



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

HARVEST

2 October 2016

A warm welcome to our services today when we celebrate our Harvest Festival. At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist; Fr Geoff celebrates and there is an all-age presentation. Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 273, 271, "Think of a World" and 275 **Setting: Thorne**

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

At 3 pm there is an organ recital by Andy Benoy to celebrate 40 years of being our organist. This will be followed by afternoon tea.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Dean in our Diocese.

The Church of the Province of West Africa, Daniel Sarfo its primate and all its people.

Church – supported education projects in Sri Lanka.

The World: All those who produce and transport our food.

Those who struggle to get enough food to eat.

Those whose livelihoods in food production are threatened.

The Community and Parish: Our Brownies.

The Food Bank, Refugee Partnership, and New Hope.

Food producers, processors, and retailers in our area.

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:

HARVEST

COLLECT

Eternal God,

you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:

grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;

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 Philippians 4.4–9

(Contemporary English Version)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

⁴ Always be glad because of the Lord! I will say it again, always be glad!

⁵ Always be gentle with others. The Lord will soon be here.

⁶ Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts, offer up your prayers and requests to God.

⁷ Then, because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace than no one can completely understand. And this peace will control the way you think and feel.

⁸ Finally, my friends, keep your minds on whatever is true, pure, right, holy, friendly, and proper. Don't ever stop thinking about what is truly worthwhile and worthy of praise.

⁹ You know the teachings I gave you, and you know what you heard me say and saw me do. So Follow my example. And God, who gives peace, will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.25–33

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

²⁵ ‘Do not worry about your life,
what you will eat or what you will drink,
or about your body, what you will wear.

Is not life more than food,
and the body more than clothing?

²⁶ Look at the birds of the air;
they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns,
and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not of more value than they?

²⁷ And can any of you by worrying
add a single hour to your span of life?

²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing?
Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;
they neither toil nor spin,

²⁹ yet I tell you,
even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field,
which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven,
will he not much more clothe you –
you of little faith?

³¹ Therefore do not worry,
saying, “What will we eat?”
or “What will we drink?”
or “What will we wear?”

³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things;
and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	3	Oct	Chater Infants School Harvest Celebration	9.00am
			Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			Discovering the Bible	2.30pm
Tue	4	Oct	(Post natal class in choir vestry)	9.30am – 11.30am)
			Service at River Court	2.30pm
			(Watford Faith Leaders Forum at St Michael's	7.30pm)
Wed	5	Oct	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.55pm
Thur	6	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm
Sun	9	Oct	<u>TRINITY 20</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff, Preacher: Violet Allen-Smith)	
			Children's Church	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00pm – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00 pm.

NOTICES

HARVEST THANKSGIVING today, Sunday, 2 October. Dried goods brought to the Harvest Service will be given to the Food Bank. There are leaflets at the back of the church which list the type of food that is most acceptable for the food parcels. Cash donations to Christian Aid.

TODAY, SUNDAY 2 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.

LAST SUNDAY'S BRING-&-BUY SALE raised £49. Many thanks.

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

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?