



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**HARVEST**  
**6 October 2019**

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 270, “Think of a World Without any Flowers”** (words inside), **275 and “God Who Made the Earth”** (inside) **Setting: Thorne**

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

There is more information about Harvest gifts in the Notices at the back.

There is a Harvest Bring-&-Share Lunch at 12 noon.

Evening Prayer is at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** Clergy and readers in rural ministry.

The Church’s ministry in areas of the world where crops have failed.  
The Church’s work in promoting a responsible stewardship of the environment.

**The World:** All those working in food production and in the supply chain.

People around the world who don’t have sufficient food.  
Thankfulness for all God’s gifts.

**The Community and Parish:** Watford Food Bank clients and volunteers.

The Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal.  
The Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Christopher Bilson, Marion Craddock-Jones, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia Dixon, Claire Dunning, Fr Robert Featherstone, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey, Mary Kearns, Keith Levinson, 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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# HARVEST

## COLLECT

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:  
grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;  
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 Philippians 4.4–9 (Good News Version)

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.*

May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: rejoice. Show a gentle attitude toward everyone. The Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart. And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus. In conclusion, my friends, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honourable. Put into practice what you learned and received from me, both from my words and from my actions. And the God who gives us peace will be with you.

## GOSPEL John 6: 25-35 (NRSV)

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

When they found Jesus on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

## **Think of a world without any flowers**

- 1 **Think of a world without any flowers,  
think of a world without any trees,  
think of a sky without any sunshine,  
think of the air without any breeze.  
We thank you, Lord, for flowers and trees and sunshine,  
we thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**
- 2 **Think of the world without any animals,  
think of a field without any herd,  
think of a stream without any fishes,  
think of a dawn without any bird.  
We thank you, Lord, for all your living creatures,  
we thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**
- 3 **Think of a world without any people,  
think of a street with no-one living there,  
think of a town without any houses,  
no-one to love and nobody to care.  
We thank you, Lord, for families and friendships,  
we thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**

## **God who made the earth**

- 1 **God who made the earth,  
the air, the sky, the sea,  
who gave the light its birth,  
careth for me.**
- 2 **God who made the grass,  
the flow'r, the fruit, the tree,  
the day and night to pass,  
careth for me.**
- 3 **God who made the sun,  
The moon, the stars, is he  
who, when life's clouds come on,  
careth for me.**
- 4 **God who sent his Son  
to die on Calvary,  
he if I lean on him,  
will care for me.'**

## **THIS WEEK**

Mon	7	Oct	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	9	Oct	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
Thu	10	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	11.00am
Sun	13	Oct	<b><u>TRINITY 17</u></b>	
			<b>Start of the Week of Prayer for World Peace.</b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President & Preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## **NOTICES**

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING** – Today, 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.

**SUNDAY 13th OCTOBER** is the start of the **Week of Prayer for World Peace**. Prayer booklets with a theme and prayer for each day will be available for members of the congregation. Do please take one and use during the week.

**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](mailto:victoria.matthews@virgin.net).

**LIVE COUNTRY MUSIC SUNG BY RON RYALL WITH A TABLE QUIZ AND BUFFET:** At St Michael's on Saturday 9th November from 7.30 pm. Tickets £10 from Jamie or Holly Wareham. (Bring your own drinks.) Final date to purchase tickets is 3rd November.