



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 16

7 September 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 492, 358, 512 and 334.

Setting: Oldroyd/Shaw

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

The Wedding Blessing for Hannah (née Benoy) and Mike Brown is at 3.00pm

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

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Episcopal Church of the Sudan: Archbishop Daniel Yak (Bishop of Juba).

All teachers and children in the Diocese at the beginning of a new school year.

The parish of Lyonsdown (Barnet): Charles Dobbie, Vicar.

The World: Peace in Iraq, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Georgia.

Opinion-formers in our media – for their responsibility for fair communication of news.

The Community and Parish: Hannah and Mike Brown – for their happiness in their Durham home.

Members of our Parochial Church Council meeting on Wednesday.

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

For Lesley Kinch after her operation.

The Departed: Ben Deeley, Nottingham (Christine's father-in-law).

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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 Exodus 12.1–14

A reading from the book of Exodus.

¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt:

² This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you.

³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.

⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.

⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.

⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs.

¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.

¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD.

¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD.

¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

SECOND READING Romans 13.8–14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

⁹ The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light;

¹³ let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy.

¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.15–20

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

Jesus spoke to his disciples.

¹⁵ 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.

¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector.

¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

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The next BIBLE STUDY meeting will be on Wednesday, 1 October 2008, at 8 pm in the Choir Vestry. The group will be starting to study the First Book of Samuel.

THIS WEEK

Mon	8	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Publicity Committee	10.00am
			Service at The Chase Care Home	3.00pm
Tue	9	Sep	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
Wed	10	Sep	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Homemanor	3.00pm
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (Choir Vestry)	7.45 for 7.55pm
Thu	11	Sep	Holy Communion	10.00am
			St Anthony's (during morning)	
			Kids' Club	3.30 -5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	13	Sep	RSCM Examinations in Choir Vestry (morning)	
			HISTORIC CHURCHES BIKE 'N HIKE	
			(Church open all day for visiting cyclists and walkers)	
			Parish Walk taking in some of the local churches	10.00am
Sun	14	Sep	<u>HOLY CROSS</u>	
			<u>Fr John's last Sunday as Vicar</u>	
			Holy Communion	8.00am
			Sung Eucharist (crèche available)	9.30am
			PARISH LUNCH	start 12 – 12.30pm
			Evensong in Lady Chapel (Off: Fr John)	6.30pm

NOTICES

8AM SUNDAY COMMUNION DURING VACANCY: The PCC has agreed that this will take place on the FIRST Sunday of the month only. The last weekly celebration will be Fr John's last Sunday, 14 September. The next 8am services will then be the first Sundays of October, November etc when Fr George has agreed to celebrate. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

SUE WINTERBOTHAM would like to express very sincere thanks for all the prayers, cards, good wishes and kindnesses which have all contributed to her complete recovery from the cancer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: If you are interested in helping with the Sunday School will you please see one of the churchwardens. At present we have no one to run the Sunday School so have been unable to start it up again at the beginning of the term.

PARISH LUNCH: (14 September) Offers of help on the lists on the signing-on table, please. We shall be grateful for all the help we can have after the 9.30 service to set up the church for this very special occasion.

PARISH WALK – Saturday 13 September: Please sign the list on the Sign-Up table at the back of the church.

13 SEPTEMBER is the sponsored cycle ride/walk in aid of the Herts and Beds Historic Churches Trust – see Phil Gough – and the day we aim to keep the church open all day to greet visitors on their sponsored trip. There is a form to sign at the back of church if you wish to sponsor cyclists, walkers and church welcomers.