



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 5
18 May 2014

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 395, 151, 501 and 429

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

Messy Church at 2.30 pm

The Six O’Clock Series service tonight is a Healing Service.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Clophall in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Melanesia; David Vunagi - Archbishop of Melanesia and Bishop of Central Melanesia.
The work of Us with Churches in the Philippines.

The World: All victims of terrorism and extremism.
More awareness of the needs of deaf people.
The care of people with dementia..

The Community and Parish: Watford Interfaith Association.
The Churches of Watford Deanery.
All candidates for elected office.

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 God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 7.55–60

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Standing before the high priest and the council,
55 Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.
56 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!'
57 But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.
58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.
59 While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.'
60 Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

SECOND READING I Peter 2.2–10

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation –
3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
4 Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight.
5 Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
6 For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'
7 To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,' and

- 8 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They
stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.
- 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people,
in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of
darkness into his marvellous light.
- 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had
not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

GOSPEL John 14.1-14

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 1 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.
2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I
have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to
myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.
4 And you know the way to the place where I am going.'
5 Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we
know the way?'
- 6 Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to
the Father except through me.
7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him
and have seen him.'
- 8 Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.'
9 Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not
know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say,
"Show us the Father"?'
10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words
that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me
does his works.
11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not,
then believe me because of the works themselves.
12 Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I
do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the
Father.
13 I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in
the Son.
14 If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	19	May	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	20	May	Service at the Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
Wed	21	May	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30-12 noon
Thur	22	May	<i>Polling Day</i>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	23	May	(Deanery Synod meeting)	
Sun	25	May	<u>EASTER 6</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			followed by a Bring-&Buy Sale	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00pm – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm
Mon	26	May	<i>Bank Holiday</i>	

NOTICES

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK has now finished but there are still envelopes at the back of church for any further donations. Thank you.

PCC COMMITTEES: there are handouts available to explain the various PCC Committees. There are sign-up lists at the back of Church for people to sign to join any of these committees.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES: Thank you to those who made a donation to the Church Army via the Lent Collecting boxes. If you still have a box at home any further donations would be gratefully received.

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 food as well as acting as a distribution centre. 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.