



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**TRINITY 11**  
**16 August 2015**

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist the Rev'd William Burke celebrates and preaches. Paul Chandler leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 1, 487, 278 and 362**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

Evening Prayer 6.00pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Offley (Hitchin) in our Diocese.  
The Diocese of Ruvuma (Tanzania): Maternus Kapinga is Bishop and all its people.

Volunteers on the “Journey with Us” programme across the world.

**The World:** All those tasked with combating terrorism.  
Young people leaving home for the first time.  
All grandparents looking after grandchildren.

**The Community and Parish:** All our members who are on holiday.

Anyone awaiting, undergoing or recovering from surgery.

The Rev'd William Burke presiding and preaching for us today.

**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:**

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**Collect**

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;  
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 I Kings 2.10–12; 3.3–14**

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- <sup>10</sup> David slept with his ancestors, and was buried in the city of David.
- <sup>11</sup> The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.
- <sup>12</sup> So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.
- <sup>3</sup> Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places.
- <sup>4</sup> The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt-offerings on that altar.
- <sup>5</sup> At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.'
- <sup>6</sup> And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.
- <sup>7</sup> And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.
- <sup>8</sup> And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted.
- <sup>9</sup> Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'
- <sup>10</sup> It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this.
- <sup>11</sup> God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right,
- <sup>12</sup> I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.
- <sup>13</sup> I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honour all your life; no other king shall compare with you.
- <sup>14</sup> If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.'

## **SECOND READING Ephesians 5.15–20**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters,  
15 be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise,  
16 making the most of the time, because the days are evil.  
17 So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.  
18 Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit,  
19 as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and  
making melody to the Lord in your hearts,  
20 giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our  
Lord Jesus Christ.

## **GOSPEL John 6.51–58**

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

Jesus said to the crowd:  
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.'  
52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his  
flesh to eat?'  
53 So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of  
Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.  
54 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them  
up on the last day;  
55 for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.  
56 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.  
57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats  
me will live because of me.  
58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors  
ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	17	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10.00am – 11.30am
Wed	19	Aug	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	20	Aug	Holy Communion (followed by coffee in the Choir Vestry)	10.00am
Sun	23	Aug	<b><u>TRINITY 12</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			President and Preacher: Fr Geoff	
			(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00pm-5.00pm
			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 (1, 487 and 362 today) have been chosen from them.

FINAL COPY DATE for September Sword is next Sunday 23 August. 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.

TOYS AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS: Do you or any of your family and friends have any unwanted toys or children's books? The Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership needs good second hand toys and children's books for their upcoming party. We are unable to use jigsaw puzzles, but anything else for party prizes and gifts will be very welcome. Please give any items to Sue Ellison. Many thanks.

### 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.