



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

ADVENT SUNDAY

27 November 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.

Hymns are: CP32 O come, O come Emmanuel, CP34 On Jordan's Bank, CP58 Long ago, prophets knew, CP31 Lo, he comes, and CP 6(t.1) New every morning is the love (during communion).

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Ven. Jane Mainwaring.

The Parish of All Saints Leavesden.

The Nippon Sei Ko Kai (Anglican Church in Japan).

The World: Workers, management and travellers during train strikes.

All those affected by the teacher's strike in Scotland.

Victims of online fraud.

The Community and Parish: Our Christmas Fair.

St Andrew's Church in Watford.

Churches Together in Watford.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Jean Alexander, Violet Allen-Smith, Julie Alvarez, Pat Beach, Andy Benoy, Janet Chandler, Jemima Hill, Keith Levinson, Lisa Mills, Josephine Stadden, Catherine Stone, Fay Storey, Adelaide Tonkin, and all who care for them.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 2.1–5

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
- ² In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.
- ³ Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
- ⁴ He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.
- ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

SECOND READING Romans 13.11–14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ¹¹ Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;
- ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light;
- ¹³ let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy.
- ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL Matthew 24.36–44

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

Jesus spoke to his disciples:

- ³⁶ 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.
- ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.
- ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark,
- ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.
- ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.
- ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.
- ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.
- ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.
- ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

Our Eucharist for **ADVENT SUNDAY** 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.

The new Bishop of Hertford is to be the Ven. Jane Mainwaring, Archdeacon of
St Albans. Her consecration will be on Thursday 2nd February 2023. We give
thanks for her ministry as Archdeacon and pray for her in her new role as bishop.

Christmas Fair 3rd December 2022 11.00 -14.00: Please support this our
biggest fundraising event of the year.

It’s next Saturday!

We still need the following:-

Items for a Children’s Tombola – new or good condition second hand. Charity
shops are a good place to look.

Bottles of all shapes and sizes for bottle Bag Stall and empty bottle bags.

Items suitable for a raffle. If you have a contact in a local company maybe you
could ask them for a voucher or piece of merchandise.

If you cannot source these items but would like to support a stall you may
consider being a sponsor by giving a donation that we can use to augment the
content of the stalls.

On the day we will welcome donations of cakes and preserves.

Our aim is to make the fair as much fun as possible. Signup sheets are in church
for other offers of help.

Thank you. *Elizabeth and Valerie.*

Website: <http://www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk>
St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010