



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**HARVEST**

**1 October 2017**

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.

**Hymns: 270, "Water of Life" (inside Messenger), 275 and 267**

**Setting: Thorne**

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

This will be followed from 12 noon by our Harvest Lunch.

Holy Baptism at 3.00 pm.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

---

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

**The Church:** The Chancellor and Registrars of our Diocese.  
The Diocese of Southern Philippines, Danilo Labacanacruz  
Bustamante its Bishop and all its People.  
The work of USPG with the Anglican Church in Brazil.

**The World:** Primary food producers across our world.  
The St Albans Diocese Hurricane Appeal.  
The Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal.

**The Community and Parish:** Staff and residents at River Court.  
Chater Infants School.  
The Royal School of 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, Michele Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Peter White; and all who care for them.

**The Departed:** Fr Jeff Stratton (former curate of this church).

---

# 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.*

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

<sup>5</sup> Always be gentle with others. The Lord will soon be here.

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

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> 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:

<sup>25</sup> '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?

<sup>26</sup> 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?

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

<sup>28</sup> And why do you worry about clothing?  
Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;  
they neither toil nor spin,  
<sup>29</sup> yet I tell you,  
even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.  
<sup>30</sup> 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?  
<sup>31</sup> Therefore do not worry,  
saying, “What will we eat?”  
or “What will we drink?”  
or “What will we wear?”  
<sup>32</sup> For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things;  
and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.  
<sup>33</sup> But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be given to you as well.’

## **Song – "Water of Life"**

Have you heard the raindrops drumming on the rooftops?  
Have you heard the raindrops dripping on the ground?  
Have you heard the raindrops splashing in the stream  
and running to the rivers all around?

*There's water, water of life, Jesus gives us the water of life.  
There's water, water of life, Jesus gives us the water of life.*

There's a busy worker digging in the desert,  
digging with a spade that flashes in the sun;  
soon there will be water rising in the well-shaft,  
spilling from the bucket as it comes.

*There's water, water of life, Jesus gives us the water of life.  
There's water, water of life, Jesus gives us the water of life.*

Nobody can live who hasn't any water,  
when the land is dry then nothing much grows;  
Jesus gives us life if we drink the living water,  
sing it so that ev'rybody knows.

*There's water, water of life, Jesus gives us the water of life.  
There's water, water of life, Jesus gives us the water of life.*

## **THIS WEEK**

Mon	2	Oct	Chater Infants Harvest Songs	9.00am
			Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			Discovering the Bible	2.30pm
Tue	3	Oct	Service at River Court	2.30pm
Wed	4	Oct	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	5	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
Sat	7	Oct	RSCM Exams	12.30 – 5.00pm
Sun	8	Oct	<b>TRINITY 17</b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President and Preacher::Fr George Children's Church	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00pm – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00 pm.

## **NOTICES**

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING** today, Sunday, 1 October. The Harvest Theme is “*Full of Beans*” Dried goods brought to the Harvest Service will be given to the Refugee Partnership. Retiring Collection for the Bishop of St Albans’ Harvest Appeal. This is to help transform rural communities in the Philippines as they work together on income generating opportunities.

**LIVE COUNTRY MUSIC SUNG BY RON RYALL WITH A TABLE QUIZ AND BUFFET:** At St Michael’s on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October from 7.30 pm. Tickets £10 from Jamie or Holly Wareham. (Bring your own drinks.) Final date to purchase tickets is 15<sup>th</sup> October.

**KEITH HONOUR** wishes to thank everyone who has donated to his home-grown vegetable sales during the summer months. This has raised £100 for church funds.

**LAST SUNDAY’S BRING-&-BUY SALE** raised £30 for church funds. Many thanks.

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

15 October at 9.30 the preacher will be from the Leprosy Mission.

22 October at 9.30 the celebrant and preacher will be the Rev John Brown.