



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 20

Sunday 21 October 2007

A warm welcome to everyone to our services today.

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

Hymns: 585, 515, 500 and 81

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

There is Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain: Bishop Carlos Lopez-Lozano.

The Parish of Lemsford in the Hatfield Team Ministry: Edward Cardale, Priest-in-Charge.

The Eastern Region Ministry Course.

The World: One World Week – and its hope for universal harmony.

The Week of Prayer for World Peace.

Planners and developers at a time of increasing population forecasts.

The Community and Parish: Local schools on Half-term holiday.

People of Eastern European origin in our Parish.

Members of our Parochial Church Council.

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

The Departed:

COLLECT

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church:
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager
to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of
eternal life;
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 31.27–34

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- ²⁷ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals.
- ²⁸ And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD.
- ²⁹ In those days they shall no longer say: 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.'
- ³⁰ But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.
- ³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
- ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.
- ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
- ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- ¹⁴ Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it,
¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.
¹ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:
² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.
³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires,
⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.
⁵ As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

GOSPEL Luke 18.1–8

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

- ¹ Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.
² He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people.
³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent."
⁴ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone,
⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming."
⁶ And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says.
⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?
⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

THIS WEEK

Mon	22	Oct	<i>Half term week</i>	
			Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	24	Oct	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 for 7.55pm
Thu	25	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm
Sat	27	Oct	<i>Put clocks back tonight</i>	
Sun	28	Oct	<u>St SIMON & St JUDE</u>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (with crèche)	9.30am
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			Youth Group (in church)	4.00pm – 6.00pm
			Evensong	6.30pm

NOTICES

PARISH WALK: Make a note of the date – Saturday 3rd November. 10 am start. List and details soon.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE: 21-28 October – please take the yellow leaflet home and use it to guide your spiritual life during this week.

You are warmly invited to a Week of Prayer for World Peace gathering - a simple inter-faith ceremony followed by a buffet supper at Friends Meeting House 150 Church Road on Sunday 28th October, from 6.00pm. Please see Gill Heath for more details.

NEXT BIBLE STUDY is on Wednesday 31st October at 8 pm. We begin to study the Acts of the Apostles. All welcome.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER SWORD is MIDDAY today Sunday, 21 October. Please submit copy before this time if possible. Hard copy, floppy disc or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE thank everyone for clearing the notice boards in church. If you are responsible for a display please think about getting some material (perhaps new?) and putting it on the appropriate board as soon as possible. The aim is to show all aspects of our church's life – the organisations we support, the work we do with young people, the activities that go on in our community,, and the rota and papers that are essential to our church's administration. We hope a lot of people will be coming into church between now and Christmas and we would like to show our church life to the full.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: Saturday, 10 November 2007 in church and hall from 11.am – 2.30 pm. See page 15 of the October *Sword* to see how you can help with the fair this year. Look through your cupboards for saleable items, start to make your jam and marmalade, tell your friends and make sure the date is in your diary. Please sign the list at the back of the church if you are able to help in any way. Thank you.