

# King Charles the Martyr Church, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar

21st Edition

**MICHAEL'S MESSAGES**

Easter 2006

Dear KCM Member,

**Easter** is a time of hope and renewal and I hope that your Easter will be blessed for you. Thank you to everyone who has played his or her part in the worship during this past Holy Week.

## **A miscellany of various matters!**

**The Church Annual Meeting** is always an interesting – some would say enjoyable – evening. It is your chance to come and hear about what has been going on in the life of the Church over the past year. Held on **Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>**, it begins at **7.45pm** – and will include a buffet supper. It is always good to have as many people present as possible and I hope you will make it a priority. During the meeting we will be electing new members of the Church Council. If you would like to play a part in the running of our Church, why not offer yourself for election as a Church Council member? Full details are given in the weekly Notice Sheet.

**The new Church Council** will be holding its Annual Away afternoon on May 6<sup>th</sup>. We will be working on creating a series of long-term aims and challenges, partly to prepare for the visit of the Barnet Deanery Pastoral Committee in June and also to enable the PCC to formulate a strategy for the coming years.

**The Church heating system** will be replaced during the Summer – probably some time in August. The work should take the inside of a week. We will also be improving the heating to the two vestries and the quiet room. This work will result in both lower running costs and a considerably warmer church building.

**The Ceilings in the two halls** will be lowered to improve the sound insulation between the floors and also to reduce the resonance in the halls, which at present can make conversation difficult. This work will take place during August so the downstairs part of the building will be out of action for some 2/3 weeks during this time.

These crucial improvements to our buildings have been carefully budgeted for by the Church Council and will come from the reserve accounts for the Church and Hall respectively.

**As you all now know, the day to day running costs of the Church** are not being met at present – so please do not forget to reflect carefully and prayerfully on the recent letter, leaflet and sermon on the subject of our Stewardship and do take action today if you can respond to enable us to continue to pay our way, as we have been able to do each year until recently. Please do act on this important matter if you possibly can so that we can move forward as a Church, knowing that our financial worries are at an end.

**The Royal Martyr Church Union**, which provided half the funding for the building of our Church in the 1930s, celebrates its Centenary in 2006. There is a planned afternoon visit to Lambeth Palace on **Tuesday 30 May**, from 2.00pm – 5.15pm, to which all will be welcome. Please take a form today and send it to the RMCU Secretary to book your place. All are welcome. Nearer the time we will put people in touch with each other so that transport plans by train can be co-ordinated – though it will not be possible to arrange coach transport to London on this occasion.

**Social Events** are always enjoyed by members of the Church and wider community. If you would like to organise an event, please let us know. Our next **Quiz Night** will be held on **Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup>** – and plans are beginning to be put into place for the **Christmas Bazaar**, to be held on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November**.

**The Church** is now open most weekday mornings and we are always glad when people drop in to sit in quiet and say a prayer. We are particularly delighted that they now have the opportunity to light a candle and sit in comfortable chairs – thanks to the generosity of Sue Loader and the late Nora Hipgrave respectively. Please do not forget to welcome and encourage anyone who wishes to use our building as a house of prayer.

**Weekday Services** – a short service of Morning Prayer is held at 9.15am on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays – with Holy Communion celebrated each Tuesday at 10am and each Thursday at 9.15am. All are warmly welcome to these services.

**We are still looking for Musicians** to join the Music Group, which provides music at 11am. Don't be shy about offering your talents! We would particularly welcome another keyboard player to supplement those who provide our music week after week.

**Trevor Alexander** has recently offered himself to train for Reader Ministry and I am delighted to say that the Bishop of Hertford and the Diocesan Readers Selection Panel have approved this. We pray for Trevor as he begins his training – and also pray for Peter Sansom as he continues his.

*This letter comes with my prayers, good wishes and continued thanks for the part so many of you generously play in the life of our Church at KCM – and a very Happy Easter to you all.*

