



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sunday 10 March 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.

A warm welcome to our Service today for Mothering Sunday.

Hymns for Sunday are: 487 Jesus good above all other, HONA 206, He's got the whole world in his hands, 519 Make me a channel of your peace, 241 Sing we of the blessed mother (t.418).

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Houghton Conquest in our Diocese
The Episcopal Church (USA)
The Mothers' Union.

The World: All those who have a role in Mothering
Families struggling with parenting
All those who work supporting families.

The Community and Parish: Laurance Haines School
The Chase care home
Our Brownies.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Jean Alexander, Violet Allen-Smith, Julie Alvarez, Janet Chandler, Jemima Hill, Owen Hutchinson, Andrew Kiddle, 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

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.'

SECOND READING Colossians 3.12–17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- ¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
- ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
- ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.
- ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.
- ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL John 19.25b–27

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

- ²⁵ Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
- ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'
- ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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>

The 10.00am Eucharist each Thursday is 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.

The Church of England’s Lent theme this year is “Watch and Pray”. There are resources for daily prayer and reflection, which can be received by email, through a mobile phone app, or by using a book. There is a poster at the back, and a sample of the booklet. If you would like one of the booklets, please let me know, or if you would like help accessing the online material. There will be Lent groups on Tuesday afternoons at 2.30 in Church, and there is a sign up list at the back.

Lent Lunch and Bring and Buy Sale Saturday 16th March 11.30am – 2.00pm

Bag a bargain at Norma’s stall and then enjoy a delicious lunch of homemade soup with bread and cheese ably served by our Brownie friends. Lunch is priced at £5 per adult and £2 per child to include soup, bread, cheese, tea or coffee for adults and squash for children. Lunch served between 12 and 1.30pm.

Anyone able to offer assistance with soup making, setting up, food preparation, serving, washing up and tidying away please speak to Valerie Blacklock or contact on 07858763594.

All profits to Mission Giving Fund.