



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

HARVEST FESTIVAL
Sunday 23 September 2007

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr John celebrates and there will be a Presentation by some of our young people. A crèche is available. The intercessions will be led by Graham Mordue and the Choir (see *Music Notes*).

Hymns: 270, 257, 275 and 252

There is a special service booklet for the Celebration of Harvest.

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

Sunday School is at 9.30am in Littlebury Hall.

There is a **Deanery Choral Evensong at St Andrew's** at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: John Lipscomb, Bishop of Southwest Florida, USA.
All theological colleges and courses.
Michaelmas Ordinations in the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban.

The World: Peace in Iraq, Darfur and Afghanistan.
For all who work on the land and seas to provide for us.
For WaterAid which works in 17 countries providing water, sanitation and hygiene education to some of the world's poorest people.

The Community and Parish: Give thanks for all the good things in our lives: for safe drinking water and enough food, good housing and education, for friends from many nations.
The pleasure and fellowship of the Harvest Workshop.
For all who will benefit from our harvest gifts; the New Hope Trust.

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:

HARVEST

COLLECT

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING Exodus 17.1–7

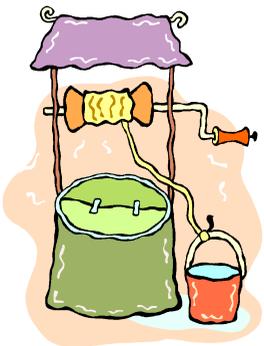
A reading from the book of Exodus.

- ¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.
- ² The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, ‘Give us water to drink.’ Moses said to them, ‘Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?’
- ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?’
- ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, ‘What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.’
- ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.
- ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.’ Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.
- ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, ‘Is the LORD among us or not?’

GOSPEL John 4.8–15

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

- ⁵ Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.
- ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.
- ⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.'
- ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)
- ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)
- ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.'
- ¹¹ The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?
- ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?'
- ¹³ Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,
- ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'
- ¹⁵ The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'



THIS WEEK

Mon	24	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	26	Sep	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 for 7.55pm
Thu	27	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Kids Club	3.30–5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm
Sun	30	Sep	<u>MICHAELMAS</u>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			followed by Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			Sunday School in Littlebury Hall	9.30am
			CHORAL EVENSONG	6.30pm

NOTICES

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE OCTOBER SWORD is MIDDAY today 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 50 of these have gone - so don't delay. There seem to be a few spare packets of envelopes left – has anyone bought cards and forgotten to take the envelopes?

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

HARVEST LOAF: Our thanks to Nick Anderson, Master Baker at the Redbournbury Watermill, Redbourn, for making our harvest loaf this year.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES to Jocelyn Harewood who is celebrating her "Big Birthday" on Tuesday the 25th. Enjoy your day when it arrives.

MANY THANKS to all who supported the social evening when we had an illustrated talk from Bob de Vekey about canals. The evening was very interesting and enjoyable and £72 was raised for church funds.

BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH: Please sign the list for Wednesday 3rd October.

HARVEST SUPPER: This year our Harvest Supper will take the form of a Supper Concert on the 6th October and the money raised will go to the Peace Hospice. An evening of light, vocal and instrumental, musical entertainment will be followed by supper. It will take place in church at 7 pm. Tickets (including supper) £10; music only tickets £5. Please get your tickets now from Pat Beach and Sylvia Moring.