



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

**22 June 2014**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and Violet Allen-Smith preaches. Pat Beach leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 543 (i), 533, 581 and 627 (t227)**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

Open Planning meeting for Christmas Fair at 11.15am (see Notices).

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church

1.00pm – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer is at 6.00pm.

---

## **For your prayers this week:**

**The Church:** The parish of Kensworth in our Diocese.  
The Church of Nigeria; Nicholas Okoh - Metropolitan & Primate of all Nigeria & Bishop of Abuja.  
The work of Us in Britain and Ireland.

**The World:** The people of Iraq.  
People engaged in Adult Learning.  
Prevention of accidents to children.

**The Community and Parish:** All couples preparing for marriage in our Church.  
A blessing on our planning for our Christmas Fair.  
Fr Geoff and Fr George.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Bruce Alexander, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Pamela Cutler, Audrey Dixon, Sandra Fullerton, Jenny Houghton, Owen Hutchinson, Audrey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Audrey Morgan, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O’Riordan, Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Pauline White and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:**

---

**Collect**

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 Genesis 21.8–21**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- 8 The child Isaac grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.
- 9 But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac.
- 10 So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.'
- 11 The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son.
- 12 But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you.
- 13 As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.'
- 14 So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.
- 15 When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes.
- 16 Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept.
- 17 And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is.
- 18 Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.'
- 19 Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.
- 20 God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow.
- 21 He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

**SECOND READING Romans 6.1b–11**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 1 Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound?

2 By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it?  
3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized  
into his death?  
4 Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ  
was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness  
of life.  
5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with  
him in a resurrection like his.  
6 We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be  
destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin.  
7 For whoever has died is freed from sin.  
8 But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.  
9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer  
has dominion over him.  
10 The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.  
11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

## **GOSPEL Matthew 10.24–39**

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

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction:

24 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master;  
25 it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they  
have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those  
of his household!  
26 So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and  
nothing secret that will not become known.  
27 What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim  
from the housetops.  
28 Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can  
destroy both soul and body in hell.  
29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground  
unperceived by your Father.  
30 And even the hairs of your head are all counted.  
31 So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.  
32 Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge  
before my Father in heaven;  
33 but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.  
34 Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring  
peace, but a sword.  
35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and  
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;  
36 and one's foes will be members of one's own household.  
37 Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever  
loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;  
38 and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.  
39 Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find  
it.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	23	June	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	25	June	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30-12 noon
Thur	26	June	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	28	June	Wedding	12.30pm
Sun	29	June	<b><u>St PETER and St PAUL</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Revd Guy Buckler)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President and Preacher: Revd Guy Buckler)	
			<b>followed by a Bring-&amp;-Buy Sale</b>	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## NOTICES

TODAY AT 11.15am: Open meeting about Christmas Fair 2014. Bring your ideas for brainstorming. Lots of help needed; contributions from everyone welcome, crafters, caterers, DIY'ers (can we find a way to make some stalls?), stall holders, games, activities, decorations, publicity.

PCC COMMITTEES: there are handouts available to explain the various PCC Committees. There are sign-up lists at the back of Church for people to sign to join any of these committees.

WE ARE PREPARING story bags for use in Sunday School, and we would be grateful if anyone would like to sew up a drawstring bag or two. Further details on size, materials, construction etc from Jane Talbot

FINAL COPY DATE for July Sword is today. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to [robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk)

MAINTENANCE WORK: From time to time there is a need for small maintenance jobs to be done in the church. Is anyone willing to have their name put on a list of people who would be willing to be approached to see if they could tackle any such work? It may be that you know someone whom you ask to do work at your home. If so would you be willing to give their contact details. Kristine Jenkins would like to hear from anyone who could help.

FOOD BANK: Don't forget that we are still collecting food as well as acting as a distribution centre. There is a list at the back of church of the items of food that can be included in the parcels. If you would like to donate any of these items please bring them to church and put them in the box at the west end.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Saturday, 2 August St Michael's Parish Quiet Day at Burnham Abbey. See June *Sword*.

Monday, 25 August St Albans Diocese celebrating 100 years of service at a day of fun and praise at The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe.