



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 13 August 2017

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches. Paul Chandler leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 590, 458, 411 and 315

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00pm – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

Contemplative Prayer Groups.

The Parish of St Paul Letchworth in our Diocese.

The Diocese of Remo in Nigeria, Michael Fape its Bishop and all its people.

The World:

A good resolution to the North Korea situation.

People of all ethnic and religious groups in the Holy Land.

Help in the holidays for children who have free school meals.

The Community and Parish:

The young people of Watford Youth Sinfonia.

Those who care for our Church buildings.

Our Church music.

The Ill and the Housebound:

Especially Christopher Bilson, Janet Bridge, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Judith Degen, Audrey Dixon, Claire Dunning, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey, Blossom Hutchinson, Kristine Jenkins, Lionel Jones, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Michele Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Mark Watkin; and all who care for them.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in
love and joy and peace;
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 37.1–4, 12–28

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- ¹ Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan.
² This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding
the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's
wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.
³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his
old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves.
⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated
him, and could not speak peaceably to him.
¹² Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem.
¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, 'Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I
will send you to them.' He answered, 'Here I am.'
¹⁴ So he said to him, 'Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring
word back to me.' So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem,
¹⁵ and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, 'What are you seeking?'
¹⁶ 'I am seeking my brothers,' he said; 'tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.'
¹⁷ The man said, 'They have gone away, for I heard them say, "Let us go to Dothan."' So
Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan.
¹⁸ They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him.
¹⁹ They said to one another, 'Here comes this dreamer.
²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild
animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.'
²¹ But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, 'Let us not take his
life.'
²² Reuben said to them, 'Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay
no hand on him' – that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father.
²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with
sleeves that he wore;
²⁴ and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.
²⁵ Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from
Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to
Egypt.
²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, 'What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his
blood?
²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother,
our own flesh.' And his brothers agreed.
²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and
sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

SECOND READING Romans 10.5–15

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 5 Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that ‘the person who does these things will live by them.’
- 6 But the righteousness that comes from faith says, ‘Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into heaven?”’ (that is, to bring Christ down)
- 7 ‘or “Who will descend into the abyss?”’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).
- 8 But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);
- 9 because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.
- 11 The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’
- 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.
- 13 For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’
- 14 But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?
- 15 And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22–33

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

- Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish,
- 22 Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.
- 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,
- 24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.
- 25 And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake.
- 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, ‘It is a ghost!’ And they cried out in fear.
- 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, ‘Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.’
- 28 Peter answered him, ‘Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.’
- 29 He said, ‘Come.’ So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus.
- 30 But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’
- 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, ‘You of little faith, why did you doubt?’
- 32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- 33 And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, ‘Truly you are the Son of God.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	14	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	15	Aug	(Concert rehearsal in church)	12 noon – 7.00pm)
Wed	16	Aug	(Concert rehearsal in church)	12 noon – 7.00pm)
Thur	17	Aug	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			(Concert rehearsal in church)	12 noon – 7.00pm)
			NO Choir Practice	
Fri	18	Aug	Funeral of Robert Caton at West Herts Crematorium	12.40pm
			(Concert rehearsal in church)	2.00 – 5.00pm)
			Concert by Watford Youth Sinfonia (see Notices)	7.30pm
Sun	20	Aug	TRINITY 10	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			President and preacher: Fr Geoff	
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

CONCERT IN ST MICHAEL'S BY THE WATFORD YOUTH SINFONIA:

18 August at 7.30 pm They will play Strauss' Four Last Songs and Mahler's 9th Symphony. Tickets £12, Concessions £7.50. You may remember they gave a very enjoyable concert here on 30th March last.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to Norma and Cyril Stone who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on Thursday 10th August.

CHOIR PRACTICES: There will be no Choir Practices throughout the whole of August to enable our Choir to enjoy a well-deserved rest.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

10 September: Many of you know that Andy is leaving us. On 10th September he will play for his last service at St Michael's. This will be followed by lunch. If you are able to provide anything for the lunch please sign the list on the bier at the back of church.