



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

24 February 2013

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and we welcome Zoë Bunter from Us/USPG. Pat Beach leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 586 (omit *s), 423, 598 and 368

Setting: White

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Compline with devotional talk at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Brent Pelham in our Diocese.

The Diocese of Maryland (USA), Eugene Sutton its Bishop and all its People.

The work of Us/USPG supporting theological study by Anglicans worldwide.

The World: Girl Guides and Girl Scouts across the world.

People suffering from rare diseases.

The British Heart Foundation.

The Community and Parish: Our PCC members.

Our Brownies making their promise.

Our supported charities.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Jean and Robert

Caton. Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean

Crouch, Pamela Cutler, 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:

Collect

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness:
 grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
 through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 15.1–12, 17–18

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- ¹ The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.'
- ² But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'
- ³ And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.'
- ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.'
- ⁵ He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'
- ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.
- ⁷ Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.'
- ⁸ But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?'
- ⁹ He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.'
- ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.
- ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.
- ¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.
- ¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.
- ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

SECOND READING Philippians 3.17 – 4.1

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- ¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.
- ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.
- ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.
- ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.
- ¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

GOSPEL Luke 13.31–35

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

- ³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’
- ³² He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.
- ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.”
- ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!
- ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.””

THIS WEEK

Mon	25	Feb	Toddlers' Group	10.00 - 11.30am
			Lent Course (Vicarage)	1.30pm
Tue	26	Feb	Lent course (Vicarage)	7.30pm
Wed	27	Feb	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.55pm
Thu	28	Feb	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	2	Mar	LENT LUNCH & BRING-& BUY SALE	from 11.30am
Sun	3	Mar	LENT 3	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: President: and Preacher Fr Geoff;	9.30am
			Compline with devotional talk	6.00pm
			(Joint service here with Trinity Methodist)	

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL: A **NEW roll** is required this year. **The last date for receipt of forms for inclusion before the AGM will be Sunday 17 March.** New forms are available to complete. If you are not given a form or wish to be added to the roll as a new member, please ask Fr Geoff or Henry or Sylvia Moring for one. Please fill in your form today if possible.

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 LUNCH AND BRING-AND-BUY SALE in aid of mission is this week on Saturday 2nd March. Delicious homemade soup served by St Michael's Brownies followed by bread and cheese.. Bargains for sale. An occasion not to be missed. Sale starts at 11.30 am; lunch served from 12 noon.

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 today 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.

MOTHERING SUNDAY IS 10th MARCH: The service will be at 10.30 am. Please note there will not be a 9.30 service on that day.