



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

LENT 5

Sunday 17 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.

Hymns for Sunday are: 398 Christ triumphant, 108 Glory be to Jesus, 308 Just as I am, 100 Ah Holy Jesus (Anthem), 598 There's a wideness in God's mercy

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Wootton in our Diocese
The Church in Wales

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

The World: All interfaith groups working to bring people of faith together
Victims of extremism and intolerance
Prisoners of conscience.

The Community and Parish: St Anthony's School
Our Toddler Group
Our PCC members.

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

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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 Jeremiah 31.31–34

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- 31 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.
33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

SECOND READING Hebrews 5.5–10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- 5 Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, ‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you’;
6 as he says also in another place, ‘You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’
7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.
8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered;
9 and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,
10 having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL John 12.20–33

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

²⁰ Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’

²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

²³ Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

²⁷ ‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – “Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.

²⁸ Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder.

Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’

³⁰ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.

³¹ Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.

³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’

³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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 are Lent groups on Tuesday afternoons at 2.30 in Church, and there is a sign-up list at the back.

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll will be open for revision from 17th March to the 7th April. If you are already on the Roll (and the current Roll is posted on the Information Board) please let me know if you have changed your address, email address or telephone number in the last 12 months.

If you are not on the Roll but are a regular communicant at St Michael’s and would like to be added to the Roll, please take an application form from the Electoral Roll box by the serving hatch or speak to me. You need to be on the Roll to be entitled to vote at our Annual Parish Church meeting on the 24th April and it also helps us, for various reasons, if we can demonstrate that we have a vibrant, growing congregation.

Simon Fowle, Electoral Roll Officer; (01923 229624)

Holy Week and Easter Services 2024

Palm Sunday 24 th March	9.30am Parish Eucharist
Monday 25 th March	7.30pm Eucharist
Tuesday 26 th March	7.30pm Eucharist
Wednesday 27 th March	7.30pm Eucharist
Maundy Thursday 28 th March	10.00am Eucharist
	7.30pm Sung Eucharist
Good Friday 29 th March	12.00pm Stations of the Cross
	2.00pm Good Friday Liturgy
Holy Saturday 30 th March	7.30pm Service of Light
Easter Sunday 31 st March	9.30am Parish Eucharist

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