



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 13
15 September 2019

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Sylvia Moring leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 589, 375, 565 and 555

Setting: Thorne

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall.

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

Holy Baptism at 2.00pm

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Anglican Church of Tanzania, Maimbo Mndolwa its Archbishop and all its people.

The Parish of Woodside, St Andrew, in our Diocese.

The Third Order of the Society of St Francis.

The World: The work of the Probation Service.

USPG's "Hope for the Future" project.

Christian Aid partners' work in El Salvador.

The Community and Parish: Aston Brian Owen and Ruby Alice Wilson, being baptised today.

Churches Together in Central, South and West Watford.

The Revd Ian Pankhurst, and the congregations of St Andrews and Christchurch.

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: Sue Pankhurst.

Collect

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:

help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you;

through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 4.11–12, 22–28

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- ¹¹ At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert towards my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse –
- ¹² a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgement against them.
- ²² ‘For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good.’
- ²³ I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light.
- ²⁴ I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro.
- ²⁵ I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled.
- ²⁶ I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger.
- ²⁷ For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.
- ²⁸ Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

SECOND READING I Timothy 1.12–17

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- ¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service,
¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,
¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost.
¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.
¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL Luke 15.1–10

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

- ¹ All the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus.
² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’
³ So he told them this parable:
⁴ ‘Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?
⁵ When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.
⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.”
⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
⁸ Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
⁹ When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, “Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.”
¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’
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THIS WEEK

Mon	16	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			Meeting of Franciscan Tertiaries	8.00 – 10.00pm
Wed	18	Sep	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
Thu	19	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Followed by coffee in Choir vestry	
Sun	22	Sep	<u>TRINITY 14</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			Holy Communion at The Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

HARVEST THANKSGIVING - 6 October 2019

At the 9.30 Sung Eucharist there will be a cash collection for the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal which is towards Tearfund's Light Up Tanzania project and any dried food will be donated to the Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership.

St MICHAEL'S CHRISTMAS MEAL at West Herts College Restaurant will be held this year on Tuesday 10th December at 6.30pm. The price is unchanged at £18 and includes a 3-course meal and a glass of Prosecco. Please make your booking with Martin Matthews at victoria.matthews@virgin.net.

THE EVENT ON 28TH SEPTEMBER AT 7.30 PM HAS CHANGED!

Fr Geoff is going to give a presentation on his Sabbatical, with photographs of the ancient Christian stones he sought out in out-of-the-way spots in Lincolnshire Lancashire, Cumbria, Scotland, County Durham and Yorkshire. He aims to give a lively and interesting talk, with interaction. Bring your own drinks, nibbles provided, payment by donation. There is a sign-up list at the back for catering purposes.

FUTURE DATES:

Sunday 29 September at 9.30am – Patronal Festival.

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