiobury Park near the splash pools. Bring a picnic. Live music from 2pm. Short Flame run service at 3pm. Fun and games for everyone.

PLANT SALE: The total raised from the Plant Sale last weekend came to £506.27. Thank you to everyone who supported the sale and particular thanks to Pat and Dennis Beach who gave so much time and energy during the inclement weather and made sure that we had a good number of plants to sell.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES: It is the time of year when these are emptied and the collection sent to the Society. If you have one please bring it in to Norma Twitchin to be emptied.

INSIDE STREET PARTY – Sunday, 3 June. The Social Committee is planning this. There is a list at the back of the church. Please sign this to indicate the type of food you will be bringing. You do not need to specify the precise item(s) we just need an indication that we will have a balance of savoury and sweet dishes.

WEST WATFORD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION is launching the “Four a day way” this week, information on www.fouradayway.org (printouts available on the “Wider Community” notice board).

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE JUNE SWORD is MIDDAY today Sunday, 27 May. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Barbecue 8 July 2012 – at 8 Cassiobury Park Avenue Tickets (£6; children under 5 free) available from today.

Sunday, 15 July 2012 at 6.30 pm. Archdeacon Jonathan Smith coming to Choral Evensong which will include the induction of Fr Geoffrey Calvert as our Vicar.