



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 3

Sunday 14 April 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 services today.

Hymns for Sunday are 157: The day of resurrection, 150: Love's redeeming work is done, 152: Now is eternal life, 311: Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Sandy (Biggleswade) in our Diocese
The Church of the Province of Alexandria [northern Africa]
Making new disciples: Courage to live one's faith as a witness to others.

The World: Peace in our world
People suffering from Parkinson's Disease
All who volunteer everywhere (Global Volunteer Month).

The Community and Parish: Children returning to schools after the Easter break
Those who work to maintain Cassiobury Park
Our local police.

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, Matthew Paterson, Josephine Stadden, Catherine Stone, Fay Storey, Adelaide Tonkin, Bill Vidal, 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 3.12–19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹² Peter addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?
- ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him.
- ¹⁴ But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you,
- ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.
- ¹⁶ And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.
- ¹⁷ And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.
- ¹⁸ In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer.
- ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.’

SECOND READING I John 3.1–7

A reading from the first letter of John.

- ¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

- 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.
- 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.
- 4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.
- 5 You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.
- 6 No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.
- 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

GOSPEL Luke 24.36–48

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

- 36 While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'
- 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.
- 38 He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?
- 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'
- 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.
- 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?'
- 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
- 43 and he took it and ate in their presence.
- 44 Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'
- 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
- 46 and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,
- 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
- 48 You are witnesses of these things.'

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

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll has been revised and is now closed until the conclusion of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Wednesday April 24th.

The updated list is on the Notice Board by the main entrance to the church. To comply with confidentiality regulations this is a list of names only. If you would like to confirm what contact details we hold for you please speak to me.

We would encourage all members of the congregation to come to the APCM - but only those on the Roll will be able to vote in any elections.

Simon Fowle

Electoral Roll Officer

(01923 229624 or simon.fowle@ntlworld.com)

There will be a quiz night here on the 29th June. Please save the date. More details to follow.

The Lent Lunch raised a total of £310 including additional receipts after the day. Many thanks to all who prepared food, came to the lunch or made donations.