



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

17 February 2013

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and Violet Allen-Smith preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions

Hymns: 538, 95, 565 and 621

Setting: White

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

Holy Baptism at 3.00 pm.

Compline with devotional talk at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Blunham in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Malakal in the Sudan, Hilary Garang Deng, its Bishop and all its people.
The work of USPG/Us with the Church in Sri Lanka.
Pope Benedict XVI and the Roman Catholic Church seeking its next Pope.

The World: People suffering from eating disorders.
Young people who volunteer.

The Community and Parish: Residents and staff at the Chase Care Centre.
Our keeping of Lent.
Watford Interfaith Association.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Jean and Robert Caton. Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Pam Hart, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby, Jenny Houghton, Audrey 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: Elinor Armstrong; Margaret Price

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:

give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;

and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save;

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 Deuteronomy 26.1-11

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people, saying:

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it,

² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.'

⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God,

⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us,

⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;

⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.

¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

SECOND READING Romans 10.8b–13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

⁸ What does scripture say? ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

¹¹ The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

¹³ For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

GOSPEL Luke 4.1–13

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

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,

² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

³ The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’

⁴ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone.”’

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.

⁶ And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.

⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’

⁸ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,” and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’

¹² Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’

¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

THIS WEEK

Mon	18	Feb	<i>Half Term Week</i>	
			Toddlers' Group	10.00 - 11.30am
			Lent Course (Vicarage)	1.30pm
Tue	19	Feb	Service at the Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
			Lent course (Vicarage)	7.30pm
Wed	20	Feb	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thu	21	Feb	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union and followed by their AGM	
			Funeral of Trevor Hutchinson	1.30pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	24	Feb	LENT 2	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: President: Fr Geoff;	
			Preacher from USPG/US	9.30am
			followed by Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			Compline with devotional talk	6.00pm

NOTICES

DETAILS of LENT PROGRAMMES for 2013 are available at the back of the church with a sign-up list for the course book - "Christ in the Wilderness", by Stephen Cottrell. This can be ordered from Fr Geoff for £6.89.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES for the Church Army are available at the back of church. The theme is "giving" rather than "giving up" for Lent.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE MARCH SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 24 February. Hard copy to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

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.

SIMNEL CAKES: Volunteers are needed to make simnel cakes for Mothering Sunday (10 March). Please see Sylvia Moring if you are able to help.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

2 March: Lent Lunch and Bring-and-Buy Sale in aid of mission. Delicious homemade soup served by St Michael's Brownies followed by bread and cheese.. Bargains for sale. An occasion not to be missed – make a note of the date now. Sale starts at 11.30 am; lunch served from 12 noon.

10 March: Mothering Sunday. The service will be at 10.30 am. Please note there will not be a 9.30 service on that day.