



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**TRINITY 3**  
**17 June 2018**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Vicki Matthews leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 6 (t.1), 618, 563 and 444**

**Setting: Thorne**

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Dunstable in our Diocese.

The Anglican Church of Myanmar, Stephen Than Myint Oo, its Archbishop, and all its people.

The Anglican Church in Korea.

**The World:** Safety for all those attending the World Cup.

Refugees crossing the Mediterranean.

Countries trying to deal fairly with the arrival of refugees.

**The Community and Parish:** The Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership.

Young people taking exams.

People with autism in our community.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Christopher Bilson, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Kate Dickinson, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia Dixon, Claire Dunning, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care for them.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father:  
 give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
 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 I Samuel 15.34 – 16.13**

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

- <sup>34</sup> Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul.
- <sup>35</sup> Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.
- <sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Samuel, ‘How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.’
- <sup>2</sup> Samuel said, ‘How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.’ And the LORD said, ‘Take a heifer with you, and say, “I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.”
- <sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.’
- <sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, ‘Do you come peaceably?’
- <sup>5</sup> He said, ‘Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.’ And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
- <sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the LORD.’
- <sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.’
- <sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, ‘Neither has the LORD chosen this one.’
- <sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, ‘Neither has the LORD chosen this one.’
- <sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The LORD has not chosen any of these.’
- <sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all your sons here?’ And he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.’ And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.’
- <sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, ‘Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.’

<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

## **SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5.6–10, 14–17**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians. Brothers and sisters,

<sup>6</sup> we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord –

<sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight.

<sup>8</sup> Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

<sup>10</sup> For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>14</sup> The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.

<sup>15</sup> And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

<sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

## **GOSPEL Mark 4.26–34**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he got into a boat and began to teach them using many parables.

<sup>26</sup> Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.

<sup>28</sup> The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.

<sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

<sup>30</sup> Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?

<sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth;

<sup>32</sup> yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup> he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

## **THIS WEEK**

Mon	18	June	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	20	June	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	21	June	Holy Communion	10.00am
			Followed by coffee in Choir Vestry	
Sun	24	June	<b><u>BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST</u></b>	
			NO Holy Communion at 8.00am	
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Rev David Tuck)	
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			Followed by Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			NO Evening Prayer	

## **NOTICES**

WATFORD & THREE RIVERS REFUGEE PARTNERSHIP invite you to their Annual Garden Party at Cheslyn Gardens, Nascot Wood Road. WD17 4SL, on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2 – 4.30pm. Refreshments and cream teas.

FR GEOFF'S 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY of his ORDINATION to the PRIESTHOOD will be celebrated on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 7.30pm with a Eucharist in the Lady Chapel and followed by refreshments. All members of St Michael's are invited. If you would like to attend, please sign the list at the back of church.

PLEASE NOTE that there will not be an 8am service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June.

UNFORTUNATELY, our concert – “A CELEBRATION OF SONG” on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 has had to be CANCELLED.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE JULY SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 24 June. Hard copy to Rob White or email to [swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com](mailto:swordparishmagazine@googlemail.com).

IMPORTANT REMINDER: The new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is now in force. If you wish to receive any communications from St Michael's by post, telephone or email in future we need your permission. If you haven't already filled in a form, please pick one up from the table at the back of the church, complete it and return as soon as possible. If we don't get a form from you, you won't get any future information sent to you about what is happening at St Michael's.