



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**TRINITY 9**

**17 August 2014**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 498, 449, 475 and 170**

**Setting: Aston**

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

NO Messy Church today.

The Six O'Clock Series service at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Pirton in our Diocese.  
The Church of South India (United) The Most Revd Gnanasigamony Devakadasham Moderator.

The Christian people of Iraq.

**The World:** The Yazidi people of Iraq.

All those threatened by the Ebola virus.

The Al Ahli hospital in Gaza, supported by Us (USPG).

**The Community and Parish:** Residents and staff at the Chase Care Centre.

James Seabrook and Melanie Hoad, preparing for marriage.

The work of the Watford New Hope Trust.

**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:** Bill Barrow.

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**Collect**

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace;  
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 45.1–15**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup> Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, ‘Send everyone away from me.’ So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.

<sup>2</sup> And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, ‘I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?’ But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, ‘Come closer to me.’ And they came closer. He said, ‘I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

<sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.

<sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest.

<sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.

<sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

<sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, “Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay.

<sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

<sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there – since there are five more years of famine to come – so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.”

<sup>12</sup> And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you.

<sup>13</sup> You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.’

<sup>14</sup> Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck.

<sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

## **SECOND READING Romans 11.1–2a, 29–32**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- <sup>1</sup> I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.  
<sup>2</sup> God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.  
<sup>29</sup> For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.  
<sup>30</sup> Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience,  
<sup>31</sup> so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy.  
<sup>32</sup> For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

## **GOSPEL Matthew 15.10–28**

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

- <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, 'Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.'  
<sup>12</sup> Then the disciples approached and said to him, 'Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?'  
<sup>13</sup> He answered, 'Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.  
<sup>14</sup> Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.'  
<sup>15</sup> But Peter said to him, 'Explain this parable to us.'  
<sup>16</sup> Then he said, 'Are you also still without understanding?  
<sup>17</sup> Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?  
<sup>18</sup> But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles.  
<sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander.  
<sup>20</sup> These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.'  
<sup>21</sup> Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.  
<sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.'  
<sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.'  
<sup>24</sup> He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.'  
<sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.'  
<sup>26</sup> He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.'  
<sup>27</sup> She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.'  
<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	18	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	19	Aug	Service at the Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
Wed	20	Aug	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30-12 noon
			Wedding rehearsal	8.00pm
Thur	21	Aug	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
Sat	23	Aug	Wedding of James Seabrook and Melanie Hoad	1.30pm
Sun	24	Aug	<b><u>ST BARTHOLOMEW</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President: Fr Geoff and Preacher: Martin Heath)	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1 -5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## NOTICES

THE LEPROSY MISSION is wanting to appoint a Regional Fundraising Co-ordinator. If you or anyone you know is interested please see Pat Beach. Applications have to be in by the end of August

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.

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:

Monday, 25 August St Albans Diocese celebrating 100 years of service at a day of fun and praise at The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe. The Watford Deanery is arranging a coach to go to Keysoe for this day. If you would like to know more about this, please see Fr Geoff as soon as possible.

Saturday, 13 September Historic Churches Sponsored Bike 'n Hike - volunteers needed for cycling, walking, and manning the church. Coffee morning in aid of The Children's Society, 10.30-12 noon.