



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 2

Sunday 17 June 2007

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today. A special welcome to Carol Nolan, Chaplain to Watford General Hospital who will preach at the 9.30. At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr John celebrates, Carol Nolan preaches and Vicki Matthews leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 1, 428, 453 and 315

Setting: Rawsthorne

Refreshments will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on. There is Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Church in Japan: James Uno, Bishop of Osaka.
St George's School, Harpenden and its Chaplain, Adrian Manning.

All hospital Chaplains.

The World: Peace in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The safety of police officers.

The staff of our hospitals.

The Community and Parish: Aysha and Matthew Hicks who were married here yesterday: for their home in Berkhamsted.

Our friends at West Watford Free Church who have had to postpone their Golden Jubilee celebrations until September.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Alec Bennett, Ellen Benoy, John Burn, Marjorie Carlisle, Jennifer Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Morfa Downs, Maureen Elvery, David Gough, Jocelyn Harewood, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Myrtle Powell, Mary Pringle, David Simon, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Bill Widdowson and Anne Wightman.

Garth Woodhead (Acting Pastor of West Watford Free Church) – for his continuing recovery.

The Departed: John Sandell (aged 66), Combe Road.

COLLECT

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING I Kings 21.1b–10, 15–21a

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- 1 Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of King Ahab of Samaria.
 2 And Ahab said to Naboth, 'Give me your vineyard, so that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house; I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its value in money.'
 3 But Naboth said to Ahab, 'The LORD forbid that I should give you my ancestral inheritance.'
 4 Ahab went home resentful and sullen because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to him; for he had said, 'I will not give you my ancestral inheritance.' He lay down on his bed, turned away his face, and would not eat.
 5 His wife Jezebel came to him and said, 'Why are you so depressed that you will not eat?'
 6 He said to her, 'Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, "Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard for it"; but he answered, "I will not give you my vineyard."
 7 His wife Jezebel said to him, 'Do you now govern Israel? Get up, eat some food, and be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.'
 8 So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal; she sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who lived with Naboth in his city.
 9 She wrote in the letters, 'Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth at the head of the assembly;
 10 seat two scoundrels opposite him, and have them bring a charge against him, saying, "You have cursed God and the king." Then take him out, and stone him to death.'
 15 As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab, 'Go, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead.'
 16 As soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab set out to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.
 17 Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying:
 18 Go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules in Samaria; he is now in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession.
 19 You shall say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: Have you killed, and also taken possession?' You shall say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, dogs will also lick up your blood.'
 20 Ahab said to Elijah, 'Have you found me, O my enemy?' He answered, 'I have found you. Because you have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the LORD,
 21 I will bring disaster on you; I will consume you, and will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel.'

SECOND READING Galatians 2.15–21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- 15 We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners;

16 yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law.

17 But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not!

18 But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor.

19 For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ;

20 and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

21 I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

GOSPEL Luke 7.36 – 8.3

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

36 One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table.

37 And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment.

38 She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.

39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him – that she is a sinner.'

40 Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' 'Teacher,' he replied, 'Speak.'

41 'A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.

42 When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?'

43 Simon answered, 'I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.' And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.'

44 Then turning towards the woman, he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair.

45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet.

46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.

47 Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.'

48 Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.'

49 But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?'

50 And he said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'

1 Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him,

2 as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,

3 and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

THIS WEEK

Mon	18	June	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	19	June	Intercessory Prayer group (3 Swiss Close)	2.30pm
Wed	20	June	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Living with the Bible (Bible Study in the Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Thur	21	June	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Kids' Club	3.30 - 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	23	June	St Albans Festival Pilgrimage	from 10.30am
Sun	24	June	<u>BIRTH of St JOHN the BAPTIST</u>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			Sung Eucharist (followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale)	9.30am
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

NOTICES

CHRISTAIN AID WEEK: The grand total for our local collecting amounted to £1,130.70. Thank you to all who helped, and to Valerie Blacklock who organised it and counted the money.

CRICKET: We have been challenged to a youth cricket match by St Mary's, Watford!! It will be played in Cassiobury Park on 24th June. Of course it can only happen if we get a team. If interested please contact Jane Talbot on 226276 or halfsentence@yahoo.co.uk.

CHURCH COMMITTEES: Any member of St Michael's is eligible for membership of one of the church committees. If you would like to join one (or more) please sign the list on the table at the back of the church. The first meeting of each committee is likely to be in the next few weeks.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: Please return boxes to Norma or Pat Beach as soon as possible.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Saturday, 30 June, 10-30-12 noon. Coffee morning in Church in aid of the Peace Hospice.

Sunday, 1 July, Ordination of Gary Russell as Priest at St Albans Abbey.

Sunday, 8 July, **Church Barbecue** after the 11.15 service outside the west end of the church.

ST ALBANS FESTIVAL PILGRIMAGE – 23 June 2007 led by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. This promises to be a very exciting day – car parking is available in the field at the bottom of Holywell Hill and requests for spaces need to be in without delay. Let's make this a St Michael's day out. NB The preacher at the 11.30 Eucharist is The Venerable Mark Oakley, the preacher we heard in Copenhagen at St Albans Church.