



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 9
2 August 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 418, 321, 555 and 505

Setting: Rawsthorne

Refreshments will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

United Evening Service at Trinity Methodist 6.30pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

Mental Health Chaplains.

The Diocese of Renk (Sudan): Joseph Garang Atem its bishop and all its people.

The work of the United Society with the worldwide Church.

The World:

A just and constructive solution to the situation of migrants in Calais.

Jewish people facing anti-Semitism.

Students leaving Universities and Colleges with high debt.

The Community and Parish:

Our parish garden party.

Anyone preparing for major treatment or operations.

A deeper understanding of the Bible.

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:

Collect

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church:
 open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in
 love and joy and peace;
 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 2 Samuel 11.26 – 12.13a

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

- ²⁶ When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him.
²⁷ When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his
 wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD,
¹ The LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men
 in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor.
² The rich man had very many flocks and herds;
³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it
 up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink
 from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him.
⁴ Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock
 or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's
 lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.'
⁵ Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the LORD
 lives, the man who has done this deserves to die;
⁶ he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.'
⁷ Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed
 you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul;
⁸ I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the
 house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much
 more.
⁹ Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have
 struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and
 have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.
¹⁰ Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me,
 and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.
¹¹ Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I
 will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with
 your wives in the sight of this very sun.
¹² For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.'
¹³ David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.' Nathan said to David, 'Now the
 LORD has put away your sin; you shall not die.'

SECOND READING Ephesians 4.1–16

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- ¹ I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have
 been called,
² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

3 making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
7 But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
8 Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave
9 gifts to his people.'
10 (When it says, 'He ascended,' what does it mean but that he had also descended into the
11 lower parts of the earth?)
12 He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might
13 fill all things.)
14 The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some
15 pastors and teachers,
16 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
17 until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to
18 maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.
19 We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of
20 doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.
21 But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into
22 Christ,
23 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is
24 equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up
25 in love.

GOSPEL John 6.24–35

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

24 When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were at the place where Jesus had
25 given the bread, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for
26 Jesus.
27 When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you
28 come here?'
29 Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw
30 signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.
31 Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which
32 the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.'
33 Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?'
34 Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.'
35 So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and
36 believe you? What work are you performing?
37 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from
38 heaven to eat."
39 Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread
40 from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.
41 For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'
42 They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'
43 Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and
44 whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	3	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10.00am – 11.30am
			Discovering the Bible (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Tue	4	Aug	Service at River Court	3.00pm
Wed	5	Aug	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	6	Aug	Holy Communion	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
Sun	9	Aug	TRINITY 10	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			President and Preacher: Fr George	
			(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00pm-5.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

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 today, 2nd August, so if you could be prepared to stay a few minutes after the service 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.

A number of replies have already been received and some of this month's hymns (505 and 555 today) have been chosen from them.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: There will be a garden party this afternoon 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.

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