



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MOTHERING SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 19 March 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.

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today on Mothering Sunday. We will be using the “First Sunday of the Month” service book. Hymns are 530 Now thank we all our God, 253 For the beauty of the earth, 519 Make me a channel of your peace, 468 I danced in the morning.

For your prayers this week:

1.

The Church: The Parish of Great Berkhamsted.
The Anglican Church of Southern Africa.
The work of the Mothers’ Union.

The World: One parent families.
Parents separated or estranged from their children.
Children in care.

The Community and Parish: Our Toddler Church mums, dads, grandparents and carers.
The work of our Church with families.
Our parents, living and departed.

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

The Departed:

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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 Exodus 2.1–10

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- ¹ A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.
- ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months.
- ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.
- ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

- 5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.
- 6 When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, ‘This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,’ she said.
- 7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, ‘Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?’
- 8 Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Yes.’ So the girl went and called the child’s mother.
- 9 Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, ‘Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.’ So the woman took the child and nursed it.
- 10 When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, ‘because,’ she said, ‘I drew him out of the water.’

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 2.33–35

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

- 33 The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus.
- 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed
- 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.

Our service today for Mothering 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.

A Date for your Diary

The second Annual St Michael’s Quiz will be held on Saturday 10th June, with
the questions starting at 7.30p.m.

More details to follow but please keep the date free, start recruiting your team (up
to 8 in a team) and watch all the quiz programmes you can to get into training!

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