



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

BAPTISM OF CHRIST

13 January 2013

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 87, 92, 308(i) and 93

Setting: Wilson

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and this is followed at 11.15 with our 11.15 service which this month is a Simple Eucharist – please stay on.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00-5.00pm)

Evening Service in Lady Chapel at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Spenden in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Lango in Uganda, The Rt Revd John Odurkami,
its Bishop and all its people.
Volunteers overseas with the USPG/Us Experience Exchange
programme.

The World: People whose homes and lives are threatened by bush fires.
The prevention of waste of precious food resources in our world.
Community harmony and cohesion in Northern Ireland.

The Community and Parish: Our Centenary Eucharist on Saturday,
The Chase Care Centre.
Everyone taking part in our Emmaus Course.

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

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
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 Isaiah 43.1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹ Thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.
- ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.
- ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
- ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.
- ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;
- ⁶ I will say to the north, 'Give them up,' and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth –
- ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

SECOND READING Acts 8.14–17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹⁴ When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.
- ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit
- ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).
- ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL Luke 3.15–17, 21–22

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

In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance.

- ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,
- ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'
- ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,
- ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	14	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10.00 - 11.30am
			Emmaus Course (Vicarage)	1.00pm
Tue	15	Jan	Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
			Emmaus Course (Vicarage)	7.00pm
Wed	16	Jan	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thu	17	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union and followed by a meeting in the Choir Vestry with Janet McKinney	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	19	Jan	CENTENARY EUCHARIST (see Notices)	7.30pm
Sun	20	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY 3</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	
			SUNG EUCHARIST: President and Preacher: Fr George	9.30am
			(WPCU United Service at North Bushey Baptist Church)	

NOTICES

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. Posters and handbills are available at the west end – please circulate widely. Thank you.

SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2013 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.

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.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE FEBRUARY SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 20 January. Hard copy to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

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.

LOST PROPERTY: During the month of December, a lot of visitors come to the church and sometimes leave gloves, umbrellas, coats, spectacle cases behind. if you know anyone who might be in this position (adult or child) please tell them to come along to the church to see if an item of their property is here.. If they have difficulty in finding the door open ask them to telephone 01923 232460.