



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

The Third Sunday Before Lent

CHRISTINGLE

Sunday 5 February 2023

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.

Our “First Sunday” service today is Christingle with Holy Communion. Hymns are: “The Christingle begins with an orange” (words inside), “He’s got the whole world in his hands” (words inside), CP396 (t.530) Christ is the world’s true light, CP 513 Lord, the light of your love is shining.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Steppingley in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea.
Christians in same-sex marriages and civil partnerships.

The World: The work of the Children’s Society.
Children who are carers.
Unaccompanied child refugees.

The Community and Parish: The children and young people of our Church family.
School and college students in Watford.
Members of our families away at college or university.

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

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found;
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 60: 1-5 a

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

GOSPEL Matthew 5: 14-16

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Hymn 1

The Christingle begins with an orange,
like the world which the Lord God made.
For creation is full of his glory;
all around we see his love displayed.

Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.

Every year we give thanks for the seasons,
and the fruits of the earth to share.
The Christingle is here to remind us
that the love of God is everywhere.

Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...

God of love, we give thanks now for Jesus;
we remember his birth again.
But the red ribbon round the Christingle
tells the story of his cross and pain.

Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...

To complete the Christingle: a candle,
telling us of the world's true light.
For the darkness shall not overcome it,
Jesus shines on in the darkest night.

Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!...

Hymn 2

He's got the whole world in his hands
He's got the whole wide world in his hands
He's got the whole world in his hands
He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got you and me brother in his
Hands he's got you and me sister in his hands
He's got you and me brother in his hands
He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got everybody here in his hands
He's got everybody here in his hands
He's got everybody here in his hands
He's got the whole world in his hands

Our service today is a Christingle service with Holy Communion and 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.

We are asking opinions from the congregation about whether a starting time of 10.00am would be more helpful. There is a sheet at the back of Church for you to let us know either way.

Lent is fast approaching! The Lent course this year will be following the theme “Jesus’ teaching for our daily lives today”.

There are several weekdays and times of day when we could meet, with the possibility of meeting in person or online.

There is a list at the back of Church on which you can express your availability. We are looking at having two sessions on the same material each week.

An apology in advance – we probably won’t be able to accommodate everybody’s wishes, so please give as wide a range of alternatives as possible.