



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**TRINITY 8**  
**26 July 2015**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 277, 413, 308 (i) and 455**

Refreshments 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.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Stanstead Abbots in our Diocese.  
The Diocese of Quebec, Dennis Drainville its bishop and all its people.

The work of Us with the worldwide Church.

**The World:** Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family.

Member of our Armed Forces.

The protection of the marine environment.

**The Community and Parish:** The work of Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy.

The work of Watford Schools Trust.

The work of New Hope.

**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:** Barbara Cooper.

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**Collect**

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul;  
through our Lord and 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 2 Samuel 11.1–15**

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

- 1 In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.
- 2 It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful.
- 3 David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.'
- 4 So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house.
- 5 The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'
- 6 So David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David.
- 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going.
- 8 Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king.
- 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house.
- 10 When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house,' David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?'
- 11 Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.'
- 12 Then David said to Uriah, 'Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day,
- 13 David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.
- 14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.
- 15 In the letter he wrote, 'Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.'

**SECOND READING Ephesians 3.14–21**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

14 I bow my knees before the Father,  
15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name.  
16 I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened  
in your inner being with power through his Spirit,  
17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and  
grounded in love.  
18 I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth  
and length and height and depth,  
19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all  
the fullness of God.  
20 Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more  
than all we can ask or imagine,  
21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **GOSPEL John 6.1-21**

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

1 Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias.  
2 A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.  
3 Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples.  
4 Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near.  
5 When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where  
are we to buy bread for these people to eat?'  
6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.  
7 Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to  
get a little.'  
8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Jesus,  
9 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so  
many people?'  
10 Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so  
they sat down, about five thousand in all.  
11 Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who  
were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.  
12 When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that  
nothing may be lost.'  
13 So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those  
who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.  
14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the  
prophet who is to come into the world.'  
15 When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king,  
he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.  
16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake,  
17 got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had  
not yet come to them.  
18 The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing.  
19 When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and  
coming near the boat, and they were terrified.  
20 But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.'  
21 Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land  
towards which they were going.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	27	July	Toddlers' Group	10.00am – 11.30am
			Funeral in Church	1.15pm
Wed	29	July	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			<b>PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	7.55pm
Thu	30	July	Holy Communion	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	2	Aug	<b>TRINITY 9</b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	
			United Evening Service at Trinity Methodist	6.30pm

## NOTICES

SERVICES: We are hoping to learn together, as a whole congregation, a new musical setting for the Eucharist. We are aiming to have the first run through after the service on 2nd August, so if you could be prepared to stay a few minutes after the service on that day, we would be very grateful.

There is available a flier to let us know some of your favourite hymns so that we can include them in Sunday morning worship. There is a box for your completed flier at the back of church.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: There will be a garden party on the afternoon of Sunday, 2 August at 2.30 pm. Pam Hart has very kindly offered her garden at 127 Parkside Drive for this event. If you are able to bring something to be added to the food for the occasion please see Sue Ellison. It would be helpful to know how many people are coming to the garden party and who could give lifts and who would like a lift. Please sign the appropriate list at the back of the church so that we can make arrangements.

FINAL COPY DATE for August Sword is today Sunday 26 July. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to [robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:robwhite.watford@tiscali.co.uk). Items welcome from church members of any age.

### VERY ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

HERITAGE OPEN DAY, the HERTS AND BEDS SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE, and a COFFEE MORNING in aid of THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY will be on Saturday, 12 September. St Michael's has recently received a grant from the Herts & Beds Historic Churches to help with the cost of our building work so we hope members of our church will be able to cycle or walk or work in the church and raise sponsorship money for this worthy cause.

MICHAELMAS will be celebrated on Sunday, 27th and Tuesday, 29th September.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING will be on Sunday, 4 October.

This year's CHRISTMAS FAIR will be on Saturday, 28 November 2015.

St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010