



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

BIBLE SUNDAY
(Last Sunday after Trinity)
26 October 2014

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. John Adams leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 584 (T.357), 321, 267 and 497

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.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00 pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Yelden in the Sharnbrook Deanery of our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Ceylon.
All persecuted Christians.

The World: The fight to contain the Spread of Ebola.
The people of Canada.
The fight against all preventable disease in poorer countries.

The Community and Parish: People who serve on our PCC committees.
Our Organist and Choir.
Children and staff of our local schools.

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, Betty Westney and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Nehemiah 8.1–4a, 8–12

A reading from the book of Nehemiah.

- ¹ All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.
- ² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month.
- ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.
- ⁴ The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose;
- ⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.
- ⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.
- ¹⁰ Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'
- ¹¹ So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, 'Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.'
- ¹² And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

SECOND READING Colossians 3.12–17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- ¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
- ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
- ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.
- ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.
- ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL Matthew 24.30–35

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

- ³⁰ 'The sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory.
- ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.
- ³² From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.
- ³³ So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates.
- ³⁴ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.
- ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	27	Oct	<i>Half Term Week</i>	
			Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			Estates Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Tue	28	Oct	Publicity Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Wed	29	Oct	Coffee in Church and Food Bank	10.30 - 12 noon
			Social Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Thur	30	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	31	Oct	(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	6.00 – 11.00pm)
Sat	1	Nov	<u>ALL SAINTS DAY</u>	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	9.00am – 12 noon)
Sun	2	Nov	<u>Fourth Sunday before Advent</u>	
			<u>ALL SOULS DAY</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			MEMORIAL SERVICE	
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	9.30am
			Names of the recently departed will be read and candles lit	
			All Souls Eucharist and reading of Chantry List	6.00pm

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.

HELP FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR Help needed from EVERYONE! Please sign up at the back of church to run a stall, serve lunches and refreshments, move furniture, set up stalls and tables, or clearing up afterwards. Please contact Kristine on 07572601529 or jenkinskristine@hotmail.com. This is an important occasion when we open our doors to all the community and aim to raise money to help to pay our 'household' bills.

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 Consort. Tickets are £12 obtainable from 01923 226836/243545.

FINAL COPY DATE for November Sword is today, Sunday 26 October. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk

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.