



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MICHAELMAS

28 September 2008

A warm welcome to our services today when we celebrate our Patronal Festival.. A particular welcome to The Venerable John Green, Chaplain of the Fleet, who will celebrate and preach.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist The Venerable John Green celebrates and preaches and Pam Hart leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: Leaflet, 245 (i), 377 and 466.

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

There is **CHORAL EVENSONG here tonight** at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Katherine Schori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the USA.

Back to Church Sunday 2008.

Michaelmas Ordinations in the Cathedral.

The World: Peace in Iraq, Afghanistan and other troubled places.

A resolution to the continuing troubles in the banking industry.

The Royal Navy.

The Community and Parish: Students starting the new university year.

The Harvest workshop next Saturday.

The special PCC meeting with the Bishop of Hertford and the Archdeacon of St Albans on Thursday.

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, Gladys Holloway, 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, and Maureen Williams.

The Departed: Joyce Mayes (aged 80), Oxford Street.

COLLECT

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; 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 28.10–17

A reading from the book of Genesis.

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.

¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.

¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

¹³ And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;

¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.

¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!'

¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

SECOND READING Revelation 12.7–12

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ⁷ War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back,
- ⁸ but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.
- ⁹ The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.
- ¹¹ But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
- ¹² Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!’

GOSPEL John 1.47–51

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

- ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, ‘Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!’
- ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, ‘Where did you come to know me?’ Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.’
- ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’
- ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, ‘Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.’
- ⁵¹ And he said to him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	29	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	1	Oct	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Bring-&-Share Lunch	12.30pm
			Bible Study (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Thu	2	Oct	Holy Communion	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Kids' Club	3.30 -5.00pm
			<u>SPECIAL PCC with BISHOP OF HERTFORD AND ARCHDEACON OF ST ALBANS</u> – coffee at 7.45 pm	
Sat	4	Oct	Parish Walk	10.00am
			Harvest Workshop (in church)	2 – 4pm
Sun	5	Oct	<u>HARVEST THANKSGIVING</u>	
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	8.00am
			Sung Eucharist	9.30am
			CHORAL EVENSONG	6.30pm

NOTICES

MICHAELMAS: The president and preacher at the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist today will be The Venerable John Green, Chaplain of the Fleet, Curate at St Michael's from 1983 to 1986. As is our custom on our patronal festival there will also be a CHORAL EVENSONG at 6.30 pm.

BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH: Please sign the list for Wednesday 1st October.

OUR MONTHLY PARISH WALK is on Saturday 4th October and leaves strictly on time at 10 am from Church. Please sign list if you wish to come.

THE CHRISTIAN AID TEA PARTY raised £92.55. Many thanks.

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.

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

HARVEST WEEKEND: 4 & 5 October. The Harvest Workshop will be from 2-4 pm on the 4th and Harvest Thanksgiving will be on the 5th. We shall as usual give any gifts of dry goods to the New Hope Trust (see list of possible items in Sword) and there will be a cash collection for the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal.

CALLING ALL PARENTS OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AT WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOLS: There is a monthly gathering for prayer for these two schools held as follows: **Every first Monday of the month at 8.00 to 9.00 pm** at 19 Richmond Way, Croxley Green, WD3 3SF. The next will be on the 6th October 08. For further details please contact Vivien or Sandy Taylor on 01923 443139 or 07899 908480. To be added to the email reminder list please email vivient@btinternet.com