



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 11
23 August 2009

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Canon Michael Carter celebrates, Martin Heath preaches and Paul Jenkins leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

Hymns: 578, 547, 331 (t93), and 299

Setting: Aston

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

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

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Paul Kim, Bishop of Seoul, Korea.
Ecumenical Workplace Chaplains in the Deanery of Watford.
All churches named in honour of St Bartholomew.

The World: Peace in all troubled places. The elections in Afghanistan.
Those who are victims of war or natural disasters.
All missionaries and their work at home and abroad.

The Community and Parish: Retired clergy and Lay Ministers in the Deanery of Watford.
The young people and helpers who will be on the canal boat trips this week.
Members of our congregation on holiday.

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

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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 I Kings 8.22–30, 41–43

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- 22 Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven.
- 23 He said, 'O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart,
- 24 the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.
- 25 Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me."
- 26 Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.
- 27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built!
- 28 Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today;
- 29 that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there," that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place.
- 30 Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.
- 41 Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name –
- 42 for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm – when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house,
- 43 then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.'

SECOND READING Ephesians 6.10–20

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- ¹⁰ Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

13 Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

14 Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness.

15 As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.

16 With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

17 Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

19 Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,

20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

GOSPEL John 6.56–69

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

Jesus said to the crowd:

56 'Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.

57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.

58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

59 He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?'

61 But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you?

62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?

63 It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

64 But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him.

65 And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.'

66 Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him.

67 So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?'

68 Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.

69 We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

THIS WEEK

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|------|----|-----|--|-----------------|
| Mon | 24 | Aug | Toddlers' Group | 10.00 – 11.30am |
| Tue | 25 | Aug | (Canal Boat Trip for young people | All day) |
| Wed | 26 | Aug | Coffee in Church | 10.30am-12 noon |
| | | | Publicity Committee meeting in Church | 1.45pm |
| | | | (Canal Boat Trip for young people | All day) |
| Thur | 27 | Aug | Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) | 10.00am |
| Sun | 30 | Aug | <u>TRINITY 12</u> | |
| | | | SUNG EUCHARIST: (crèche available) | 9.30am |
| | | | Baptism of Jessica Adjekum | 3.00pm |
| | | | Evening Prayer | 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.

PREACHER FOR THE 9.30 NEXT SUNDAY, 30 AUGUST: We are very lucky that Fr George has persuaded Dave Green, the Diocesan Youth Officer, to come to the 9.30 service next Sunday and preach.

CONGRATULATIONS to Michael Jenkins and Peter Adams on obtaining their A level grades for admission to Lancaster and Bristol Universities respectively.

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. Excellent progress has been made and especial thanks to Dennis & Pat Beach and Vicki and Martin Matthews who have been very generous of their time and talent this week. There is now a list of the work left to be done – please let us know if you are able to give a few hours to this before the end of August. 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 the end of August.*** All the completed quizzes will go into a draw and the first correct entry will receive a small prize. Please put your completed entries in the box at the back.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE SEPTEMBER SWORD is MIDDAY today, Sunday, 23 August. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to DENNIS.H.BEACH@sky.com.

BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH: Please sign the list for Wednesday 2nd September.

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