



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 14
2 September 2018

A warm welcome to our services today.

There is our monthly “First Sunday of the Month Service” at 9.30 am. Fr Geoff celebrates and there will be an All-age Presentation.

Hymns: 604, 439, 253 and 538

Setting: Thorne

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

Evening Prayer 6.00 pm

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The St Albans Cathedral Schools Team.
The Anglican Church of South America, Gregory Venables its Presiding Bishop and all its people.
Persecuted Christians in Pakistan.

The World: Economic improvement for the people of Ethiopia.
Refugees from North Africa.
The work of the Children’s Society.

The Community and Parish: Our preparations for visitors on Heritage Open Day.
The Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust.
Preparation for Dedication of the War Memorial Cross.

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

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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 Song of Solomon 2.8–13

A reading from the book of the Song of Solomon.

- 8 The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.
- 9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.
- 10 My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
- 11 for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
- 12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land.
- 13 The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.'

SECOND READING James 1.17–20 (Good News Bible)

A reading from the letter of St James.

- 17 Every good gift and every perfect present comes from heaven; it comes down from God, the Creator of the heavenly lights, who does not change or cause darkness by turning.
- 18 By his own will he brought us into being through the word of truth, so that we should have first place among all his creatures.
- 19 Remember this, my dear friends! Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry.
- 20 Human anger does not achieve God's righteous purpose.

GOSPEL Mark 7.1–8, 14–15, 21–23

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

- ¹ When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus,
- ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.
- ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;
- ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)
- ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’
- ⁶ Jesus said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;
- ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.”
- ⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’
- ¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand:
- ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.
- ²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder,
- ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.
- ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	3	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	4	Sep	Service at River Court	2.30pm
Wed	5	Sep	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Church	10.30am – 12 noon
Thur	6	Sep	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sat	8	Sep	Bike n' Hike Day and Heritage Open Day (see Notices below)	
Sun	9	Sep	<u>TRINITY 14</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	
			(President: Fr Geoff and Preacher: Violet Allen-Smith)	9.30am
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

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 Heritage Day for visitors to see inside - encourage your friends and neighbours to come along, see inside our beautiful Church.

Between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm there is a Coffee Morning and Norma's Mini-Market. Cakes (please donate some), jewellery, toiletries and stationery on sale and also a raffle. Proceeds in aid of the War Memorial Cross.

URGENT REQUEST FOR SOMEONE TO MAKE COFFEE WHILE NORMA IS ATTENDING HER MINI MARKET (10.30-12.30).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

29th September, at 2.00 pm. The War Memorial Cross is to be dedicated by the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford, followed by refreshments.

13th October: Murder Mystery Play. Please ask your friends. Tables of 6. 3 - course Supper included. £20.00 per ticket. Bar available. Tickets and more details from Elizabeth Watkin or Valerie Blacklock.