



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 3

Sunday 23 April 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.

Hymns are: 1 Awake my soul, and with the sun (vv 1,2,3,4 and doxology), 136 Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord, 563 Rejoice, the Lord is king, 437 (t.362) Go forth and tell

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Furneaux Pelham in our Diocese.

The Church of the Province of Uganda.

The Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey.

The World: The Royal Family and everyone involved in preparations for the Coronation.

Just and compassionate treatment for asylum seekers in the UK.

A resolution to the Doctors' dispute which is fair for the Doctors and the nation.

The Community and Parish: Plans in our area for Coronation celebrations.

All those standing for election on 4th May.

Our local NHS workers.

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, Andrew Watford, and all who care for them.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:

give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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 ACTS 2.14a, 36–41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost,

¹⁴ Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd,

³⁶ 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?'

³⁸ Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.'

⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.'

⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

SECOND READING I Peter 1.17–23

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.

¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold,

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.

²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

GOSPEL Luke 24.13–35

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

- ¹³ On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,
- ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.
- ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,
- ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.
- ¹⁷ And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad.
- ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?'
- ¹⁹ Jesus asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,
- ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.
- ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.
- ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,
- ²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.
- ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.'
- ²⁵ Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!
- ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?'
- ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.
- ²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.
- ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them.
- ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.
- ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight.
- ³² They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?'
- ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.
- ³⁴ They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!'
- ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Our service today for Easter 3 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.

This afternoon, Sunday 23rd April at 3.00pm, there will be a test of the new Government emergency alert system. Users of mobile phones using 4G or 5G will receive a siren-like sound and visual notification on their mobile phones. You can find more information on <https://www.gov.uk/alerts/announcements>.

On Saturday 6th May we will be showing the Coronation in Church, and there will be a children’s workshop on that day as well. Bring your own lunch. On Sunday 7th May, there will be Coronation Cake and Fizz after Church. Also after Church on the 7th, the Vicar invites you to a “Coronation Quiche Tasting”. The Royal Family’s “Coronation Quiche” recipe is available at <https://www.royal.uk/the-coronation-quiche> but I will also be sending it out. Prepare your own “take” on the recipe – gluten free, dairy free, vegan etc, and bring it along, or just come along and share what people have made.

The pop-up sale held on Saturday 15th April raised £276.50. Many thanks to all who supported it and to Valerie Blacklock and Elizabeth Watkin for their organisation.

Church Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll will be open for revision between 23rd April and the 9th May 2023.

If you would like to be added to the Roll, please fill in an application form (to be found near the main doors to the Church). If you are on the Roll but have changed your contact details (address, telephone number or email address) in the last 12 months please contact Simon Fowle on 01923 229624 or email simon.fowle@ntlworld.com or speak to the Vicar or either of the Churchwardens. The revised Roll will be published on the 10th May 2023 and will then be closed until after the APCM which this year, is being held on Wednesday 24th May.

Simon Fowle, Church Electoral Roll Officer

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

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