



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EPIPHANY 3

**Stewardship Sunday, World Leprosy Day
26 January 2014**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Jamie Wareham leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 585, 608, 581 and 429

Setting: Rawsthorne

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there is a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Milton Bryan in our Diocese.
Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil: Maurício Jose Araujo De Andrade -Primate of Brazil & Bishop of Brasilia.
The Parkal Mission in South India.

The World: The work of the Leprosy Mission.
UN Peace Talks trying to end the Syrian conflict.
Events for Poverty and Homelessness action week.

The Community and Parish: Our Stewardship Campaign.
The Messy Church planning team.
The work of New Hope Trust.

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, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence:

renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power;

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 9.1–4

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.
- ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.
- ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
- ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

SECOND READING I Corinthians 1.10–18

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

- ¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose.
- ¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.
- ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul,' or 'I belong to Apollos,' or 'I belong to Cephas,' or 'I belong to Christ.'
- ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?
- ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,
- ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name.

- ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.
- ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.
- ¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

GOSPEL Matthew 4.12–23

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

- ¹² When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee.
- ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,
- ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
- ¹⁵ ‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles –
- ¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.’
- ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’
- ¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen.
- ¹⁹ And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’
- ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
- ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.
- ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.
- ²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

THIS WEEK

Mon	27	Jan	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Messy Church meeting (75 Euston Avenue)	8.00pm
Tue	28	Jan	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
			(Deanery Synod)	7.30pm)
Wed	29	Jan	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thu	30	Jan	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Healthwise	2.30 – 3.30pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	2	Feb	CANDLEMAS – Stewardship Sunday	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST:	9.30am
			President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	
			Baptism of Esmæ Alley	3.00pm
			United Service at Trinity Methodist Church	6.30pm

NOTICES

ST MICHAEL'S GOT TALENT: Thank you to everyone who contributed to this very successful evening. The entertainment was very varied and lively. The buffet supper was good and many people helped with the clearing up at the end. It was certainly an evening when many different talents were on display and enjoyed. The amount raised by the sale of tickets was £497. Thank you everyone.

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.

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)