



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 7

6 July 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates, Fr John preaches and Paul Jenkins leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 386, 101, 278 and 468**

**Setting: Wilson**

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

At 3.00pm, there will be a Service of Thanksgiving for Creation and Animal Blessing here – preacher Rt Revd Richard Llewellyn, former Bishop at Lambeth. With the St Michael's Catholic High School Choir.

There is a United Evening Service at St Michael's at 6.30pm.

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

**The Church:** The Church in Pakistan: Alexander Malik, Moderator and Bishop of Lahore.

God's guidance on the future of the cohesion of the Anglican Church.

The Parish of St Andrew's, Luton, and Grantley and Gladys in their ministry there.

**The World:** The people of Zimbabwe and the leaders of the African nations in their attempts to bring order to that country..

Peace in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Those in debt and their advisors and supporters.

**The Community and Parish:** The Mothers' Union as they observe the Wave of Prayer on Tuesday.

Plans being made for the ministry to the Parish in the Autumn.

**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, Marjorie Holt, 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:**

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**Collect**

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things:  
graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all  
goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same;  
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 Genesis 24.34–38, 42–49, 58–67**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The servant whom Abraham had sent said to Laban:

34 'I am Abraham's servant.

35 The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given  
him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys.

36 And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has  
given him all that he has.

37 My master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son from the  
daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live;

38 but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son."

42 I came today to the spring, and said, "O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now  
you will only make successful the way I am going!

43 I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to  
draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,'

44 and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also' – let her be the  
woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son."

45 Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her  
water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her,  
"Please let me drink."

46 She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, "Drink, and I will also water  
your camels." So I drank, and she also watered the camels.

47 Then I asked her, "Whose daughter are you?" She said, "The daughter of Bethuel,  
Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him." So I put the ring on her nose, and the  
bracelets on her arms.

48 Then I bowed my head and worshipped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of  
my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my  
master's kinsman for his son.

49 Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me,  
so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.'

58 And they called Rebekah, and said to her, 'Will you go with this man?' She said, 'I will.'

59 So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and  
his men.

60 And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, 'May you, our sister, become thousands of  
myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.'

61 Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus  
the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

62 Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb.

63 Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming.  
64 And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel,  
65 and said to the servant, 'Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?'  
The servant said, 'It is my master.' So she took her veil and covered herself.  
66 And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.  
67 Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

## **SECOND READING Romans 7.15–25a**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

15 I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.  
16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good.  
17 But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.  
18 For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it.  
19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.  
20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.  
21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand.  
22 For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self,  
23 but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.  
24 Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?  
25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

## **GOSPEL Matthew 11.16–19, 25–30**

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

At that time Jesus said,  
16 'To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,  
17 "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn."  
18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon";  
19 the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.  
25 I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;  
26 yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.  
27 All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.  
28 Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.  
29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.  
30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	7	July	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Publicity Committee (in church)	10.00am
Tue	8	July	Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer in Lady Chapel followed by Intercessory Prayer Group	2.00pm
Wed	9	July	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Hometown	3.00pm
			Bible Study: Exodus 12.43. All welcome	8.00pm
Thu	10	July	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's (during morning)	
			Rural Dean's inspection with Churchwardens	3.30pm
			Kids' Club	3.30 – 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	12	July	Wedding of Daniel Osikomimu and Priscilla Chirume	12 noon
Sun	13	July	<b>TRINITY 8</b>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			<b>Sung Eucharist</b> (crèche available)	9.30am
			11.15 Service – Simple Eucharist	11.15am
			(with youth choir from St Lawrence, Abbots Langley)	
			BARBECUE (west end of church)	12.30pm
			River Court Service	3.00pm
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

## NOTICES

MARTIN HEATH is preaching this morning at St Matthew's, Oxhey.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE: If you wish to have a name added to the Book of Remembrance please see Violet Allen-Smith.

LAST SUNDAY'S BRING-&-BUY SALE raised £51. There have also been donations of £22 from the Wednesday Coffee Morning and £16 from the Toddlers' Group. All of this will go into church general funds. Many thanks.

175<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY: The revival of music and ritual in the Church of England began with a sermon by John Keble in 1833. This will be remembered in an hour of silent prayer from 12 noon to 1.00 pm in the Lady Chapel on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July.

HOLIDAY CLUB: This will be held for a week beginning on Monday, 4 August. The sessions are held in the mornings from 9.30 am. If you are able to help at one or more of the sessions please get in touch with Jane Talbot as soon as possible 01923 226276 or [halfsentence@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:halfsentence@yahoo.co.uk)

SUNDAY SCHOOL: If you are interested in helping with the Sunday School will you please see Sylvia Moring.

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 – please get yours TODAY. The Youth Choir from St Lawrence Abbots Langley who will be taking part in the 11.15 service are staying on to the barbecue.