



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**MICHAELMAS**  
**28 September 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: Leaflet, 245 (i), 466 and 377**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

Parish Lunch at 12 noon.

There is Choral Evensong at 6.00 pm..

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Clapham (Sharnbrook Deanery) in our Diocese.  
Episcopal Church of the USA: The Most Revd Katharine Jefferts Schori Presiding Bishop.

The work of Us with the Anglican Church in Malawi.

**The World:** The people of Syria and Iraq.

All refugees and stateless people.

The fight against the spread of the Ebola virus in West Africa.

**The Community and Parish:** . Our Church family at St Michael's.

Everyone who regards St Michael's as their Church.

Our future mission and ministry in West Watford.

**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**

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; 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 28.10–17**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>10</sup> Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.

<sup>11</sup> He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.

<sup>12</sup> And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

<sup>13</sup> And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;

<sup>14</sup> and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.

<sup>15</sup> Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

<sup>16</sup> Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!'

<sup>17</sup> And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

## **SECOND READING Revelation 12.7–12**

A reading from the book of Revelation.

<sup>7</sup> War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back,  
<sup>8</sup> but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.

<sup>9</sup> The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

<sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

<sup>11</sup> But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.

<sup>12</sup> Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!’

## **GOSPEL John 1.47–51**

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

<sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, ‘Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!’

<sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked him, ‘Where did you come to know me?’ Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.’

<sup>49</sup> Nathanael replied, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’

<sup>50</sup> Jesus answered, ‘Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.’

<sup>51</sup> And he said to him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	29	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	1	Oct	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30 - 12 noon
Thur	2	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	5	Oct	<b><u>HARVEST</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President and Preacher : Fr Geoff)	
			United Evening Service at Trinity Methodist	6.30pm

## NOTICES

PARISH LUNCH: Please help set up the tables and chairs after the 9.30 service.

CHORAL EVENSONG is at 6 pm this evening. Please come, and encourage your friends and neighbours to come as well. Refreshments will be served after the service.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING 5 October 2014. At the 9.30 service we will be having a cash collection which will go to the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal which will go to Christian Aid to support the teaching of literacy to women in Egypt (see September *Sword*). There will also be a collection of dried food items which will be given to the Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Project.

TRINITY METHODIST HARVEST SUPPER will be on Monday 6 October at 7 for 7.15 pm. Tickets from Fr Geoff.

RAFFLE FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR (29 NOVEMBER 2014)

If you work for a local business or know someone who does please see Sue Ellison or Elizabeth Watkin to talk about getting prize donations.

WATFORD SCHOOLS TRUST invite everyone to a Harvest Themed Celebration together with their AGM at 7.30pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at St Luke's Church. Apple pie and cream will be served – just a small donation to cover the cost of this. RSVP to [info@watfordschoolstrust.org](mailto:info@watfordschoolstrust.org).

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

Beginning 6th October 2.30 pm or 7th October, 8.00 pm: alternative monthly get-togethers for "Discovering the Bible" to be held at the Vicarage. There will be no need to take a Bible.