



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 11

3 August 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr John celebrates, Violet Allen-Smith and preaches and Paul Chandler leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 555, 317, 309 and 455

Setting: Oldroyd/Shaw

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

There will be a meeting of the Publicity Committee after the service.

There is Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Bishops and their wives attending the Lambeth Conference. The Parishes of Keysoe with Bolnhurst and Little Staughton (Beds) and those helping in the vacancy.

The World: Thos organising, and participating in, the Beijing Olympics. Peace in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Those seeking asylum and awaiting decisions on their future.

The Community and Parish: Katherine and Nick Baker, married here yesterday, and for their home in Surbiton.

The children who will attend Holiday Club.

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, Margery 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:

Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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 32.22–31

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- ²² Jacob got up, took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.
- ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.
- ²⁴ Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.
- ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.
- ²⁶ Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.'
- ²⁷ So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.'
- ²⁸ Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.'
- ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him.
- ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.'
- ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

SECOND READING Romans 9.1–5

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit.
- ² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.
- ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh.
- ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;
- ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.13–21

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

- ¹³ When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.
- ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.
- ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, ‘This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’
- ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’
- ¹⁷ They replied, ‘We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.’
- ¹⁸ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’
- ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.
- ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.
- ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

THIS WEEK

Mon	4	Aug	Holiday Club in Church	9.30am – 12 noon
			Toddlers' Group – Picnic in the park	10.00 – 11.30am
			Pause (23 Whippendell Road)	7.30pm
Tue	5	Aug	Holiday Club	9.30am – 12 noon
Wed	6	Aug	Holiday Club in Church	9.30am – 12 noon
			Coffee in Choir Vestry	10.30am-12 noon
			Bring-&-Share Lunch (in church)	12.30pm
			Bible Study Group (Choir Vestry) - Exodus 18.1	8.00pm
Thu	7	Aug	Holiday Club in Church	9.30am – 12 noon
			Holy Communion in Choir Vestry	10.00am
			(Kids' Club does not meet during school holidays).	
Fri	8	Aug	Holiday Club (last day in Church	9.30am – 12 noon
Sat	9	Aug	Baptism of Romeo and Calvin Coley	3.00pm
Sun	10	Aug	<u>TRINITY 12</u>	
			Holy Communion	8.00am
			Sung Eucharist (crèche available)	9.30am
			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 this week from 9.30 am to 12 noon each morning. 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.

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.

FAMILY FUN DAY in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital on 10th August from 2 – 6 pm at King George's Playing Field, Holywell. Arranged by the Muslim Awareness Forum – further details from Saeed (823635).

PLEASE NOTE that the time of Penny Allen Smith's 'Blessing' on 29th August, which was omitted from the Sword's Diary, is 12.30 pm. Apologies for this omission.

NEXT BRING-&-SHARE lunch will be on Wednesday, 6th August. Please sign lists.