



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

CHRISTMAS DAY
Sunday 25 December 2022

A Very Happy Christmas to everyone and a warm welcome to our services 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: CP 57 Joy to the world, CP 73 Unto us a boy is born, CP 44 Angels from the realms of glory, I saw three ships 100 CFC p.154, CP 53 Hark, the herald angels sing.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Church leaders and their Christmas messages.
Christians for whom celebrating Christmas is difficult.
All who will attend Christmas services online.

The World: All who are homeless at Christmas.
All who are separated from family at Christmas.
All who are struggling to afford food or heating at Christmas.

The Community and Parish: The Watford Food Bank.
Families coming together at Christmas.
Visitors to our Church at Christmas.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Jean Alexander, Violet Allen-Smith, Julie Alvarez, 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:

CHRISTMAS DAY

Collect

Almighty God,
you have given us your only-begotten Son
to take our nature upon him
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:
grant that we, who have been born again
and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;
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 Isaiah 52.7–10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- 7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who
announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who
says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'
- 8 Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in
plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.
- 9 Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has
comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.
- 10 The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all
the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

SECOND READING Hebrews 1.1–4

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- 1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the
prophets,
- 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir
of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.
- 3 He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very
being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made
purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
- 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is
more excellent than theirs.

GOSPEL John 1.1–14

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

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.
- 4 What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.
- 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
- 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
- 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.
- 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.
- 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.
- 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,
- 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man but of God.
- 14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.



Our Eucharist for **Christmas Day** is available to attend in person or via livestream on our YouTube channel “St Michael’s Church Watford”
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8GTX0MfiICGmcDUkXTGFSw>

There will not be a 10.00am Eucharist on Thursday 29th December.

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

Duncan our Treasurer is preparing the annual accounts, and would be grateful if anyone who has outstanding bills to be paid, money to receive, or money to bring in, could do so as soon as possible.

Norma thanks everyone who has supported her Bring-&-Buy stall during this year. Her sales have raised £290 for Church funds.

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