



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 9

9 August 2009

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

Hymns: 305, 322, 278 and 455

Setting: Aston

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

The monthly service at River Court is at 3.00 pm.

There is Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Benezeri Kisembo, Bishop of Ruwenzori, Uganda.
Leavesden All Saints: Chris Davey and Caroline Drury; Readers
Charles Porter; Wendy Simpson.

All churches named in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The World: Peace in all troubled places especially in Iran and Afghanistan.
The work of the Mothers' Union.

The Community and Parish: Family Holiday Centres.
Watford Town Centre Ministry as they work on their new
premises.

Churches Together in Watford.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Ellen Benoy, Gunter Bouché, Mel Browne, Marjorie Carlisle, Peter Coley, Bill Craddock-Jones, Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, June Dickinson, Kate Dickinson, Jocelyn Harewood, Gladys Holloway, Jenny Houghton, Lionel Jones, Mary Kearns, Kate Kirwan, Loretta Lynch, Maggie Maguire, Stella Meager, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Elaine Robinson, Ray Shann, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Anne Wightman and Eric Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church:

open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace;

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 2 Samuel 18.5–9, 15, 31–33

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

⁵ The king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

⁶ So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim.

⁷ The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men.

⁸ The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

⁹ Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.

¹⁵ And ten young men, Joab's armour-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

³¹ Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.'

³² The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' The Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.'

³³ The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

SECOND READING Ephesians 4.25 – 5.2

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

25 Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another.
26 Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,
27 and do not make room for the devil.
28 Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy.
29 Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.
30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.
31 Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice,
32 and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.
1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,
2 and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

GOSPEL John 6.35, 41–51

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

35 Jesus said to the crowd, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'
41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.'
42 They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?'
43 Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves.
44 No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day.
45 It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.
46 Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.
47 Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.
48 I am the bread of life.
49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.
50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.
51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	10	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	12	Aug	Coffee in Church Service at Home Manor	10.30am-12 noon 3.00pm
Thur	13	Aug	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) St Anthony's	10.00am morning
Sat	15	Aug	(Quiz Night for Allan Talbot in Church	5 – 10pm)
Sun	16	Aug	<u>TRINITY 10</u> SUNG EUCHARIST: (crèche available) Evening Prayer	9.30am 6.30pm

NOTICES

APPOINTMENT OF PRIEST-IN-CHARGE FOR ST MICHAEL'S: The licensing and installation of Fr Geoff Calvert will be on Wednesday, 30 September – please keep the evening free.

PREPARING THE VICARAGE FOR THE NEW INCUMBENT: The vicarage has been empty for nearly a year and the interior needs some preparation before Fr Geoff moves in. Mainly woodwork needs washing and walls and ceilings need painting. We hope that some church members will be able and willing to help with this work which we wish to carry out with a series of working parties during August. Please sign the list on the signings table if you are able to give some time (anything from a few hours to a few days) to this. Thank you. Paul & Sylvia

MOTHERS' UNION QUIZ: Each year the Mothers' Union is asked to raise money to support one or more of the Mothers' Union charities both in the UK and overseas. This year MU members would like to invite you to buy a Quiz which has been devised by Violet Allen-Smith and has 25 questions about St Michael & All Angels Church. The cost of the Quiz is £1 and all takings will go to the MU charities. *The Quiz has been so popular that we are now in a third reprint and it has been decided that the closing date for entry will be extended to 16 August.* All the completed quizzes will go into a draw and the first correct entry will receive a small prize.

THE HOLIDAY CLUB is in the week 17-21 August. People who are making items for different activities would be pleased to receive clean plastic milk bottle tops, fruit nets, coca cola bottle tops, kitchen roll holders. Please place in the box near the signings table.

DIOCESAN INTERCESSION LIST: As you will have seen in Sword on 18 August our parish will be remembered in the Diocesan Intercession List at Evensong (said) at 5 pm. The Dean would like to know if any members of St Michael's are able to attend. If you think you will be going please let one of the churchwardens know.

INAUGURATION SERVICE FOR NEW BISHOP OF ST ALBANS is on Saturday September 19th at 2.30 pm in St Albans Abbey.