



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**ST MATTHEW - World Peace Day  
21 September 2014**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr George celebrates and Fr Geoff preaches. Paul Chandler leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: Special booklet**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

Messy Church at 11.15 am (all welcome).

We welcome the Possible Dreams International Choir visiting from Swaziland. They will be joining us at the 09.30 service and at Messy Church. At 7.30 pm they will be giving a concert to be followed by a play “Snuffuff’s Emporium” performed by Nuworks theatre from Australia who are supporting them.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Mill End and Herongate with West Hyde in our Diocese.  
The Church of the Province of Uganda The Most Revd Stanley Ntagali  
Archbishop of Uganda & and Bishop of Kampala.

The work of Us in South Africa.

**The World:** Peace in all the strife-torn areas of our world.

Refugees and all victims of civil war and unrest.

All aid workers in war torn countries.

**The Community and Parish:** Our friends from Swaziland and Australia.

Our Churchwardens and parish officers.

The people who are working on our building.

**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**

O Almighty God,  
whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector  
to be an apostle and evangelist:  
give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive  
love of riches  
that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Proverbs 3.13–18**

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- <sup>13</sup> Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding,  
<sup>14</sup> for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold.  
<sup>15</sup> She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can  
compare with her.  
<sup>16</sup> Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour.  
<sup>17</sup> Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.  
<sup>18</sup> She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her  
fast are called happy.

**SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4.1–6**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

- <sup>1</sup> Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do  
not lose heart.  
<sup>2</sup> We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to  
practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement  
of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in  
the sight of God.  
<sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are  
perishing.

- <sup>4</sup> In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- <sup>5</sup> For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.
- <sup>6</sup> For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **GOSPEL Matthew 9.9-13**

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

- <sup>9</sup> As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.
- <sup>10</sup> And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples.
- <sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?'
- <sup>12</sup> But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.
- <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	22	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	23	Sep	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	24	Sep	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30 - 12 noon
Thur	25	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	28	Sep	<b><u>MICHAELMAS</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President and Preacher : Fr Geoff)	
			Parish Lunch	12 noon
			(Rehearsal for Choral Evensong)	4.00pm)
			<b>CHORAL EVENSONG</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>

## **NOTICES**

TODAY SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> 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.

There is Jam on sale at the back of the church to raise money for Possible Dreams International and New Hope.

FINAL COPY DATE for October Sword is today, Sunday 21 September Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to [robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk)

### 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

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.