



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MICHAELMAS
29 September 2019

A warm welcome to our services today when we celebrate our Patronal Festival. At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist; Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones” (in back of Service Book), 245, 392 and 377. **Anthems:** “When All the Saints” and “In This Place”.

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.

Evening Prayer at 6.00pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Clapham in our Diocese.
The Episcopal Church (USA), Michael Curry its presiding Bishop and all its people.

Church Army Evangelists in Training.

The World: Justice and Peace in the Philippines.
People still trying to recover their lives after the dam collapse in Brazil in January.

Staff and travellers affected by the collapse of Thomas Cook.

The Community and Parish: Chater Infants School.
Residents and Staff at River Court and Amberside Care Homes.
Bishop Alan's Harvest Appeal – “Light up Tanzania”.

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:

COLLECT

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; 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 Genesis 28.10–17

A reading from the book of Genesis.

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.

¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.

¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

¹³ And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;

¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.

¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!'

¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

SECOND READING Hebrews 1.5–14

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

⁵ To which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are my Son; today I have begotten you’? Or again, ‘I will be his Father, and he will be my Son’?

⁶ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, ‘Let all God’s angels worship him.’

⁷ Of the angels he says, ‘He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.’

⁸ But of the Son he says, ‘Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’

¹⁰ And, ‘In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing;

¹² like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.’

¹³ But to which of the angels has he ever said, ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet’?

¹⁴ Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

GOSPEL John 1.47–51

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

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, ‘Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!’

⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, ‘Where did you come to know me?’ Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.’

⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’

⁵⁰ Jesus answered, ‘Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.’

⁵¹ And he said to him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.’

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THIS WEEK

Mon	30	Sep	Chater Infants Harvest Songs	9.00am
			Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			Social Committee	2.00pm
Tue	1	Oct	Service at River Court	2.30pm
Wed	2	Oct	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
Thu	3	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
Sun	6	Oct	<u>HARVEST</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			FIRST SUNDAY of MONTH SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President: Fr Geoff; All-Age Presentation)	
			Followed by refreshments	
			BRING AND SHARE LUNCH	12 noon
			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.

Harvest Produce: Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership are asking for tinned meat and fish, tinned vegetables, sweetcorn & tinned fruit, soup, sponge pudding, rice pudding, custard, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauce, rice, biscuits, fruit juice (long life), milk (UHT), breakfast tea, cereals & sugar.

It may be of interest to know that they are supporting 65 individuals or families each month, and anticipate giving out over 12 tonnes of food in 2019.

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.

FUTURE DATE:

Saturday 9 November at 7.30pm - Live Country Music with Ron Ryall. With a Table Quiz + Buffet.