



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 4

Sunday 1 July 2007

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr John celebrates and Neil Hart leads the intercessions. A crèche is available. There will be no sermon and only one reading so that members of the congregation will have time to get to St Albans Abbey for the service at 11.15 which includes the Ordination of Gary Russell as Priest.

Hymns: 305, 222, 601 and 432

Setting: Aston

Refreshments will be served in church after the 9.30 service.

There is a United Evening Service at West Watford Free Church at 6.30pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Anglican Church of Canada: Andrew Hutchinson, Archbishop.

St Albans Centre for Christian Studies,

Those being ordained in the Abbey today: especially Gary Russell, ordained Priest – for Bridget, Charlotte and John.

The World: Peace in Iraq Afghanistan, Darfur and the Middle East.

For public spiritness in policies of our political parties.

All who plan the future of education in this country.

Those affected by the recent floods.

The Community and Parish: The staff and patients of the Peace Hospice.

Our PCC meeting on Wednesday.

Those who work with children with special needs.

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.

The Departed: John Kemp (aged 64), The Chase Nursing Home
Leonard Roberts (aged 84), Caractacus Cottage View

Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong,
nothing is holy:

increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we
may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord 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 2 Kings 2.1–2, 6–14

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- ¹ When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.
- ² Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel.
- ⁶ Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on.
- ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.
- ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.
- ⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.'
- ¹⁰ He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.'
- ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.
- ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.
- ¹³ He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan.
- ¹⁴ He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, 'Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?' When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

SECOND READING Galatians 5.1, 13–25

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- ¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.

¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want.

¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

GOSPEL Luke 9.51–62

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

⁵¹ When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him;

⁵³ but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem.

⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?'

⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them.

⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.'

⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

⁵⁹ To another Jesus said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.'

⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.'

⁶¹ Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.'

⁶² Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	2	July	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Pause (23 Whippendell Road)	7.30pm
Wed	4	July	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Bring-&-Share Lunch	12.30pm
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 pm for 7.55 pm
Thu	5	July	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven (Home Communions) during morning	
			Kids' Club	3.30 - 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	7	July	Parish Walk	depart at 10.00am
			Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer (Lady Chapel)	11.00 am
			Blessing of Civil Marriage of Tony Ogutu and Jember Tewolde	12 noon
Sun	8	July	<u>TRINITY 5</u>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			Sung Eucharist	9.30am
			11.15 service	11.15am
			Church Barbecue	12.30pm
			River Court Service	3.00 pm
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

NOTICES

CONGRATULATIONS to Whitney Greenidge who is celebrating her 18th birthday today.

REGIONAL FESTAL EVENSONG: Our choir will be taking part in this at 6 pm at All Saints, Turvey. Christopher Muhley conducts and Andy plays the organ.

OUR MONTHLY PARISH WALK is on Saturday 7th July and leaves strictly on time at 10 am from Church. Please sign list if you wish to come.

BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH: Please sign the list for Wednesday 4th July.

LAST SUNDAY'S BRING-&-BUY raised £53 for church funds. Many thanks.

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:

Sunday, 8 July, Church Barbecue after the 11.15 service outside the west end of the church. Tickets (£2.50) are on sale from today. Please purchase asap so we know how many to cater for.

Wednesday, 11 July The date for the next Bible Study – 8 pm in the Choir Vestry.