



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

EASTER 4

Sunday 21 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: 311 Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour, 589 The King of love, 453 Great is thy faithfulness, 598 There's a wideness.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Bishops Stortford in our Diocese
The Anglican Church in Australia
The Church in Gaza.

The World: Peace in the Middle East
Peace in Ukraine
Peace in Yemen.

The Community and Parish: Our Annual Meetings
Our Church Officers
Our Church volunteers.

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 God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 4.5–12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 5 The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem,
6 with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.
7 When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, ‘By what power or by what name did you do this?’
8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, ‘Rulers of the people and elders,
9 if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed,
10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.
11 This Jesus is “the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.”
12 There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.’

SECOND READING I John 3.16–24

A reading from the first letter of John.

- 16 We know love by this, that the Son of God laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.
17 How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?
18 Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.
19 And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him

- 20 whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.
- 21 Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God;
- 22 and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases God.
- 23 And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
- 24 All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL John 10.11–18

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

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

- 11 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
- 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.
- 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.
- 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
- 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.
- 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.
- 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
- 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

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

Annual Church Meetings

The annual Vestry Meeting will be held in Church on Wednesday 26th April, commencing at 7.30pm, followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) at 7.45pm on the same day.

Copies of the Annual Report have been circulated by email where we have email addresses; hard copies will be available on request as soon as we have a working photocopier

All members of the congregation are encouraged to join both meetings.

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.

Only those on the Roll will be able to vote during the APCM.

Simon Fowle

Electoral Roll Officer

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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.