



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 14

Sunday 9 September 2007

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Rev David Tuck celebrates, Martin Heath preaches and John Adams leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 538, 504, 501 and 191**

**Setting: Wilson**

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service.

This is followed by the 11.15 Service of Thanksgiving and Praise – please stay on.

The monthly service at River Court is at 3.00 pm.

There is Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Bishop of South West Tanganyika to be appointed.  
Work of the Cathedral Education centre.

Barbara Johnson; Philip Sharkey; Ordination Candidates in the Deanery of Buntingford.

**The World:** Peace in Iraq, Darfur and Afghanistan.

All affected by Hurricane Felix in Central America.

**The Community and Parish:** Our Kids' Club which restarts on Thursday and the new Sunday School starting next Sunday.

Homeless people in Watford.

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

**The Departed:** Bernard Cooke (aged 59), Brightwell Road.

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## COLLECT

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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 Jeremiah 18.1-11

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- <sup>1</sup> The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:  
<sup>2</sup> 'Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.'  
<sup>3</sup> So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel.  
<sup>4</sup> The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.  
<sup>5</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me:  
<sup>6</sup> Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.  
<sup>7</sup> At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it,  
<sup>8</sup> but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it.  
<sup>9</sup> And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it,  
<sup>10</sup> but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it.  
<sup>11</sup> Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

## SECOND READING Philemon 1-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon.

- <sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker,  
<sup>2</sup> to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house:  
<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
<sup>4</sup> When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God  
<sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus.  
<sup>6</sup> I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ.

7 I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the  
hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.  
8 For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your  
duty,  
9 yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love – and I, Paul, do this as an old  
man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.  
10 I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during  
my imprisonment.  
11 Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to  
me.  
12 I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.  
13 I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place  
during my imprisonment for the gospel;  
14 but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed  
might be voluntary and not something forced.  
15 Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might  
have him back for ever,  
16 no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but  
how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.  
17 So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.  
18 If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.  
19 I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your  
owing me even your own self.  
20 Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in  
Christ.  
21 Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even  
more than I say.

## **GOSPEL Luke 14.25–33**

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

25 Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them,  
26 ‘Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers  
and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.  
27 Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.  
28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost,  
to see whether he has enough to complete it?  
29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to  
ridicule him,  
30 saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.”  
31 Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and  
consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him  
with twenty thousand?  
32 If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the  
terms of peace.  
33 So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	10	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Service at Chase Care Home	3.00pm
Wed	12	Sep	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thu	13	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Kids Club restarts	3.30–5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm
Fri	14	Sep	Social Evening with talk on The History of Canals with refreshments	8.00pm
Sat	15	Sep	RSCM Examinations in Choir Vestry	morning
Sun	16	Sep	<b><u>TRINITY 15</u></b>	
			NO Holy Communion at 8.00am	
			<b>Sung Eucharist</b> (Pres & Preacher Rev Canon Michael Carter)	9.30am
			SUNDAY SCHOOL starts in Littlebury Hall	9.30am
			Evensong	6.30pm

## NOTICES

8 am HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES in AUGUST and SEPTEMBER: Due to the difficulty in getting cover for all the services in the holiday period, the PCC has agreed to suspend the early celebration on Sundays in August and September.

YOU'RE INVITED to join us for a cup of tea and cake and help people in the world's poorest communities work their way out of poverty. At 4pm on 21 September, people across the UK will be drinking tea together to help raise funds for Christian Aid.

SOCIAL EVENING INCLUDING an illustrated talk on the History of Canals with particular reference to Hertfordshire by Bob de Vekey on Friday, 14 September 2008, at 8 pm in church. Tickets including refreshments £2.50 – proceeds for church funds - on sale now from the Social Committee and at the coffee bar

CHRISTMAS CARDS: On sale in support of our church £4 for a pack of 10. Only 60 packs available and half of these were sold last week - so don't delay.

MANY THANKS for donations of £29 from the Wednesday Coffee Group, £16 from the Toddlers Group and £47 from the last Bring-&-Buy sale, all for church funds.

KIDS' CLUB EQUIPMENT: We apologise for the boxes, etc in the north aisle; we hope to have these put in the new cupboards built in the Mildred Ave porch soon.

HARVEST WEEKEND: 22 & 23 September. The Harvest Workshop will be from 2-4 pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Harvest Thanksgiving will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. This year the theme will be WATERAID. People are invited to bring some coins to go into a collection for WaterAid. In addition we shall as usual give any gifts of dry goods to the New Hope Trust (see list of possible items on page 22 of Sword)

6 OCTOBER: Watch this date when we have our Supper Concert for Voices for Hospices. See page 15 in Sword. More details next week.