



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**HOLY CROSS DAY**

**14 September 2014**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Sylvia Moring leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 380, 480, 432 and 125**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

(NO 11.15 service)

There is Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm..

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

**The Church:** The Parish of St Andrew Woodside in our Diocese.  
The Anglican Church of Tanzania The Most Revd Jacob Erasto Chimeledya Archbishop of Tanzania & Bishop of Mpwapwa.  
Christian Schools, Hospitals and Orphanages in the Holy Land.

**The World:** The search for Peace in the Holy Land.  
Wisdom for all involved in the Scottish Independence referendum.  
People suffering from dementia.

**The Community and Parish:** Our Mothers' Union Members.  
The planning group for "Celebration 2015".  
Our visitors from Swaziland and their hosts.

**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, Pam Jennings, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Audrey Morgan, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Karen Stride and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

Almighty God,  
who in the passion of your blessed Son  
made an instrument of painful death  
to be for us the means of life and peace:  
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ  
that we may gladly suffer for his sake;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Numbers 21.4–9**

A reading from the book of Numbers.

- <sup>4</sup> The Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.
- <sup>5</sup> The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.'
- <sup>6</sup> Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.
- <sup>7</sup> The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people.
- <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.'
- <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

## **SECOND READING Philippians 2.6–11**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

<sup>6</sup> Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.  
<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## **GOSPEL John 3.13–17**

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

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

<sup>13</sup> ‘No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.  
<sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,  
<sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.  
<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.  
<sup>17</sup> Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	15	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	17	Sep	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30 - 12 noon
Thur	18	Sep	<i>Swaziland Choir arriving</i>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			attended by Mothers' Union and followed by coffee	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	21	Sep	<b><u>St MATTHEW/TRINITY 14 – World Peace Day</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President Fr George and Preacher Fr Geoff)	
			Messy Church	11.15am
			Rehearsal for African Choir	2.30 - 5.30pm
			Concert and play (see Notices)	7.30pm

## NOTICES

ON NEXT SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER we have the Possible Dreams International Choir visiting from Swaziland. They will be joining us at the 09.30 service and at Messy Church. There will be an opportunity for church members to meet and talk with the choir after the 9.30 service. Messy Church starts at 11.15 am and the visiting choir will be joining in that. All church members are welcome to stay.

At 7.30 pm the Possible Dreams International Choir will be giving a concert to be followed by a play “Snuffnuff’s Emporium” performed by Nuworks theatre from Australia who are supporting them. Tickets only cost £5 from Elizabeth or Jane Talbot. Please see flyers at the back of the church and/or see Jane Talbot for more details.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

25-28 September: Flower Festival at St Albans Cathedral at which St Michael's will have a display near the Altar. See September *Sword*.

28th September: Parish Lunch, 12.00 noon, tickets £7.00, you can buy one for yourself and buy another to give to a friend or give to the vicar for someone needy. See the Churchwardens Kristine Jenkins or Violet Allen-Smith  
Choral Evensong at 6.00 pm

5th October: Harvest Thanksgiving at 9.30 am; United Service here at 6.00 pm.

Beginning 6th October 2.30 pm or 7th October, 8.00 pm: alternative monthly get-togethers for “Discovering the Bible”. Venue tba.