



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 5

22 June 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates, Father John preaches and Vicki Wardman leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 409, 152, 308 (1st tune) and 81

Setting: Rawsthorne

Tea and coffee 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 Church in Nigeria; Archbishop Peter AKINOLA. The work and witness of our Abbey Church this Albantide.

The World: Peace in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East.
Gordon Brown and all who govern us.
Those who work in the fuel distribution business.

The Community and Parish: Callum Jeffereys is to be baptised this afternoon.
All who work in local residential homes.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Monica Batt, Ellen Benoy, Mel Browne, John Burn, Marjorie Carlisle, Jennifer Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Ifagaani Desiderio, Jim Dibben, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Bob Gerrard, Jocelyn Harewood, Jenny Houghton, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Gladys Robertson, Elaine Robinson, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Anne Wightman, Maureen Williams and Sue Winterbotham.

The Departed: Len Tomlinson (aged 78) Hagden Lane.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:

hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 21.8–21

A reading from the book of Genesis.

⁸ The child Isaac grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.

⁹ But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac.

¹⁰ So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.'

¹¹ The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son.

¹² But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you.

¹³ As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.'

¹⁴ So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

¹⁵ When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes.

¹⁶ Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept.

¹⁷ And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is.

¹⁸ Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.'

¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰ God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow.

²¹ He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

SECOND READING Romans 6.1b–11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

¹ Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound?

² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it?

3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were
baptized into his death?
4 Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as
Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in
newness of life.
5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united
with him in a resurrection like his.
6 We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be
destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin.
7 For whoever has died is freed from sin.
8 But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.
9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no
longer has dominion over him.
10 The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.
11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.24–39

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

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction:
24 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master;
25 it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If
they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they
malign those of his household!
26 So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and
nothing secret that will not become known.
27 What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered,
proclaim from the housetops.
28 Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who
can destroy both soul and body in hell.
29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground
unperceived by your Father.
30 And even the hairs of your head are all counted.
31 So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.
32 Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge
before my Father in heaven;
33 but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.
34 Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to
bring peace, but a sword.
35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
36 and one's foes will be members of one's own household.
37 Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever
loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;
38 and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
39 Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will
find it.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	23	June	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	24	June	Finance & General Purposes Committee (in Church)	7.30 pm
Wed	25	June	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 for 7.55 pm
Thu	26	June	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Kids' Club	3.30 – 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	28	June	CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COFFEE MORNING	10.30 – 12 noon
Sun	29	June	<u>ST. PETER (TRINITY 6)</u>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			Sung Eucharist (crèche available)	9.30am
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy Sale	
			Sunday School in Littlebury Hall	9.30am
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

NOTICES

BISHOP CHRISTOPHER'S RETIREMENT: The PCC voted to give £100 towards the Bishop's farewell gift on behalf of the Parish. (He will have been our Bishop for 13 years.) If you would like to add a personal donation to this amount, please give it to the Churchwardens in the envelopes marked.

A COFFEE MORNING in aid of The Children's Society will be held in church on Saturday, 28 June, from 10.30 am – 12 noon. Please make a note in your diary and tell your friends and neighbours.

MILTON 400th ANNIVERSARY: John Milton, the author of "Paradise Lost", was born 400 years ago. There are special exhibitions about him at Cambridge, where he attended Christ's College from 1625 to 1632. If there is enough interest, a visit (partially private) will be arranged on Friday 4th July. Please speak to Graham Mordue (01923 244180).

THE ANNUAL BARBECUE will be held after the 11.15 service on Sunday 13 July, at the west end of the church and also on the triangle. Tickets available now - £3.50.