



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**TRINITY 9**  
**29 July 2018**

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Mark Simon leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 202, 254, 250 and 311**

**Setting: Thorne**

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there is a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

Holy Baptism at 3.00 pm.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm

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

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

The Anglican Church of Rwanda, Onesphore Rwaje its Archbishop, and all its people.

The work of the Anglican Church in Malawi to keep girls in school.

**The World:** Victims of wild fires in Greece.

Victims of dam collapse in Laos.

Farmers and others whose livelihoods are threatened by the hot weather.

**The Community and Parish:** School staff and children on holiday.

Newly retired people.

Our choir and organists.

**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, Lionel Jones, 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:** Terence Waterfall.

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**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 2 Samuel 11.1–15**

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

- 1 In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.
- 2 It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful.
- 3 David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.'
- 4 So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house.
- 5 The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'
- 6 So David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David.
- 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going.
- 8 Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king.
- 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house.
- 10 When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house,' David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?'
- 11 Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.'
- 12 Then David said to Uriah, 'Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day,
- 13 David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.
- 14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.
- 15 In the letter he wrote, 'Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.'

**SECOND READING Ephesians 3.14–21**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- 14 I bow my knees before the Father,
- 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name.

16 I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened  
in your inner being with power through his Spirit,  
17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and  
grounded in love.  
18 I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth  
and length and height and depth,  
19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all  
the fullness of God.  
20 Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more  
than all we can ask or imagine,  
21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **GOSPEL John 6.1–21**

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

1 Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias.  
2 A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.  
3 Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples.  
4 Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near.  
5 When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, ‘Where  
are we to buy bread for these people to eat?’  
6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.  
7 Philip answered him, ‘Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to  
get a little.’  
8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Jesus,  
9 ‘There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so  
many people?’  
10 Jesus said, ‘Make the people sit down.’ Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so  
they sat down, about five thousand in all.  
11 Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who  
were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.  
12 When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, ‘Gather up the fragments left over, so that  
nothing may be lost.’  
13 So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those  
who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.  
14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, ‘This is indeed the  
prophet who is to come into the world.’  
15 When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king,  
he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.  
16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake,  
17 got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had  
not yet come to them.  
18 The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing.  
19 When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and  
coming near the boat, and they were terrified.  
20 But he said to them, ‘It is I; do not be afraid.’  
21 Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land  
towards which they were going.

## **THIS WEEK**

Mon	30	July	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	1	Aug	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	2	Aug	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sun	5	Aug	<b><u>TRINITY 10</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			(First Sunday booklet; All Age Presentation)	
			Followed by refreshments	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm
			(CAW Prayer Walk)	8.00pm

## **NOTICES**

JUNE AND KEN FROM THE MERCY SHIPS were very grateful for the welcome they received and interest after the service, and that they raised £191 on the day. Well Done St Michaels!

THE WAR MEMORIAL CROSS is to be dedicated on Saturday 29th September, at 2.00 pm by the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford, followed by refreshments.

BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST: The day when the Historic Churches Trust have their sponsored Bike n' Hike Day is Saturday, 8 September. Hundreds of Churches open their doors on this day for people to visit, moving round their chosen area either by cycling, walking, riding or any other means that appeals. Everyone who does this is sponsored and forms for sponsoring are available from Bob Bilson. It may be that your time of walking, etc is past in which case use your form to be sponsored for helping to clean or tidy the church or mend service books or hymn books. The Church is also open on this day for visitors to see inside - encourage your friends and neighbours to come along, see inside our beautiful Church and look at the stock on Norma's stall, and the book stall.

FAMILY PICNIC for accompanied children. Meet at church on Tuesday August 7th at 10.00 am. Details form Gill Heath.

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

25<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 pm. Concert by the Watford Youth Sinfonia at St Michaels. Tickets: Adults – £12; Concessions – £10; Students – £7 on the door. More information on their website: <http://watforyouthsinfonia.com>.