



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 10
9 August 2015

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches. Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 369, 322, 442 and 353

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00pm-5.00pm)

Evening Prayer 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Ickleford (Hitchin) in our Diocese.
The Diocese of Rochester (USA): Prince Singh its Bishop and all its people.

The work of Us with the Church in Myanmar.

The World: Peace in the Middle East.

All people living in refugee camps.

People looking for work.

The Community and Parish: Staff and pupils at our local schools, for a refreshing summer.

Everyone preparing for marriage.

All children and young people in our wider Church family.

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

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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 18.5–9, 15, 31–33

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

- ⁵ The king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.
- ⁶ So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim.
- ⁷ The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men.
- ⁸ The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.
- ⁹ Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.
- ¹⁵ And ten young men, Joab's armour-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.
- ³¹ Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.'
- ³² The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' The Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.'
- ³³ The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

SECOND READING Ephesians 4.25 – 5.2

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

²⁵ Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another.

²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,
²⁷ and do not make room for the devil.

²⁸ Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy.

²⁹ Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.

³¹ Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice,

³² and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,

² and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

GOSPEL John 6.35, 41–51

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

³⁵ Jesus said to the crowd, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

⁴¹ Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.'

⁴² They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?'

⁴³ Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves.

⁴⁴ No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day.

⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.

⁴⁶ Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.

⁴⁷ Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.

⁴⁸ I am the bread of life.

⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	10	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10.00am – 11.30am
Wed	12	Aug	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thu	13	Aug	Holy Communion	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
Sun	16	Aug	TRINITY 11	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			President and Preacher: Rev William Burke	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

SERVICES: The flier is still available 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. Please return by Sunday 30 August.

A number of replies have already been received and some of this month's hymns (353 and 369 today) have been chosen from them.

FOOD BANK: Don't forget that we are still collecting. 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. Thank you.

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.