



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 17
12 October 2014

A warm welcome to our services today.

The Week of Prayer for World Peace for 2014 is 12th - 19th October and this year is WPWP's 40th Anniversary!

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and there is a visiting preacher from "Mercy Ships". Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 502 (omit *s), 563, 482 and 299

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1 - 5 pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Pavenham (Sharnbrook Deanery) in our Diocese.
The Church of the Province of West Africa, Solomon Tilewa Johnson, Primate.

The work of Us with the Church in Tanzania.

The World: World Peace.

The work of Mercy Ships.

All those threatened by the Ebola outbreak.

The Community and Parish: The Mothers' Union.

Chater Infants School.

Our PCC members.

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: Peter William Nash.

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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 Exodus 32.1–14

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- ¹ When the people of Israel saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, ‘Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’
- ² Aaron said to them, ‘Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’
- ³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron.
- ⁴ He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’
- ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD.’
- ⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.
- ⁷ The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;
- ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”’
- ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are.
- ¹⁰ Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’
- ¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, ‘O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?
- ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.
- ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.”’
- ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

SECOND READING Philippians 4.1–9

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- 1 My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.
- 2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.
- 3 Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- 4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
- 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.
- 6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
- 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- 8 Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.
- 9 Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.1–14

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

- 1 Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying:
- 2 ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.
- 3 He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come.
- 4 Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.”
- 5 But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,
- 6 while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them.
- 7 The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.
- 8 Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.
- 9 Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.”
- 10 Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.
- 11 But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,
- 12 and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless.
- 13 Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”
- 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.’

THIS WEEK

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|------|----|-----|---|-----------------|
| Mon | 13 | Oct | Chater Infants Harvest Celebration | 9.15am |
| | | | Toddlers' Group | 10 – 11.30am |
| Wed | 15 | Oct | Coffee in Church and Food Bank | 10.30 - 12 noon |
| | | | PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL | 7.55pm |
| Thur | 16 | Oct | Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) | 10.00am |
| | | | attended by Mothers' Union | |
| | | | followed by Coffee for all in Choir Vestry | 10.45am |
| | | | Choir Practice | 7.00 – 8.30pm |
| Sun | 19 | Oct | <u>TRINITY 18</u> | |
| | | | <i>Last day of the Week of Prayer for World Peace and the first day of One World Week</i> | |
| | | | Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) | 8.00am |
| | | | SUNG EUCHARIST | 9.30am |
| | | | (President and Preacher: Fr George) | |
| | | | Messy Church | 11.15am |
| | | | NO evening service at St Michael's tonight | |
| | | | Evening Service at Friends' Meeting House for Week of Prayer for World Peace (time to be announced) | |

NOTICES

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.

THURSDAY, 16 OCTOBER On the third Thursday of the month coffee and tea will be served in the Choir Vestry after the 10.00 am Service of Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to join in the service and then have a drink and biscuits or just come to the coffee morning which will start at approximately 10.45 am.

RADLETT CHORAL SOCIETY will be giving their next concert at St Michael's on Saturday, 8 November, at 7.30 pm. They will be performing Handel's Judas Maccabaeus with orchestral accompaniment by the London Handel Concert. Tickets are £12 obtainable from 01923 226836/243545.

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.