



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 5
26 June 2016

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Jamie Wareham leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 254, 216 (2nd tune), 601 and 496

Setting: Thorne

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00-5.00 pm)

Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Church of the Good Shepherd, Sandhills, in our Diocese.
The Church of Pakistan, Samuel Robert Azariah its Moderator,
and all its people.
Church Army Evangelists.

The World: The life of our country following the EU referendum vote.
Christian Aid working through partners in Kenya.
Members of our Armed Forces.

The Community and Parish: The care of our Church buildings.
Our Food Bank volunteers
The Churches of Watford Deanery.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Sonia Anderson,
Tina Bennett, Christopher Bilson, Janet Bridge, Robert Caton,
Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Audrey Dixon, Claire
Dunning, Simon Fowle, Sandra Fullerton, Kristine Jenkins,
Mervyn Jones, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch,
Dorcas Ochola, Brian O’Riordan, Helen Perry, Christina Simon,
Mark Simon and Karen Stride.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
 hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name;
 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 Kings 2.1–2, 6–14

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- ¹ When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.
- ² Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.’ But Elisha said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So they went down to Bethel.
- ⁶ Then Elijah said to him, ‘Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.’ But Elisha said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So the two of them went on.
- ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.
- ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.
- ⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.’ Elisha said, ‘Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.’
- ¹⁰ He responded, ‘You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.’
- ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.
- ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, ‘Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!’ But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.
- ¹³ He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan.
- ¹⁴ He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, ‘Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?’ When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

SECOND READING Galatians 5.1, 13–25

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- ¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as
an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.
14 For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your
neighbour as yourself.'
15 If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by
one another.
16 Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.
17 For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is
opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing
what you want.
18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.
19 Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness,
20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions,
21 envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you
before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,
faithfulness,
23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.
24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and
desires.
25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

GOSPEL Luke 9.51–62

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

51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.
52 And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the
Samaritans to make ready for him;
53 but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem.
54 When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command
fire to come down from heaven and consume them?'
55 But he turned and rebuked them.
56 Then they went on to another village.
57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever
you go.'
58 And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of
Man has nowhere to lay his head.'
59 To another Jesus said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my
father.'
60 But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and
proclaim the kingdom of God.'
61 Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my
home.'
62 Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the
kingdom of God.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	27	Jun	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	28	Jun	(Post natal class in choir vestry	10.0am – 11.30am)
Wed	29	Jun	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			Estates Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Thur	30	Jun	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	3	July	<u>THOMAS THE APOSTLE</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			FIRST SUNDAY of MONTH SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff)	
			United Evening Service at St Michael's	6.00pm

NOTICES

FINAL COPY DATE for July Sword is today Sunday, 26 June. Hard copy or floppy disc to Rob White or email to robwhite.watford@googlemail.com

TEA ON THE TRIANGLE: This will be on Sunday, 17 July, from 3-5 pm and will take place either in the church and/or on the triangle at the west end according to the weather. There will be a cream tea and tickets for this will cost £2.50. There will be stalls selling books, bric-a-brac, and a Norma mixture, children's table-top activities and a raffle.

The Social Committee would like help with the arrangements and lists asking for volunteers to make cakes, scones, help run stalls, children's activities, raffle and anything else - ideas are always welcome.

Please look at the lists and see how you can help. Make a note of the date in your diary. Tell your friends and neighbours and see if they would be interested to come.

Tickets will be on sale from next Sunday.