

Happening in church this week..

Monday	5.30pm - Evening Prayer
Wednesday	10am-12noon - Coffee morning and Foodbank 5.30pm - Eucharist
Friday	5.30pm - Evening prayer
Sunday	9.30am - Sung Eucharist

Celebrating Our Community - this week we shine a spotlight on all those working on our Parish Profile.

A big thank-you to everyone working on our Parish Profile! This important document takes time and care to create, and it plays a key role in helping us find the right vicar to meet our community's needs.

To you all, *Thank you!*

If you would like to shine a spotlight on someone, please email **halfsentence@gmail.com** with their name and a brief explanation.

First Aid Kits

Outside the clergy vestry.
In the ladies toilet.

Baby Changing

In the ladies toilet

Every donation that is made to **SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS PCC WATFORD** is gratefully received.

Code 20-91-79

Account 70409448.

Gift Aid? Please contact a warden.

Thank you very much!

Contact: Father Stephen Mephram 07852 622904

Stephenmephram07@gmail.com

www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk

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



St Michael & All Angels,
Watford

THE MESSENGER



**3RD SUNDAY
OF EPIPHANY** Sunday 26th January
2025

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

A warm welcome to Archdeacon Charles who is officiating for us today and welcome to our service today. At communion, there will be a chalice on your left for those who wish to receive by drinking, and on your right for those who wish to receive by dipping their wafer in the wine. You are also welcome to just receive the bread.

Hymns
for this Sunday
are:

87

Hail to the Lord's
Anointed

604

Through all the
changing scenes
of life

86

From the eastern
mountains

534

O for a thousand
tongues to sing

In your prayers this week:

The Church

Parish of Milton Bryan in the Deanery of Ampthill and Shefford. Rachl Snow and the growth of their church family.

ACP: Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria (North Africa)

The World

Gaza, West Bank, Israel, Ukraine and all living with the affect of conflict.
All World leaders.

The Community and Parish

Little Mick's toddler community.
Local Small businesses.

The Ill and the Housebound

Especially Jean Alexander, Violet Allen-Smith, Julie Alvarez, Janet Chandler, Jemima Hill, Owen Hutchinson, Sylvia Obeng, Valerie O'Riordan, Matthew Paterson, Rocco and Sonny Pigott, Josephine Stadden, Catherine Stone, Fay Storey, Adelaide Tonkin, Allan Warren and all who care for them.

The Departed

In memory of Susan Honour.

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 might 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

Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen’, lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, ‘This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.’ For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, ‘Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.’

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

One Body with Many Members

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you’, nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’ On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.