



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 12

14 August 2016

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 1, 356, 626 and 423 (i)**

**Setting: Thorne**

Children's Church in Choir Vestry.

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 Little Wymondley in our Diocese.

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa, Thabo Makgoba its Primate and all its people.

Church Army's summer outreach events.

**The World:** All competitors, spectators and organisers at the Olympic Games.

Poor people in Brazil suffering because of political and economic turmoil.

Christian Aid's "Another Way" events in Scotland.

**The Community and Parish:** Couples marrying and having their banns called here.

Our Mothers Union members.

A deepening of our prayer life.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Bruce Alexander, Sonia Anderson,

Christopher Bilson, Janet Bridge, Robert Caton, Peter Coley,

Marion Craddock-Jones, Audrey Dixon, Claire Dunning, Simon

Fowle, 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:** Patricia Hart

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**Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve:

pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask

but through the merits and mediation of 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 Isaiah 5.1–7**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- <sup>1</sup> Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
- <sup>2</sup> He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.
- <sup>3</sup> And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.
- <sup>4</sup> What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?
- <sup>5</sup> And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
- <sup>6</sup> I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.
- <sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

**SECOND READING Hebrews 11.29 – 12.2**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- <sup>29</sup> By faith the people of Israel passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned.
- <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days.
- <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.
- <sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets –

33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises,  
shut the mouths of lions,  
34 quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of  
weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.  
35 Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to  
accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection.  
36 Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.  
37 They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword;  
they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented –  
38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains,  
and in caves and holes in the ground.  
39 Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what  
was promised,  
40 since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us,  
be made perfect.  
1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay  
aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with  
perseverance the race that is set before us,  
2 looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy  
that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken  
his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

## **GOSPEL Luke 12.49–56**

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

49 'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!  
50 I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is  
completed!  
51 Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but  
rather division!  
52 From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two  
against three;  
53 they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against  
daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'  
54 He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you  
immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens.  
55 And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching  
heat"; and it happens.  
56 You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but  
why do you not know how to interpret the present time?'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	15	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	16	Aug	(Post natal class in choir vestry Funeral of Joyce Montague (see Notices)	9.30am – 11.30am)
Wed	17	Aug	Food Bank Coffee in Church (Wedding Rehearsal)	10.00am – 12 noon 10.30am – 12 noon 8.00pm)
Thur	18	Aug	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Coffee served afterwards in Choir Vestry Estates Committee (Choir vestry)	10.00am  4.00pm
Sat	20	Aug	Wedding	4.00pm
Sun	21	Aug	<b>TRINITY 13</b> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) <b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b> (President and Preacher: Fr George) Children's Church Evening Prayer	8.00am <b>9.30am</b>   6.00pm

## NOTICES

THE FUNERAL OF JOYCE MONTAGUE will be on Tuesday 16 August. Reception into Church at 11.30 am, private committal at West Herts Crematorium at 1.00 pm and a service of thanksgiving followed by refreshments in Church at 1.45 pm, to which all are welcome.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Saturday 10 September: There will be a working party to do jobs around the church. *In addition on that day which is Heritage Day there will be -*  
Coffee Morning in aid of The Children's Society  
Sponsored Bike n Hike  
RSCM examinations in Choir Vestry
- Sunday 2 October 3-5 pm Andy Benoy will give an organ recital followed by refreshments.
- Saturday 26 November St Michael's Christmas Fair