

Happening in church this week..

Monday 10am-12md Little Mick's
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 everyone and a huge
thanks for making our Christmas Fair sparkle**

*Thank
you!*

- music, merriment, new faces, and pure community magic! You helped raise £2124.05 to keep our beloved bricks and mortar shining bright all season long.

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

For Home Communion

Contact: Martin Heath 01923 249168

www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk

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



St Michael & All Angels,
Watford

THE MESSENGER



2ND SUNDAY ADVENT

Sunday 7th December 2025

Welcome to our service today. Father Stephen is presiding.

Hymns

for this Sunday
are:

28

Hark, what a
sound

36

The Advent of our
King

27

Hark the good
sound,

277

All for
Jesus

In your prayers this week:

The Church

Watford, St Peter. Vanessa Kerswell (Rs), Colin Heath, Vicky O'Kelly
ACP: Church of Bangladesh

The World

We pray for all suffering the wounds of war, urging leaders to pursue peace, especially in Sudan, Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine.
We pray for all facing environmental devastation, especially in Sri Lanka; may aid reach the needy and your comforting presence uphold.

The Community and Parish

May we extend warm hospitality, welcoming all with kindness and hearts open to Christ.

For all burdened by anxiety and for employers and employees facing financial hardship; may find strength and hope.

The Ill and the Housebound

Especially John Adams, Jean Alexander, Julie Alvarez, Janet Chandler, David Dimmock, Mihai Fezariu, Zuzana Hruskova, Owen Hutchinson, Sylvia Obeng, Valerie O'Riordan, Morris Parbhu, Fay Storey, Keziah Thairu, Adelaide Tonkin and all who care for them

The Departed

Collect

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 11.1–10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adders den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3.1–12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Now John wore clothing of camels hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our ancestor; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.

This is the Gospel of the Lord