



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 10

27 July 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Canon Michael Carter celebrates and preaches and Phil Gough leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 530, 445, 196 and 590

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

There is Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Church in Rwanda: Emmanuel Kolini, Archbishop and Bishop of Kigali.

Anglican/Methodist Relations in the Diocese.

The Parish of Woodside and East Hyde; Joy Daniel, Vicar.

The World: The safety of peace-keeping forces in troubled countries.

Peace in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Leaders of industry in this country.

The Community and Parish: The work of the Peace Hospice.

Local schools as the holidays begin – give thanks for all who teach and work in schools.

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, 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:

Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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 29.15–28

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- ¹⁵ Laban said to Jacob, 'Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?'
- ¹⁶ Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel.
- ¹⁷ Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful.
- ¹⁸ Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, 'I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.'
- ¹⁹ Laban said, 'It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.'
- ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.
- ²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, 'Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.'
- ²² So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast.
- ²³ But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her.
- ²⁴ (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.)
- ²⁵ When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, 'What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?'
- ²⁶ Laban said, 'This is not done in our country – giving the younger before the firstborn.
- ²⁷ Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.'
- ²⁸ Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

SECOND READING Romans 8.26–39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
- ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

28 We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.
29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.
30 And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.
31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?
32 He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?
33 Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.
34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.
35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
36 As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'
37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height,
39 nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.31–33, 44–52

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

31 Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;
32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'
33 He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.
34 The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
35 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
36 on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.
37 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;
38 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.
39 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous
40 and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
41 Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.'
42 And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	28	July	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	30	July	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 for 7.55pm
Thu	31	July	Holy Communion	10.00am
			(Kids' Club does not meet during school holidays)	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	1	July	<i>Narrow Boat Trip for Youth Group</i>	
Sat	2	Aug	Parish Walk	dep 10.00am
			Wedding of Nicholas Baker and Katharine Mansell	2.30pm
Sun	3	Aug	<u>TRINITY 10</u>	
			Holy Communion	8.00am
			Sung Eucharist (crèche available)	9.30am
			Publicity Committee meeting	11.00am
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

NOTICES

THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN CARE HOMES DURING THE VACANCY: A number of lay folk from St Michael's help by taking part, and sometimes leading, services outside St Michael's. If you would like to consider helping in this way please see Fr John.

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

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 to 12 noon. 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL: If you are interested in helping with the Sunday School will you please see one of the churchwardens.

NEXT BIBLE STUDY will be on 6th August at 8 pm (Exodus 18.1)

WOODEN CHAIRS: The church has a number of stackable wooden chairs (infant school size). If anyone uses them for church activities will they please see Sylvia Moring. If anyone would like to have a few of these chairs for their own use will they also see Sylvia Moring.

PARISH LUNCH: The Social Committee anticipate that the parish lunch on 14 September will be one of the largest events of its kind that we have had at St Michael's. We would like help with all kinds of practical things from re-arranging the furniture, setting up, washing up, providing a dish of food. There is a list for people to sign on the signing-up table; please look at it and see if you can help.

NEXT PARISH WALK will be on Saturday 2nd August. Vicki and Martin Matthews have kindly agreed to organise it. NEXT BRING-&-SHARE lunch will be on Wednesday, 6th August. Please sign lists.