



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 22  
19 October 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches and Graham Mordue leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 368, 400, 625 and 453.**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

There is a Deanery Choral Evensong at St Luke's at 6.30pm.

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

**The Church:** Drexel Gomez, Archbishop of the West Indies & Bishop of Nassau & The Bahamas & The Turks & Caicos Islands.  
Hospital Sunday.

Church Schools in the Deanery of Bishop's Stortford.

**The World:** Peace in Iraq, Afghanistan and other troubled places.  
The Week of Prayer for World Peace. (*Prayers in leaflet*)  
One World Week – and its hope for universal harmony.

**The Community and Parish:** Watford Borough Councillors  
Watford General Hospital  
Laurance Haines School as they celebrate their harvest festival in St Michael's next Friday.

**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, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Gladys Robertson, Elaine Robinson, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Anne Wightman, and Maureen Williams.

**The Departed:**

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## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who alone can bring order  
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:  
give your people grace  
so to love what you command  
and to desire what you promise,  
that, among the many changes of this world,  
our hearts may surely there be fixed  
where true joys are to be found;  
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 33.12–23

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- <sup>12</sup> Moses said to the LORD, “See, you have said to me, “Bring up this people”; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, “I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight.”
- <sup>13</sup> Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.’
- <sup>14</sup> He said, ‘My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.’
- <sup>15</sup> And he said to him, ‘If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here.
- <sup>16</sup> For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.’
- <sup>17</sup> The LORD said to Moses, ‘I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.’
- <sup>18</sup> Moses said, ‘Show me your glory, I pray.’
- <sup>19</sup> And he said, ‘I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, “The LORD”; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.
- <sup>20</sup> But,’ he said, ‘you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.’
- <sup>21</sup> And the LORD continued, ‘See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock;
- <sup>22</sup> and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by;
- <sup>23</sup> then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.’

## SECOND READING I Thessalonians 1.1–10

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

- <sup>1</sup> From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.
- <sup>2</sup> We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
- <sup>3</sup> constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>4</sup> For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you,
- <sup>5</sup> because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.
- <sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit,
- <sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.
- <sup>8</sup> For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.
- <sup>9</sup> For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,
- <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

## GOSPEL Matthew 22.15–22

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

- When the chief priests and Pharisees had heard the parables, they realized that Jesus was speaking about them.
- <sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said.
- <sup>16</sup> So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality.
- <sup>17</sup> Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’
- <sup>18</sup> But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites?
- <sup>19</sup> Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius.
- <sup>20</sup> Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’
- <sup>21</sup> They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’
- <sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

## THIS WEEK

Mon	20	Oct	<b><i>Week of Prayer for World Peace</i></b>	
			Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	21	Oct	(Watford Deanery Synod open meeting at St Luke's)	7.45 pm
Wed	22	Oct	Publicity Committee (Choir Vestry)	9.30am
			Coffee in Church	10.30am - 12 noon
Thu	23	Oct	Holy Communion	10.00am
			Laurance Haines School rehearsal	1.00 – 3.00pm
			Kids' Club	3.30 - 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	24	Oct	Laurance Haines School Harvest	9.30am
Sun	26	Oct	<b><u>LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</u></b>	
			<b><i>British Summer Time ends – put clocks back</i></b>	
			<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	9.30am
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy sale and farewell gathering for Lesley Rees	
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	6.30pm

## **NOTICES**

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** Church Christmas Cards produced from the same source as last year will be on sale after the 9.30 service. The price remains the same at 10 cards for £4.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR:** 8 November 2008. Please look at the red leaflet and see how you can help this year. There is a list on the signing-on table with suggestions for help. Please look at this and sign up if you possibly can. Any items for sale can be given to Sylvia Moring or Norma Twitchin. We are very short of books and bric-a-brac to sell.

**DEANERY CHORAL EVENSONG:** This takes place TONIGHT at St Luke's Church at 6.30 pm. Our choir will be taking part and it would be good to have some St Michael's people in the congregation. If anyone would like a lift to St Luke's, please see Sylvia Moring.

**INTERFAITH GATHERING** to observe The Week of Prayer for World Peace on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October** at Friends Meeting House, 150 Church Road at 7.30pm. All most welcome. Refreshments provided! More information from Judith Bruni on 01923 774812.

**FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE November SWORD** is MIDDAY next Sunday, 26 October. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to [DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com](mailto:DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com).

**WATFORD DEANERY SYNOD:** There will be an OPEN MEETING on 21st October at 7.45pm for 8.00pm at St. Luke's, Langley Way, and the Speaker will be the Revd. Canon Stephen Lake, who is Sub-Dean at St. Albans Abbey and also, in fact, our representative on General Synod. He is speaking on Transforming Worship. All welcome.

**SPONSORED BIKE 'N HIKE** (13 Sep): Phil Gough is still collecting sponsor money so if you would like to support the Historic Churches Preservation Trust but didn't pledge beforehand, you can give your donations via Phil.