



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**MICHAELMAS**  
**25 September 2016**

A warm welcome to our services today when we celebrate our Patronal Festival. At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist; Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Jamie Wareham leads the intercessions.

Children's Church in Choir Vestry.

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

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Bolnhurst in our Diocese.  
The Church in Wales, Barry Morgan its Archbishop and all its people.

Church Army's Llandaff Centre of Mission.

**The World:** The Church of Ceylon's work with tea plantation communities.  
Flood Relief in Bangladesh.

The work of Macmillan Cancer Support.

**The Community and Parish:** Thanksgiving for our Church on its Patronal Festival.

St John's Church of England Free School.

Our young people and those who work with them.

**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:** Audrey Clark.

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## COLLECT

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; 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 Genesis 28.10–17

A reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>10</sup> Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.

<sup>11</sup> He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.

<sup>12</sup> And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

<sup>13</sup> And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;

<sup>14</sup> and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.

<sup>15</sup> Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

<sup>16</sup> Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!'

<sup>17</sup> And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

## **SECOND READING Hebrews 1.5–14**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

<sup>5</sup> To which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are my Son; today I have begotten you?’ Or again, ‘I will be his Father, and he will be my Son?’

<sup>6</sup> And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, ‘Let all God’s angels worship him.’

<sup>7</sup> Of the angels he says, ‘He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.’

<sup>8</sup> But of the Son he says, ‘Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup> You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’

<sup>10</sup> And, ‘In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

<sup>11</sup> they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing;

<sup>12</sup> like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.’

<sup>13</sup> But to which of the angels has he ever said, ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?’

<sup>14</sup> Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

## **GOSPEL John 1.47–51**

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

<sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, ‘Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!’

<sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked him, ‘Where did you come to know me?’ Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.’

<sup>49</sup> Nathanael replied, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’

<sup>50</sup> Jesus answered, ‘Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.’

<sup>51</sup> And he said to him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	26	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	27	Sep	(Post natal class in choir vestry) (Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	9.30am – 11.30am) 12.00 – 4.00pm)
Wed	28	Sep	Food Bank Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon 10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	29	Sep	<b>MICHAELMAS</b> Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Choir Practice Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments	10.00am 7.00-8.00pm 8.00pm
Sun	2	Oct	<b><u>HARVEST</u></b> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George) <b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b> (President: Fr Geoff) All age presentation ORGAN RECITAL by ANDY BENOY (see Notices) Evening Prayer	8.00am <b>9.30am</b>  3.00pm 6.00 pm.

## NOTICES

**SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER:** Andy Benoy is giving an organ recital in church to mark his 40 years of being organist at St Michael and All Angels. The concert is at 3 pm and will be followed by afternoon tea in the church. Please come and invite friends and neighbours. If you are able to help with providing the refreshments please indicate this on the sign up sheet at the back of church.

**A FANTASTIC FIRST PRIZE** has already been donated for our Grand Christmas Prize Draw. If you are someone or know someone with connections to "high places" in a local, national or international business whom we could ask for a donation of Second and Third prizes please let Sue Ellison know.

**FINAL COPY DATE** for October Sword is today Sunday, 25 September. Hard copy to Rob White or email to [robwhite.watford@googlemail.com](mailto:robwhite.watford@googlemail.com)

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**Thursday, 29 September, Michaelmas** Sung Eucharist at 8 pm followed by refreshments of cheese and wine.

**Sunday, 2 October, 9.30 am Harvest Thanksgiving.** As usual there will be a collection of dry goods at the service.

**Wednesday, 5 October at 7.55 pm;** revised date for PCC meeting.

**Saturday, 19 November, 9.30 am – 4.00 pm:** A Quiet Day, led by The Revd Jo Spray, at the Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary, Radlett, with the theme "Advent is a Season".

**Saturday, 26 November, Christmas Fair.** Have you invited any friends to come to lunch at the Fair?