



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**TRINITY 12**  
**8 September 2019**

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: 1, 582, 442 (T.278) and 430

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church 1.00pm – 10.00pm)

NO Evening Prayer tonight.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of St Matthew High Town in Luton.  
The Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan, Ezekiel Kumir  
Kondo its Archbishop and all its people.  
All who lead and attend Church youth clubs.

**The World:** The promotion of world literacy.  
Work to help those vulnerable to suicide.  
Sufferers from dementia.

**The Community and Parish:** Our visitors for Heritage Open Day, Coffee Morning  
and Bike & Hike on Saturday.  
Our PCC members meeting on Wednesday.  
The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church celebrating their Onam  
festival today.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Dennis Beach, Christopher Bilson, Marion  
Craddock-Jones, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia Dixon, Claire Dunning, Fr  
Robert Featherstone, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey, Mary Kearns,  
Loretta Lynch, Craig McKay, Lisa Mills, Sylvia Obeng, Dorcas  
Ochola, Michelle Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Catherine  
Stone, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care for  
them.

**The Departed:**

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## COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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 Jeremiah 18.1-11

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

<sup>1</sup> The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:  
<sup>2</sup> 'Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.'  
<sup>3</sup> So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel.  
<sup>4</sup> The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.  
<sup>5</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me:  
<sup>6</sup> Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.  
<sup>7</sup> At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it,  
<sup>8</sup> but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it.  
<sup>9</sup> And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it,  
<sup>10</sup> but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it.  
<sup>11</sup> Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

## SECOND READING Philemon 1-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon.

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker,  
<sup>2</sup> to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house:  
<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
<sup>4</sup> When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God  
<sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus.  
<sup>6</sup> I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ.

7 I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the  
8 hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.  
9 For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your  
10 duty,  
11 yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love – and I, Paul, do this as an old  
12 man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.  
13 I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during  
14 my imprisonment.  
15 Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to  
16 me.  
17 I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.  
18 I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place  
19 during my imprisonment for the gospel;  
20 but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed  
21 might be voluntary and not something forced.  
22 Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might  
23 have him back for ever,  
24 no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but  
25 how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.  
26 So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.  
27 If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.  
28 I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your  
29 owing me even your own self.  
30 Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in  
31 Christ.  
32 Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even  
33 more than I say.

## **GOSPEL Luke 14.25–33**

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

25 Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them,  
26 ‘Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children,  
27 brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.  
28 Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.  
29 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate  
30 the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?  
31 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will  
32 begin to ridicule him,  
33 saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.”  
34 Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first  
35 and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes  
36 against him with twenty thousand?  
37 If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks  
38 for the terms of peace.  
39 So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your  
40 possessions.’

## **THIS WEEK**

Mon	9	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	11	Sep	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	2.30pm
			<b>PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	7.25pm
Thu	12	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Holy Communion at St Anthony's	11.00am
Sat	14	Sep	Heritage Open Day etc – see Notices	9.00am – 5.00pm
			Coffee Morning and Sale	10.30am – 12 noon
Sun	15	Sep	<b><u>TRINITY 13</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			(President and Preacher: Fr Geoff )	
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			Holy Baptism	2.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## **NOTICES**

**SATURDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER** 9.00am – 5.00pm. Heritage Open Day and Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust Bike and Hike.  
Coffee Morning and Sale 10.30am – 12 noon.

Church members will be spending time spring cleaning the church and mending Service Books. We hope that there may be some people cycling or walking visiting churches in the area. Please sponsor them if they have a sponsor form. The proceeds will be divided between the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust and this church.

The proceeds from the Coffee Morning will go to Church funds. Norma would be very pleased to receive cakes for the Sale.

**LESLEY KINCH:** an interview with Lesley, with some footage of her funeral, is due to be aired on BBC London Evening News on September 9th.

### **FUTURE DATES:**

Saturday 28 September at 7.30pm. Talent Event. More details later.

Sunday 29 September at 9.30am – Patronal Festival.

Sunday 6 October at 12 noon – Harvest Bring & Share Lunch