



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 15

Sunday 16 September 2007

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Rev Canon Michael Carter celebrates and preaches and Paul Jenkins leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 4, 478, 318 and 589 (tune ii)**

**Setting: Wilson**

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

Sunday School starts at 9.30am in Littlebury Hall.

There is Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30 pm.

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

**The Church:** Bernard Malango, Bishop of Upper Shire, Central Africa.  
Retired Clergy and Lay Ministers in the Deanery of Buntingford.  
St John's Guild for the Blind.

**The World:** Peace in Iraq, Darfur and Afghanistan.  
The farming community in this country and all who are suffering  
as a result of the foot-and-mouth disease outbreak.  
Residents in Indonesia affected by the earthquakes there.

**The Community and Parish:** St Michael's Sunday School, the children and the  
teachers, as they start their first term.  
For a quick and practical solution to the problems at Watford Post  
Office.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Ray Angles, Ellen Benoy, John Burn,  
Marjorie Carlisle, Jennifer Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Jean  
Crouch, Ifagaani Desiderio, 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:**

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## COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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 4.11–12, 22–28

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- <sup>11</sup> At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert towards my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse –
- <sup>12</sup> a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgement against them.
- <sup>22</sup> ‘For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good.’
- <sup>23</sup> I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light.
- <sup>24</sup> I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro.
- <sup>25</sup> I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled.
- <sup>26</sup> I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger.
- <sup>27</sup> For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.
- <sup>28</sup> Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

## **SECOND READING I Timothy 1.12–17**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- <sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service,  
<sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,  
<sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.  
<sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost.  
<sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.  
<sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## **GOSPEL Luke 15.1–10**

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

- <sup>1</sup> All the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus.  
<sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’  
<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable:  
<sup>4</sup> ‘Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?  
<sup>5</sup> When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.  
<sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.”  
<sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.  
<sup>8</sup> Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?  
<sup>9</sup> When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, “Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.”  
<sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	17	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	18	Sep	Intercessory Prayer Group (6 Lynbury Court)	2.30pm
Wed	19	Sep	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thu	20	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Mothers' Union join this and meet afterwards in the Choir Vestry.	
			Kids Club	3.30–5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm
Fri	21	Sep	<b>Christian Aid Tea Party</b>	4.00-5.00pm
Sat	22	Sep	Harvest Workshop (in Church)	2.00-4.00pm
Sun	23	Sep	<b><u>HARVEST THANKSGIVING</u></b>	
			NO Holy Communion at 8.00am	
			<b>Sung Eucharist with presentation</b>	9.30am
			Sunday School in Littlebury Hall	9.30am
			Deanery Choral Evensong at St Andrew's	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. Please come, take the handbills for your friends and neighbours, and bring any cakes that you can for sale at the tea party.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE OCTOBER SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 23 September. Please submit copy before this time if possible. Hard copy, floppy disc or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

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

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).

CHORAL EVENSONGS: Deanery Choral Service at St Andrew's at 6.30 pm next Sunday, 23 September; Michaelmas Choral Evensong at St Michael's at 6.30 pm on 30 September.

6 OCTOBER: Supper Concert for Voices for Hospices. An evening of light, vocal and instrumental, musical entertainment followed by supper. In church at 7 pm. Tickets (including supper) £10; music only tickets £5. Please get your tickets now from Pat Beach and Sylvia Moring.