



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 2
14 June 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches. Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 591, 321, 516 (ii) and 153

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Billington (Dunstable Deanery) in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Okigwe (Nigeria): Edward Osuegbu its Bishop
and all its People.

The work of the Church with poor people in the Philippines.

The World: People subjected to forced marriages.

People suffering from diabetes.

The work of the RSPCA.

The Community and Parish: The work of the Mothers' Union.

The work of Mission in St Michael's.

People preparing for Marriage at St Michael's.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Sonia Anderson,
Tina Bennett, Janet Bridge, Jean and Robert Caton, Peter Coley,
Marion Craddock-Jones, Pamela Cutler, Audrey Dixon, Claire
Dunning, Sandra Fullerton, Sharon Goodwin, Jenny Houghton,
Audrey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch,
Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Mark Pritchard,
Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Karen Stride, and Anne
Wightman.

The Departed: Audrey Morgan, (Iola Bilson's mother).

Collect

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.

Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING I Samuel 15.34 – 16.13

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

- ³⁴ Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul.
- ³⁵ Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.
- ¹ The LORD said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'
- ² Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the LORD said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the LORD."'
- ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.'
- ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?'
- ⁵ He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
- ⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD.'
- ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.'
- ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the LORD chosen this one.'
- ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the LORD chosen this one.'
- ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The LORD has not chosen any of these.'
- ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.'
- ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.'

¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5.6–10, 14–17

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians. Brothers and sisters,

⁶ we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord –

⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight.

⁸ Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

¹⁰ For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴ The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.

¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL Mark 4.26–34

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he got into a boat and began to teach them using many parables.

²⁶ Jesus said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,
²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.

²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.

²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.’

³⁰ Jesus also said, ‘With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?

³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth;

³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.’

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it;
³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

THIS WEEK

Mon	15	June	Toddlers' Group	10.00am – 11.30am
Tue	16	June	Mission Committee (Clergy Vestry)	10.00am – 11.00am
Wed	17	June	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	18	June	Holy Communion	10.00am
			followed by coffee in Choir Vestry	
			Choir Practice	<i>to be announced</i>
Sun	21	June	TRINITY 3	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST Sunday School	9.30am
			President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	
			Messy Church	11.15am – 12.45pm
			Baptism	2.30pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

ARCHBISHOP JUSTIN WELBY will be at St Albans Cathedral on Thursday 18th June from 7.15pm, to speak to clergy, lay ministers, ordinands and congregation members. Archbishop Justin will draw on his experience and life as he explores the wells which sustain his faith in his demanding role. The evening will include some “mingling”, Archbishop Justin’s talk, and compline. Anyone who would like to go, please let Fr Geoff know as soon as possible, preferably today!

THE BIG LUNCH at St Michael's last Sunday was very successful and much enjoyed by those who came. Thank you to all people who contributed to it in any way.

FINAL COPY DATE for the July edition of SWORD should be in the hands of the Editor by next Sunday, 21 June. Please submit copy or email to

robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk

VERY ADVANCE DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: This year's Christmas Fair will be on SATURDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2015 - please put it in your diary and tell anyone you know who usually comes.