



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

26 October 2008

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates, Martin Heath preaches and Vicki Wardman leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 606, 191, 605 (t 416 ii), and 508 (t 507).

Setting: Rawsthorne

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale. There will also be a farewell gathering for Lesley Rees – please stay on.

Evensong in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Church in Ceylon and Bishops Duleep de Chickera and Kumara Illangasinghe.

Anglican Methodist Covenant Relationships in the Diocese.

Deanery of Buntingford – Rural Dean: Carol Kimberley; Lay Chairman: Roger Waygood.

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

Refreshment for those who feel dejected in the effort to secure peace.

Those facing desperate situations.

The Community and Parish: Local Pharmacists and Chemists.

Those who are looking after our local parks and open country, preparing plants and trees for the winter.

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: Edwin Page (aged 89), Queens Ave

Constance (Connie) Clark (aged 97), late of Morningside, Park Ave.

Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 34.1–12

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

- ¹ Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan,
- ² all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea,
- ³ the Negeb, and the Plain – that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees – as far as Zoar.
- ⁴ The LORD said to him, ‘This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, “I will give it to your descendants”; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.’
- ⁵ Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command.
- ⁶ He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day.
- ⁷ Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated.
- ⁸ The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.
- ⁹ Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses.
- ¹⁰ Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face.
- ¹¹ He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.
- ¹²

SECOND READING I Thessalonians 2.1–8

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

¹ You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain,
² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.

³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery,
⁴ but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.

⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed;

⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,
⁷ though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.

⁸ So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.34–46

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

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together,

³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

³⁶ ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’

³⁷ He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’”

³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment.

³⁹ And a second is like it: “‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’”

⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question:

⁴² ‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’

⁴³ He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ “‘The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet’”?

⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’

⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

THIS WEEK

Mon	27	Oct	<i>Half Term Week</i>	
			Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	28	Oct	Deanery Synod	2.30pm
Wed	29	Oct	Coffee in Church	10.30am - 12 noon
Thu	30	Oct	Holy Communion	10.00am
			Funeral in church	2.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	1	Nov	Parish Walk	10.00am
Sun	2	Nov	<u>ALL SOULS</u>	
			Holy Communion (Chantry List to be read)	8.00am
			MEMORIAL SERVICE with SUNG EUCHARIST	
			(Pres & Preacher: Rev Gary Russell)	9.30am
			Evensong in Lady Chapel	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 next 8am service will be next Sunday, 2nd November when the Chantry List will be read.

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, 11.00 am to 2.30 pm. 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. There are now posters to be displayed and handbills for friends and neighbours. 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.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE November *SWORD* is MIDDAY today Sunday, 26 October. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

PARISH WALK: Saturday 1st November. 10 am start. Please sign list.

BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH: Please sign the list for Wednesday 5th November.

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.

BIBLE STUDY: The next meeting of the Bible Study Group will be on Wednesday, 12 November 2008 at 8 pm in the Choir Vestry. We shall continue our study of 1 Samuel, commencing at Chapter 7.