



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 13

Sunday 10 September 2017

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 626, 191, 527 and 543

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall

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

This is Andy's last day as Organist and Choirmaster at St Michael's after nearly 41 years of playing for us. There is a farewell lunch in Littlebury Hall, 12.30 for 1.00pm. We wish Andy and Pat every happiness in their move to Devon.

(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 Saviour, Luton.

The Diocese of the Seychelles, James Richard Wong Yin Song, its Bishop and all its people.

The Episcopal Church of the Philippines.

The World:

The people whose lives have been devastated by Hurricane Irma.

Countries affected by drug trafficking and gang violence.

People suffering through flooding in the USA and the Indian subcontinent.

The Community and Parish: Andy and Pat Benoy.

Our choir members and congregation.

Those planning music for the future.

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, Michele Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Mark Watkin; and all who care for them.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:
help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you;
through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Exodus 12.1–14

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- ¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt:
² This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you.
³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.
⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.
⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.
⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.
⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.
⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.
⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs.
¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.
¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD.
¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD.
¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.
¹⁴ This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

SECOND READING Romans 13.8–14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.
- ⁹ The commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet’; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’
- ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.
- ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;
- ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light;
- ¹³ let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy.
- ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.15–20

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

Jesus spoke to his disciples.

- ¹⁵ ‘If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.
- ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector.
- ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
- ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.
- ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	11	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	13	Sep	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee	10.30am – 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	2.30pm
			Stewardship Meeting (see Notices)	8.00pm
			GSS	8.00pm
Thu	14	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
Sat	16	Sep	Children's Church Canal Boat Trip	
Sun	17	Sep	TRINITY 14	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Fr George)	
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

Wednesday 13 September, the Diocesan Stewardship Advisor will be visiting us to help us think about our giving. There will be a meeting at 8.00 pm in the Littlebury Hall, including Cheese and Wine. Everyone is very welcome.

Saturday 16 September: Children's Church Canal Boat Trip 9 am - 5 pm.

FOODBANK: Demand for this service is increasing at St Michael's and more helpers are needed. When illness or holidays occur among our present (very loyal) team, we do not have enough people to cover. I would like to form an additional 'bank' of people who would be willing to be called upon when such an emergency arises. This would not happen often and would not oblige you to commit to a weekly, or even monthly, duty, but you could be called upon at short notice. Our foodbank operates every Wednesday morning between the hours of 10.00 and 12.00. There would be a short and simple training. Please email jmordue@virginmedia.com or ring 01923 244180.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1 October: - Harvest Lunch.

20 September: - Parochial Church Council