



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 4
13 July 2014

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist the Rev'd Mary Kingsley celebrates and preaches. Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 612, 321, 534 (t.424) and 443 **Setting: Aston**

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

There is NO 11.15 Service today.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea The Rt Revd Clyde Igara Archbishop elect of Papua New Guinea & Bishop of Dogura .
The work of the Anglican Church in Zambia in protecting women and children.

(Sea Sunday) The work of the Missions to Seafarers.

The World: Awareness of disability.
All seafarers and their families.
The protection of marine life..

The Community and Parish: Our Mothers' Union Members.
Clergy and readers in the Watford Deanery.

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, 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 protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:

increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 25.19–34

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- ¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac,
²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean.
²¹ Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived.
²² The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the LORD.
²³ And the LORD said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.'
²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb.
²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau.
²⁶ Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.
²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents.
²⁸ Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.
²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished.
³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.)
³¹ Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.'
³² Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?'
³³ Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.
³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

SECOND READING Romans 8.1–11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ¹ There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.
³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

4 so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.
6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.
7 For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot,
8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.
10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.1–9, 18–23

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

1 Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake.
2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.
3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow.
4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.
5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.
6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.
7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.
8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
9 Let anyone with ears listen!
18 Hear then the parable of the sower.
19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.
20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.
22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.
23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	14	July	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	16	July	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30-12 noon
Thur	17	July	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	20	July	<u>TRINITY 5</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Rev'd David Tuck)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Rev'd David Tuck)	
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			Messy Church	2.30 – 4.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

WE OFFER OUR CONGRATULATIONS to Paul and Kristine on their Wedding Anniversary today.

URGENT: now that Sunday School is operating, we are in need of story bags as soon as possible. We would be grateful if anyone would like to sew up a drawstring bag or two. The size, colour etc of the bags doesn't matter please. Clean shoe bags, that are not required any more are also suitable. Further details on construction etc from Jane Talbot

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 pay 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.

BRING-&-BUY: Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the June sale which raised £69.50. Please note that the July sale will be one week early on 20 July.

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* and sign list at the back of the church.

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