



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MICHAELMAS
Sunday 24 September 2017

A warm welcome to our services today when we celebrate our Patronal Festival. At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Sylvia Moring leads the intercessions. There is a special service booklet.

Hymns: Service Booklet, 245 (i), 392 and “In This Place” **Setting: Thorne**
Children’s Church in Littlebury Hall

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00 – 5.00pm)

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Sarratt in our Diocese.
The Diocese of SE Florida (USA) Leopold Frade its Bishop and all its people.
Church choirs, organists and musicians.

The World: Victims of the earthquake in Mexico.
Victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.
The peacekeeping, educational and relief work of the UN.

The Community and Parish: Clergy and Readers in Watford Deanery.
The Revd Ruth Reynolds-Tyson, new minister at Trinity Methodist Church.
Watford Interfaith Association.

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, Jeff Stratton (Priest), Peter White; and all who care for them.

The Departed:

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.

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.

¹¹ 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.

¹² 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.

¹³ 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;

¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ 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.'

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

¹⁷ 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 Revelation 12.7–12

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ⁷ War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back,
- ⁸ but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.
- ⁹ The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.
- ¹¹ But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
- ¹² Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!’

GOSPEL John 1.47–51

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

- ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, ‘Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!’
- ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, ‘Where did you come to know me?’ Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.’
- ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’
- ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, ‘Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.’
- ⁵¹ 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	25	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	27	Sep	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	28	Sep	<i>MICHAELMAS</i>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
Sun	1	Oct	HARVEST	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			FIRST SUNDAY of MONTH SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff; All-Age Presentation)	
			Harvest Lunch	12 noon
			Holy Baptism	3.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

CONGATULATIONS to Bob and Iola Bilson who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary yesterday. Everyone is invited to stay on after today's 9.30 service to join with them for cake and wine.

MARK WATKIN wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and kind thoughts during his recent treatment at Watford General Hospital.

LIVE COUNTRY MUSIC SUNG BY RON RYALL WITH A TABLE QUIZ AND BUFFET: At St Michael's on Saturday 21st October from 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from Jamie or Holly Wareham. (Bring your own drinks.)

(NEW HOPE) COMMUNITY MARKET GARDEN OPEN DAY: Saturday 30th September 10.30am - 3.00pm. 64 Rickmansworth Road (entrance between 62 & 64) music, children's activities, plants, produce and Christmas flowering and spring bulbs!

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE OCTOBER SWORD is MIDDAY today Sunday, 24 September. Hard copy to Rob White or email to swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com

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.