



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EPIPHANY 2

Stewardship Sunday

19 January 2014

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 87, 92, 432 and 401

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

Messy Church 2.30 – 4.00pm

Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at West Watford Free Church, Tolpits Lane at 6.30pm. (No evening service at St Michael's)

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

Christian Unity

The Parish of Hexton in our Diocese.

The Church of Bangladesh, Paul Sarker its Moderator.

Msalato Theological College, Dodoma, Tanzania.

The World:

Unity and Peace for all countries torn by war and civil unrest.

The Community and Parish:

Our Stewardship Campaign.

Trinity Methodist Church and West Watford Free Church.

Churches Together in Central South and West Watford.

Staff and Residents at the Chase Care Centre.

The Ill and the Housebound:

Especially Bruce Alexander, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, 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, and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal
of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 49.1–7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹ Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD
called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he
made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
⁴ But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God.'
⁵ And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring
Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in
the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength.
⁶ The LORD says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the
tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the
nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'
⁷ Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply
despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

SECOND READING I Corinthians 1.1–9

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

- ¹ From Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our
brother Sosthenes,
² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus,
called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of
our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been
given you in Christ Jesus,
⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every
kind –
⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you –

- 7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 9 God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL John I.29–42

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

- 29 John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
- 30 This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me."
- 31 I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.'
- 32 And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.
- 33 I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit."
- 34 And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'
- 35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,
- 36 and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!'
- 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.
- 38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?'
- 39 He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.
- 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.
- 41 He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed).
- 42 He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

THIS WEEK

Mon	20	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Publicity Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Tue	21	Jan	Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
Wed	22	Jan	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Lunch and Service for Christian Unity at St Mary's Church (see Notices)	
Thu	23	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Healthwise	2.30 – 3.30pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	26	Jan	<u>EPIPHANY 3</u> – Stewardship Sunday	
			<i>World Leprosy Day</i>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST:	9.30am
			President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE FEBRUARY SWORD is MIDDAY TODAY Sunday, 19 January. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk.

SWORD SUBSCRIPTIONS for 2014 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!

MORE VOLUNTEERS urgently required for the Money Counting rota (for after the 9.30 service). If you can help with this, please see Iola Bilson.

SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: There will be a lunch time service at 1 pm at St Mary's on Wednesday, 22 January. The service is kindly being led by Deacon Reverend Neville Dyckhoff of Holy Rood Church. Soup and rolls and coffee are generously being provided for a lunch at 12.30 and we can take our own packed lunch in addition if we wish..

FOOD BANK: Don't forget that we are still collecting. There is a list of the items of food that can be included in the food parcels in particular there is a need for tinned meat and meat pies, and UHT milk. 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.

HEALTHWISE AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH: The Healthwise sessions have restarted on Thursdays from 2.30-3.30. New members welcome. Any inquiries to Sarah Hill (0754 214 2810)