



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 18

Sunday 7 October 2007

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr John celebrates and preaches and Sylvia Moring leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 604, 216 (tune 2), 444 and 453**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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.

Service at Beechen Grove Baptist Church to celebrate 300 years of Baptist presence in Watford at 6.30 pm. This is in place of the usual united service.

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

### **The Church:**

The Diocese of Accra, West Africa: Ofei Akrofi, Bishop.

Procares in El Salvador (our Bishop's Harvest cause).

The Church in Waltham Cross.

For Christians to be sensitive to the natural order, especially in our treatment of animals.

### **The World:**

Peace in Iraq, Afghanistan, Darfur and Burma.

All engaged in matters of justice in our own country.

The work of the World Wild Life Fund.

**The Community and Parish:** Beechen Grove Baptist Church which celebrates 300 years of Baptist Witness in this town.

Deanery Synod, meeting on Thursday.

**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, Anne

Wightman and Sr Zoe CSJB.

### **The Departed:**

Margaret Jones (aged 97), River Court, previously Carpenders Park.

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**Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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 Lamentations 1.1–6**

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

- <sup>1</sup> How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal.
- <sup>2</sup> She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies.
- <sup>3</sup> Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting-place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress.
- <sup>4</sup> The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.
- <sup>5</sup> Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the LORD has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe.
- <sup>6</sup> From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

**SECOND READING 2 Timothy 1.1–14**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- <sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
- <sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
- <sup>3</sup> I am grateful to God – whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did – when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.
- <sup>4</sup> Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy.
- <sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.

<sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands;  
<sup>7</sup> for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.  
<sup>8</sup> Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God,  
<sup>9</sup> who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,  
<sup>10</sup> but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.  
<sup>11</sup> For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,  
<sup>12</sup> and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him.  
<sup>13</sup> Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.  
<sup>14</sup> Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

## **GOSPEL Luke 17.5–10**

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

<sup>5</sup> The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’  
<sup>6</sup> The Lord replied, ‘If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, “Be uprooted and planted in the sea,” and it would obey you.  
<sup>7</sup> Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, “Come here at once and take your place at the table”?  
<sup>8</sup> Would you not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink”?  
<sup>9</sup> Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?  
<sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, “We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!”’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	8	Oct	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Chase Care Home Service	3.00pm
			Deanery Pastoral Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Tue	9	Oct	Publicity Committee	2.00pm
Wed	10	Oct	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
			PAUSE (23 Whippendell Road)	7.30pm
Thu	11	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Kids Club	3.30–5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm
Sat	13	Oct	Service for Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals	2.30pm
			<i>(see October Sword for more details)</i>	
Sun	14	Oct	<b><u>TRINITY 19 (Visiting Readers)</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b> (with crèche)	9.30am
			<i>(No Sunday School)</i>	
			11.15 Service – Simple Eucharist	11.15am
			Service at River Court	3.00pm
			Evensong	6.30pm

## **NOTICES**

**EVENING SERVICE** tonight, 7 October: Please note that this will NOT be a United Service at West Watford but people are encouraged to attend the special service at Beechen Grove Baptist Church AT 6.30 pm.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS**: On sale in support of our church £4 for a pack of 10. There seem to be a few spare packets of envelopes left – has anyone bought cards and forgotten to take the envelopes?

**“HOPE”** is the title of New Hope Trust's Annual Report. It contains some vivid profiles of people who have been helped by the Trust. Please borrow the Report from the table. Your kind Harvest gifts have gone to help them. Thank you very much.

**CELEBRATING DIVERSITY in the CHURCH of ENGLAND 2007**: We have been asked to complete a simple survey which will help the church authorities statistics dept. Please take and return one as soon as possible.

**NEXT SUNDAY** we welcome Readers on their annual training course from Christ Church.

**WATER AID**: A total of £98.77 was collected at Harvest Thanksgiving for Water Aid. Thank you to all who contributed to this very worthwhile cause.

**CHURCH FUNDS** have benefited from donations of £24 from Wednesday Coffee Group, £24 from Toddlers Group and £56 from last Sunday's Bring-&-Buy. Many thanks.