



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**

**17 November 2013**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions. The service will include the baptisms of Lawrence Moyo, Thomas Moyo and Benjamin Edwards.

There will be a retiring collection for the Us (USPG) emergency appeal for the Philippines

**Hymns: 29, 2, 448 and 527**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

Messy Church 2.30 – 4.00pm

Six O'Clock Series service at 6.00pm.

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## **For your prayers this week:**

**The Church:** The Church in the Philippines.

The Parish of Toddington in our Diocese.

The Diocese of The Virgin Islands (USA), Ambrose Gumbs its Bishop, and all its people.

**The World:** The people of the Philippines, and international aid efforts.

Road Safety.

Sufferers from lung cancer.

**The Community and Parish:** Filipino people in our area.

Staff and Residents at the Chase Care Centre.

The work of AgeUK.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Bruce Alexander, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, Tony Coles, Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Pamela Cutler, Audrey Dixon, Sandra Fullerton, Jenny Houghton, Audrey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Audrey Morgan, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Mark Pritchard, Christina and David Simon, Mark Simon, Phoebe Tolley, Anne Wightman and Andrew Williams.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Malachi 4.1–2a**

(Not read)

- <sup>1</sup> *See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.*
- <sup>2</sup> *But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.*

**SECOND READING 2 Thessalonians 3.6–13**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

- <sup>6</sup> We command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us.
- <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you,
- <sup>8</sup> and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you.
- <sup>9</sup> This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate.
- <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.
- <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.
- <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.
- <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

## **GOSPEL Luke 21.5–19**

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

- 5 When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said,
- 6 ‘As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.’
- 7 They asked him, ‘Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?’
- 8 And Jesus said, ‘Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, “I am he!” and, “The time is near!” Do not go after them.
- 9 When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.’
- 10 Then he said to them, ‘Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
- 11 there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.
- 12 But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.
- 13 This will give you an opportunity to testify.
- 14 So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance;
- 15 for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.
- 16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.
- 17 You will be hated by all because of my name.
- 18 But not a hair of your head will perish.
- 19 By your endurance you will gain your souls.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	18	Nov	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Stewardship Campaign Committee (Vicarage)	8.00pm
Tue	19	Nov	Service at the Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
Wed	20	Nov	Coffee in Church.	10.30am-12 noon
			Extraordinary PCC meeting (Choir Vestry)	7.30pm
			Magazine Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Thu	21	Nov	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			followed by meeting of Mothers' Union	
			Choir practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	23	Nov	Baptism of Elisa Mercy Williams	2.00pm
Sun	24	Nov	<b><u>CHRIST THE KING</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	9.30am
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	11.30 – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## **NOTICES**

**Today, 17 November**                      **Interfaith Pilgrimage** starting from the Watford and District Synagogue in Nascot Road at 1.30 for 2pm. Visits four other places of worship in Watford: St Mary's Parish Church, the Central Mosque, Holy Rood Catholic Church, and finishes at the Gurdwara in Ladys Close.

**17 November**                      **Messy Church at St Michael's** from 2.30- 4pm. Fun, games, stories, food and craft for all the family. More information from Fr Geoff or Kristine Jenkins.

**FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE DECEMBER SWORD** is MIDDAY next Sunday, 24 November. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR:** Thank you very much to everyone who helped with the Christmas Fair yesterday. We appreciated receiving all the items that were given to be sold or used as prizes; all the time that was given to making items for sale; to preparing items for the lunches; to setting up and to clearing away. There are a few items for sale this morning after the 9.30 service so please look out for a table with items on it and see if there is anything that you would like to buy.

**HEALTHWISE AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH:** This is 10 sessions on Thursday afternoons from 2.30-3.30 pm, in the Choir Vestry, sitting on chairs for gentle exercise, chatting about healthy living, sharing recipes, etc. The first session was last Thursday (14th) and Violet and Valerie went and can tell you all about it. The sessions are weekly so the next one is 21st November and they continue until 19 December when there is a break for Christmas and they resume on 9 January 2014. You will be very welcome to go along on Thursday and join the group which is run by Sarah Hill (0754 214 2810).