



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 3
4 May 2014

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and John Adams leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 165, 282, 527 and 612

Setting: Rawsthorne

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

Joint Evening Service at St Michael's at 6.00pm

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Sawbridgeworth in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Kenya; Eliud Wabukala - Primate and Archbishop of All Kenya.
An end to persecution and discrimination against Christians and others in Pakistan.

The World: All those affected by the death of Ann Maguire, teacher killed in Leeds.
The Fair Trade Movement.
People affected by brain injury.

The Community and Parish: Harmony and cooperation between people of different faith and cultures in Watford.
The members of our PCC.
Residents and Staff at River Court and St Anthony's.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, 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 Simon, Mark Simon, Pauline White and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:

give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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 ACTS 2.14a, 36–41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost,

¹⁴ Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd,

³⁶ ‘Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.’

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’

³⁸ Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.’

⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’

⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

SECOND READING I Peter 1.17–23

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.

¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold,

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.

²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

GOSPEL Luke 24.13–35

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

- ¹³ On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,
- ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.
- ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,
- ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.
- ¹⁷ And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad.
- ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?'
- ¹⁹ Jesus asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,
- ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.
- ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.
- ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,
- ²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.
- ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.'
- ²⁵ Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!
- ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?'
- ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.
- ²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.
- ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them.
- ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.
- ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight.
- ³² They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?'
- ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.
- ³⁴ They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!'
- ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

THIS WEEK

Mon	5	May	BANK HOLIDAY NO Toddlers' Group Watford Celebration 2014	12 noon – 4.00pm
Tue	6	May	Service at River Court Wedding Rehearsal	3.00pm 7.00pm
Wed	7	May	Coffee in Church and Food Bank Parochial Church Council	10.30-12 noon 7.55pm
Thur	8	May	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Choir Practice	10.00am 7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	10	May	RSCM Examinations Wedding of Jamie Wareham and Holly Brighton	morning 3.30pm
Sun	11	May	<u>EASTER 4</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff) The 11.15 Service is a Simple Eucharist (Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church) Evening Service	8.00am 9.30am 11.15am 1.00-5.00pm) 6.00pm

NOTICES

WATFORD CELEBRATION 2014: “On Bank Holiday Monday 5th May, Faith groups and communities from across Watford will be joining together to celebrate the richness and diversity of the town.” The event is being held in the Multi Cultural Community Centre, Littlebury Hall and a Sacred Space in St Michael’s Choir Vestry. Children’s activities, performances and international food. Free parking at Watford Grammar School for Boys.

LAST SUNDAY’S BRING-&-BUY SALE raised £24.85. Many thanks to all who contributed.

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: Don’t forget that we are still collecting. There is a list at the back of church of the items of food that can be included in the parcels. 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.