



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**The First Sunday of Lent  
9 March 2014**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and Violet Allen-Smith preaches. Fr Geoff leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 95, 382, 541 and 496

Setting: Missa Seraphica

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

The 11.15 Service of Praise and Thanksgiving is a Simple Eucharist at 11.15am.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00-5.00pm)

Evening Prayer is at 6.00pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Goldington in our Diocese.  
The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury  
The work of Us with the Church in Bangladesh.

**The World:** A peaceful and just resolution to the crisis in Ukraine.  
All who work in science and engineering.  
Sufferers from kidney disease.

**The Community and Parish:** All those attending Lent Groups here and at other Churches.  
Staff and residents at Home Manor.  
The Multicultural Community 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, Owen Hutchinson, Audrey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Audrey Morgan, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O’Riordan, Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard, Christina and David Simon, Mark Simon, Pauline White and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:** Edward Samuel Fountain.

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**Collect**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save;  
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 Genesis 2.15–17; 3.1–7**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- <sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.
- <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;
- <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’
- <sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden”?’
- <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;
- <sup>3</sup> but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’
- <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die;
- <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’
- <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.
- <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

**SECOND READING Romans 5.12–19**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- <sup>12</sup> Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned –
- <sup>13</sup> sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law.

- <sup>14</sup> Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.
- <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.
- <sup>16</sup> And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification.
- <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.
- <sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all.
- <sup>19</sup> For just as by the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

## **GOSPEL Matthew 4.1-11**

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

- <sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
- <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.
- <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.'
- <sup>4</sup> But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' "
- <sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him,
- <sup>6</sup> 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' "
- <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' "
- <sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour;
- <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.'
- <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' "
- <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	10	Mar	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Lent Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30 – 4.00pm
Tue	11	Mar	Intercessory Prayer group (Choir vestry)	2.30 – 4.00pm
			Lent Group (Vicarage)	8.00 – 9.30pm
Wed	12	Mar	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thu	13	Mar	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	16	Mar	<b><u>SECOND SUNDAY of LENT</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	9.30am
			Messy Church	2.30 – 4.00pm
			Six O'Clock Series	6.00pm

## NOTICES

**ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION:** This year's revision commences on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March and finishes on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. A copy of the current Roll is on the notice board at the back of the Church for you to check. If anyone would like their name added to the Roll, please get a form from Fr Geoff or Henry or Sylvia Moring. If you have changed your email address or telephone number could you also inform us please.

**LENT GROUPS:** There will be two Lent groups running at St Michael's in 2014 (Mondays at 2.30pm and Tuesdays at 8.00pm). These will be following the book "Prayer, our Deepest Longing" by Ronald Rolheiser. If you would like to attend the course and want a copy of the book, they are selling on Amazon at £5-45, or Fr Geoff can order copies for you if you let him know. There is also a free study guide, which he can send you by email, or print out for you. Please sign the list at the back of the church.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS:** please note the annual report and accounts will be distributed electronically. A list is available at the rear of the church which please sign if you do not have the facility to receive the report electronically and would like a hard copy – *Jean Alexander, PCC Secretary*

**LENT COLLECTING BOXES** for the Church Army are available at the back of church and by the Lady Chapel. The boxes and their contents should be returned to the church on Easter Sunday.

**WAR REQUIEM** by Benjamin Britten is being performed by Watford Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra at Watford Colosseum on 22 March at 7.30pm.

St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010