



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MOTHERING SUNDAY

10 March 2013

We wish you a warm welcome to our special service today for Mothering Sunday. Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches.

There is a special service book for Mothering Sunday but the hymns are inside this Messenger **Setting: Aston**

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

Compline with devotional talk at 6.00pm. (Joint service here with Trinity Methodist)

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The parish of Carlton with Chellington in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Madhya Pradesh (South India), Thalari Samuel Kanaka Prasad, its bishop and people.

The work of Mothers Union and the Children's Society.

The World: The Church in Ghana.

All those taking parenting classes.

The strengthening of family life in our society.

The Community and Parish: Parents and Grandparents in our Church Family.

Maternity staff, midwives and health visitors in Watford.

The Littlebury Children's Centre.

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

The Departed: Eric Wightman.

Gathering Hymn

- 1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*
- 2 For the beauty of each hour,
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:
- 3 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:
- 4 For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
- 5 For thy Church that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
this pure sacrifice of love:

F.S. Pierpoint 1835-1917

Gradual Hymn

- 1 For Mary, mother of our Lord,
God's holy name be praised,
who first the Son of God adored,
as on her child she gazed.
- 2 Brave, holy virgin, she believed,
though hard the task assigned,
and by the Holy Ghost conceived
the Saviour of mankind.
- 3 She gave her body as God's shrine,
her heart to piercing pain;
she knew the cost of love divine,
when Jesus Christ was slain.
- 4 Dear Mary, from your lowliness
and home in Galilee
there comes a joy and holiness
to every family.
- 5 Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,
above all women blest;
and blest your Son, whom your embrace
in birth and death confessed.

J.R. Peacey 1896-1971

Offertory Hymn

- 1 Our Father God in heaven
on whom our world depends,
to you let praise be given
for families and friends;
for parents, sisters, brothers,
a home where love belongs,
but on this day for mothers
we bring our thankful songs.
- 2 What wealth of God's bestowing
for all the world to share!
What strength of heart outgoing
to children ev'rywhere!
Our deepest joys and sorrows
a mother's path must trace,
and earth's unknown tomorrows
are held in her embrace.
- 3 How well we know the story
that tells of Jesus' birth,
the Lord of heaven's glory
become a child of earth;
a helpless infant sleeping,
yet King of realms above,
who finds in Mary's keeping
the warmth of human love.
- 4 Our Father God in heaven,
to you we lift our pray'r,
that ev'ry child be given
such tenderness and care,
where life is all for others,
where love your love displays:
for God's good gift of mothers
let earth unite in praise!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith; Tune: 'Wolvercote', William Ferguson

Closing Hymn

- 1 God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother earth,
Thank you for the ones who with us
Shared their life and gave us birth.
- 2 As you came to earth in Jesus,
So you come to us today;
You are present in the caring
That prepares us for life's way.
- 3 Thank you that the Church, our Mother
Gives us bread and fills our cup,
And the comfort of the Spirit
Warms our hearts and lifts us up.
- 4 Thank you for belonging, shelter,
Bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
And for those who have no children,
Yet are parents under God.
- 5 God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human son,
Spirit, caring like a mother,
Take our love and make us one.

Fred Kaan © 1989 Stainer & Bell Ltd.

THIS WEEK

Mon	11	Mar	Toddlers' Group	10.00 - 11.30am
			Lent Course (Vicarage)	1.30pm
			Estates Committee (Vicarage)	7.30pm
Tue	12	Mar	(St Anthony's School in church	9.30am-2.30pm)
Wed	13	Mar	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
			Finance Committee (Vicarage)	7.30pm
Thu	14	Mar	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	17	Mar	<u>FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: President & Preacher: Fr George	9.30am
			Compline with devotional talk	6.00pm

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL: A **NEW roll** is required this year. **The last date for receipt of forms for inclusion before the AGM is next Sunday 17 March.** New forms are available to complete. If you have not been 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 COLLECTING BOXES for the Church Army are available at the back of church. The theme is "giving" rather than "giving up" for Lent.

LENT LUNCH: Thank you to all who supported the lunch and sale last week. The amount raised was £213.19 and this will be given to mission.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WATCH: As usual we hope to keep the watch in the Lady Chapel throughout the night on Maundy Thursday. Please sign the list on the table by the Mildred Avenue door if you are able to join the watch for part of the time.

FOOD BANK: St Michael's is to become a depot for a food bank in West Watford. There will shortly be a list of the items of food that can be included in the food parcels that are given out and if you would like to donate any of these items please bring them to church and put them in the box at the west end. Further details will be in the April Sword.

EASTER FLOWERS: It is our custom to invite people to make a donation towards the Easter flowers, perhaps in memory of a loved one. If you would like to do this, please give your donation to Fay Storey or Jean Alexander. If you are able to gift aid your donation it should go in one of the white gift aid envelopes.

St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010
All songs covered by Christian Copyright Licensing (Europe) Ltd have been reproduced under CCL 586619