



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

CHRISTMAS 1
30 December 2012

We wish you a Happy Christmastide and a warm welcome to our services today. At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches. Pat Beach leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 74, 73, 44 and 46 (i)

Setting: Rawsthorne

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

NO Evening Service.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Wymington in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Kuching in SE Asia, the Rt Revd Bolly Lapok,
the Rt Revd Aeries Sumping.
The Anglican Church in Zimbabwe.

The World: All those suffering from winter infections.
World peace in 2013.

The treatment and eradication of preventable disease.

The Community and Parish: The Parish of St Michaels as we enter the Centenary Year of our Church building.

Positive and fruitful New Year Resolutions for our lives.

The staff and residents of Fairhaven residential home.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Jean and Robert Caton. Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby, Jenny Houghton, Trevor Hutchinson, Audrey and Harvey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O’Riordan, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Christina and David Simon, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

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 I Samuel 2.18–20, 26

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod.

¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD'; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the LORD and with the people.

SECOND READING Colossians 3.12–17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

- ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.
- ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL Luke 2.41–52

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

- ⁴¹ Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.
- ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.
- ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.
- ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.
- ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.
- ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
- ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.
- ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.'
- ⁴⁹ He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?'
- ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them.
- ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.
- ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

THIS WEEK

Mon	31	Dec	<i>New Year's Eve</i>	
Tue	1	Jan	Bank Holiday	
Wed	2	Jan	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	3	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	6	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST:	9.30am
			President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	
			Evening Service	6.00pm

NOTICES

EMMAUS –The next meetings will be on 14th and 15th January in the Vicarage. It's not too late to join in come along (with sandwiches/buffet food) for the next meeting.

LEPROSY MISSION – A reminder that we have a box at the back of church for used stamps, being collected on behalf of the Leprosy Mission. Perfect for all the stamps from your Christmas Cards!

GIVING ENVELOPES FOR 2013 are on a table in the north aisle. Please collect yours. If you wish to join the envelope giving scheme please see Valerie Alvarez.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 19th January 2013: The 100th Birthday of our Church! The Bishop of St Albans is coming to celebrate with us at 7.30pm on that day. Please put this date aside and spread the word to anyone who may have associations with the church.