



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 5
28 April 2013

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches and Pam Hart leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 207, 411, 516(ii) and 612

Setting: Rawsthorne

Coffee and tea 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 from 1.00 – 5.00pm)

A Centenary Confirmation Service led by the Bishop of St Albans is at 6.30 pm

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Great Amwell with St Margaret's in our Diocese.
The Diocese of New Busa (Nigeria), Israel Amoo its Bishop, and
all its People.

Christians in the Holy Land.

The World: The work of RSPCA.

Victims of the building collapse in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The fight against measles.

The Community and Parish: Our confirmation candidates.

The Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith, our Diocesan Bishop.

Our PCC and outgoing and incoming Churchwardens.

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: Betty Laud.

Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 11.1–18

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 1 The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God.
- 2 So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him,
- 3 saying, ‘Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?’
- 4 Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying,
- 5 ‘I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me.
- 6 As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air.
- 7 I also heard a voice saying to me, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat.”
- 8 But I replied, “By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.”
- 9 But a second time the voice answered from heaven, “What God has made clean, you must not call profane.”
- 10 This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.
- 11 At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were.
- 12 The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house.
- 13 He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, “Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter;
- 14 he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.”
- 15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.

- 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, “John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”
- 17 If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?’
- 18 When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, ‘Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.’

SECOND READING Revelation 21.1–6

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- 1 I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.
- 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
- 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;
- 4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’
- 5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’
- 6 Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.’

GOSPEL John 13.31–35

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

- 31 During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him.
- 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.
- 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.”
- 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.
- 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	29	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	30	Apr	Meeting of Centenary group and Publicity Committee (Vicarage)	7.30pm
Wed	1	May	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (Choir Vestry)	7.55pm
Thur	2	May	<i>Polling Day</i>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	5	May	<u>EASTER 6</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			Joint Evening Service at St Michael's	6.00pm

NOTICES

CONFIRMATION SERVICE: This evening, 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 before the evening service. Thank you. Help with serving the tea and coffee would be appreciated. See Sylvia.

VOLUNTEERS needed to serve tea, coffee and biscuits for Deanery Synod at St Michael's on 22 May from 7.30 – 8 pm.

COFFEE MORNING This has raised £356.30 for church funds so far. Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of this morning.

CENTENARY CONCERT to be given by Lise Christensen and Michael Bracegirdle on 31 May 2013 in St Michael's. Music from opera and musical theatre. Finger buffet served after the music. Tickets £10 from Sylvia Moring (01923 231917).

CONCERT BY RADLETT CHORAL SOCIETY 11 May at 2013 at 7.30 pm. Help with serving refreshments (wine, tea, coffee and fruit juice) is needed. Please see Sylvia.

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.