



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 6
27 July 2014

Welcome back to our travellers from Kenya. A warm welcome to our services today. At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and Violet Allen-Smith preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 445, 600, 182 (i) and 622

Setting: Aston

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane au Rwanda The Most Revd Dr Onesphore Rwaje Archbishop of L'Eglise Episcopal au Rwanda and Bishop of Gasabo.

The Us-supported Bishop Gaul College training priests in Zimbabwe.

The World: Sufferers from Hepatitis and all at risk.

All who care for our parks.

Peace in the Middle East.

The Community and Parish: Andy and Pat Benoy on their wedding yesterday.

Watford Interfaith Association.

Our PCC members.

Our Parish Quiet Day.

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

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding;

pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 29.15–28

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- 15 Laban said to Jacob, 'Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?'
- 16 Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel.
- 17 Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful.
- 18 Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, 'I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.'
- 19 Laban said, 'It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.'
- 20 So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.
- 21 Then Jacob said to Laban, 'Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.'
- 22 So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast.
- 23 But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her.
- 24 (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.)
- 25 When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, 'What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?'
- 26 Laban said, 'This is not done in our country – giving the younger before the firstborn.
- 27 Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.'
- 28 Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

SECOND READING Romans 8.26–39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 26 The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
- 27 And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
- 28 We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.
30 And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.
31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?
32 He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?
33 Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.
34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.
35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
36 As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'
37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height,
39 nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.31–33, 44–52

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

31 Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;
32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'
33 He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.
34 The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
35 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
36 on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.
37 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;
38 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.
39 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous
40 and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
41 Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.'
42 And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	28	July	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	29	July	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	30	July	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30-12 noon
Thur	31	July	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	2	Aug	(St Michael's Parish Quiet Day at Burnham Abbey)	
Sun	3	Aug	<u>TRINITY 7</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	
			United Service at St Michael's	6.00pm

NOTICES

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.

FINAL COPY DATE for August Sword is today, Sunday 27 July. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk

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.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

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