



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 4
21 April 2013

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 585, 517, 482 and 534

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

Six O'Clock Series at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish Of Flitwick in our Diocese.
National Indigenous Bishop (Canada), Indigenous Anglicans in Canada.

All those feeling a call to the Religious Life.

The World: The people of Boston, Massachusetts and of West, Texas.

People suffering from allergies.

World Peace.

The Community and Parish: Our Annual Meetings.

Our Confirmation Candidates.

Our elected representatives in local and national government.

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, Mark Pritchard, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Christina and David Simon, Anne Wightman and Andrew Williams.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 9.36–43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity.
- ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs.
- ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.'
- ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.
- ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.
- ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.
- ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.
- ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

SECOND READING Revelation 7.9–17

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.
- ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

- 11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God,
- 12 singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'
- 13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?'
- 14 I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- 15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- 16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
- 17 for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

GOSPEL John 10.22–30

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

- 22 At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,
- 23 and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.
- 24 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.'
- 25 Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me;
- 26 but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.
- 27 My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.
- 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.
- 29 What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.
- 30 The Father and I are one.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	22	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	23	Apr	<i>St George's Day</i>	
Wed	24	Apr	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			ANNUAL MEETINGS	
			Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	7.00pm
			Annual Vestry Meeting	7.45pm
			Annual Parochial Church Meeting	8.00pm
Thur	25	Apr	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	28	Apr	<u>EASTER 5</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			Centenary Confirmation Service led by the Bishop of St Albans	
				6.30 pm

NOTICES

THE NEW ELECTORAL ROLL is displayed at the back of church. Please check your entry and report any errors to Fr Geoff. Anyone who wishes to be on the roll and didn't sign a new form can have their name added after the Annual Meetings.

ANNUAL MEETINGS: These are to be held on Wednesday, 24 April 2013. Before that date the secretary needs nominations for churchwardens, PCC members, and sidespeople. Jean Alexander will provide the appropriate nomination forms.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE: On Sunday, 28 April 2013, the Bishop of St Albans will once again be coming to St Michaels, this time for a Centenary Confirmation Service which will include Holy communion. Please make every effort to come to this, support our candidates and meet the Bishop. The refreshments to be served are a selection of cakes with tea and coffee. If you are able to donate a cake or little cakes, please bring them to church next Sunday morning or before the evening service. Thank you. Help with serving the tea and coffee would be appreciated. See Sylvia.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES: So far these have raised £140.13 for the Church Army. If you still have a box, please return it to church as soon as possible.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES: It is the time of year when these are emptied and the collection sent to the Society. If you have one please bring it in to Norma Twitchin to be emptied.

FOOD BANK: There is 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.