



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 14

28 August 2016

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist; Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Valerie Alvarez leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 253 (i), 488, 467 and 96 (ii)

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Choir Vestry.

Refreshments 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 1.00pm-5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of St Luke, Leagrave, in our Diocese.
The Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan, Daniel Deng its Archbishop and all its people.
People who speak at Churches on behalf of the Church Army.

The World: Earthquake victims in Amatrice and other devastated towns in Italy.
The work of USPG around the world.
Victims of conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Community and Parish: Residents and staff at Fairhaven and the Chase Residential and Nursing Homes.
Our Food Bank volunteers.
All those preparing for the new school year.

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, Kristine Jenkins, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Christina Simon, Mark Simon and Karen Stride.

The Departed: Doreen Hinchey and Peter Taylor.

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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 Jeremiah 2.4–13

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- ⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.
- ⁵ Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?
- ⁶ They did not say, 'Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?'
- ⁷ I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.
- ⁸ The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.
- ⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children.
- ¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing.
- ¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.
- ¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD,
- ¹³ for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

SECOND READING Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- ¹ Let mutual love continue.
- ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

3 Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.
4 Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers.
5 Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.'
6 So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'
7 Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.
8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.
15 Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.
16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

GOSPEL Luke 14.1, 7-14

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

1 On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.
7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable.
8 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host;
9 and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place," and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.
10 But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.
11 For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'
12 He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.
13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.
14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	29	Aug	<i>Bank Holiday</i> NO Toddlers' Group	
Tue	30	Aug	(NO Post natal class in choir vestry) Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	31	Aug	Food Bank Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon 10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	1	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Choir Practice	10.00am 7.00-8.30pm
Sun	4	Sep	TRINITY 15 Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) FIRST SUNDAY of MONTH SUNG EUCHARIST (President: Fr Geoff; All-Age Presentation) United Service at St Michael's	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm

NOTICES

FOR YOUR DIARIES AND PLEASE BRING FRIENDS: In aid of New Hope and Watford Three Rivers Refugee Partnership, the Drama Students from Wesley College, Melbourne, Australia are performing "The Roaring Girl" at St Michael's on Wednesday 7 September at 7 pm. Tickets £5 to include light refreshments. Information from Jane Talbot tel 01923 226276 or email Jane at halfsentence@icloud.com. Tickets payable in advance by cheque.

SATURDAY 10 SEPTEMBER is our big Working Party day from 1 - 4pm. Our friends from the Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church have kindly offered to come and do some cleaning in church. So we hope that as many of us from St Michael's will come along and join them with such tasks as cleaning, polishing, minor repairs and maintenance jobs. Then there could be service book repairing and of course we shall need tea and coffee suppliers! There will be a sign-up list in Church from Sunday 28 August and we hope that as many as possible will join in. A big thank you in anticipation of lots of help

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Saturday 10 September: *In addition to the working party (above) 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