



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 1

Sunday 18 June 2017

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 514, 216 (ii), 541 and 621**

**Setting: Thorne**

Children's Church in Littlebury Hall

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

The Animal Blessing Service is at 3.00pm

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough.  
The Diocese of Northern Territory (Australia) Greg Anderson its Bishop and all its people.  
Church Army's Research Unit.

**The World:** Victims of the London Tower Block Fire.  
Christian Aid's work with fathers in Kenya.  
The fight against drug abuse in the Philippines.

**The Community and Parish:** The welfare of animals in our area.  
Fr George and his ministry.  
Our support for local and international mission.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Gavin Ashenden, Christopher Bilson, Janet Bridge, Robert Caton, Peter Coley, Marion Craddock-Jones, Judith Degen, Audrey Dixon, Claire Dunning, Peter Hinchey, Kristine Jenkins, Lionel Jones, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Pat Ricketts, Michele Rodford, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Mark Watkin; and all who care for them.

**The Departed:** Michael Westney.

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**Collect**

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 18.1–15**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day.
- <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground.
- <sup>3</sup> He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant.
- <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.
- <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on – since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.'
- <sup>6</sup> And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.'
- <sup>7</sup> Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it.
- <sup>8</sup> Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.
- <sup>9</sup> They said to Abraham, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.'
- <sup>10</sup> Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.
- <sup>11</sup> Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.
- <sup>12</sup> So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?'
- <sup>13</sup> The LORD said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?"
- <sup>14</sup> Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.'
- <sup>15</sup> But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.'

## **SECOND READING Romans 5.1–8**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- <sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
<sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.  
<sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,  
<sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,  
<sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.  
<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.  
<sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.  
<sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

## **GOSPEL Matthew 9.35 – 10.8**

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

- <sup>35</sup> Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.  
<sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.  
<sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'  
<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.  
<sup>1</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;  
<sup>2</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;  
<sup>3</sup> Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.  
<sup>4</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,  
<sup>5</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.  
<sup>6</sup> As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near."  
<sup>7</sup> Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.  
<sup>8</sup>

## **THIS WEEK**

Mon	19	June	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
			Standing Committee	12.30pm
Wed	21	June	Food Bank	10.00am – 12 noon
			Mission Committee	10.00am
			Coffee	10.30am – 12 noon
Thu	22	June	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	25	June	<b><u>TRINITY 2</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b> (President : Fr Geoff)	<b>9.30am</b>
			(Preacher: Margaret Pritchard-Houston, Diocesan Children's Mission Enabler) Children's Church in Littlebury Hall	
			Followed by Bring-&-Buy Sale (Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00 – 5.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## **NOTICES**

OUTING TO WINCHESTER on the 15<sup>th</sup> July (St Swithin's Day!) If you would like to go on an outing to Winchester on that day, there is a sign-up list in Church. We will be going in cars, so please indicate whether you need or can offer a lift. Distance is approximately 70 miles.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 24th June from 11.00 am The Alban Pilgrimage (see June *Sword*)

Monday 3 July Discovering the Bible (Choir Vestry) 2.30 pm

Wednesday 12 July PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 7.30 pm