



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE

3 July 2022

Welcome to our service today. We are now able to receive the wine 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.

Today's service is our "First Sunday of the Month".

Hymn numbers are CP598 There's a wideness in God's mercy, HONA508 This is the day, CP433 Give me joy, HONA571 You shall go out with joy.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Whipsnade in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Tanzania.
Recently ordained and licensed ministers.

The World: Debt advice schemes.
People impacted by the Afghanistan earthquake.
Protection of rainforest worldwide.

The Community and Parish: Everyone taking part in our quiz night.
The people who care for our Church buildings.
People in our area in financial hardship.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Violet Allen-Smith Janet Chandler, Jemima Hill, Ron Hornsby, Mervyn Jones, Keith Levinson, Lisa Mills, Adelaide Tonkin, and all who care for them.

The Departed: Lesley Rees.

Collect

Almighty and eternal God, who, for the firmer foundation of our faith, allowed your holy apostle Thomas to doubt the resurrection of your Son till word and sight convinced him:
grant to us, who have not seen, that we also may believe and so confess Christ as our Lord and our God;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Ephesians 2: 19-end (Message Bible)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all — irrespective of how we got here — in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

This is the word of the Lord

GOSPEL John 20.24–29

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

- ²⁴ Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
- ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’
- ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’
- ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’
- ²⁸ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’
- ²⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

Our Eucharist for **ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE** is available to attend in person or via livestream on our YouTube channel “St Michael’s Church Watford”
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8GTx0MfiICGmcDUkXTGFSw>

The 10.00am Eucharist on Thursdays is also available to attend in person, and livestreamed.

The Church will be open for tea and coffee on Wednesday mornings from 10.00am – 12.00 noon.

Lesley Rees’ funeral will be on Wednesday 6th July at 1.30pm at St Michael’s. Everyone is very welcome.

For those of you who use WhatsApp, we now have a St Michael’s WhatsApp group. If you would like to be in this group, please let Bridget know. If you are on the group, please be aware that your messages will be visible to everyone else on the group!

If you have a smartphone and don’t use WhatsApp but would like to, please let us know.

Quiz Evening Saturday 9th July. Entry £12 per person, maximum 8 per table. 7.15pm for 7.30pm start. Ploughman’s supper (cheese or ham). BYO drinks and glasses. Offers of raffle prizes gratefully received. Contact Valerie on blacklockv@gmail.com or 07858763594 to buy tickets in advance for catering purposes or for further information.

Help in setting up chairs on Friday night for the quiz night would be very welcome. Please see Valerie Blacklock.

Website: <http://www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk>
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