



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EPIPHANY 2

Sunday 14 January 2024

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 Service today. Hymns for Sunday are: 581 Take my life and let it be, 85 Earth has many a noble city, 90 Songs of thankfulness and praise (t.1), 278 Alleluia sing to Jesus.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Flitton in our Diocese
The Church of the Province of South East Asia
Christians in politics.

The World: Victims of the Post Office miscarriage of justice
Peace with justice in the Middle East
The people of Ukraine.

The Community and Parish: Our PCC members
St Gregorios Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church
All those who rent or lease our buildings.

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

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal
of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
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 I Samuel 3.1–10

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

- ¹ The boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.
- ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room;
- ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.
- Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!'
- ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down.
- ⁶ The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.'
- ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.
- ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.
- ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
- ¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

SECOND READING Revelation 5.1–10

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ¹ I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals;
- ² and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?'
- ³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it.

4 And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll
or to look into it.

5 Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of
Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its
seven seals.'

6 Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders
a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes,
which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

7 He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the
throne.

8 When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders
fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are
the prayers of the saints.

9 They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for
you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every
tribe and language and people and nation;

10 you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will
reign on earth.'

GOSPEL John 1.43–51

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

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him,
'Follow me.'

44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in
the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.'

46 Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to
him, 'Come and see.'

47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an
Israelite in whom there is no deceit!'

48 Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw
you under the fig tree before Philip called you.'

49 Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'

50 Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig
tree? You will see greater things than these.'

51 And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the
angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Our service today 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 be no Thursday morning Eucharist this week.

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

Donations of toiletries, e.g. shower gel and deodorant (men’s and women’s), and also women’s sanitary products are needed for our Food Bank clients. Many thanks to all who give us these items.