



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 12  
30 August 2009

A warm welcome to our services today. A special welcome to Dave Green, the Diocesan Youth Officer who is our preacher today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr George celebrates, Dave Green preaches and John Adams leads the intercessions. A crèche is available.

**Hymns: 253 (i), 583, 411 and 323**

**Setting: Aston**

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there will be a bring-and-buy sale – please stay on.

The Baptism of Jessica Adjekum is at 3.00pm.

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

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

**The Church:** John Chew, Bishop of Singapore and Rennis Ponniah, Suffragan Bishop of Singapore.

The Parish of Harpenden, St John. For those responsible for the parish during the vacancy.

Anglican Methodist Covenant Relationships in the Diocese.

**The World:** Peace in all troubled places.

Missionaries and their work at home and abroad.

Bible Reading Fellowship

**The Community and Parish:** All teachers and children in the Diocese at the beginning of a new school year.

Jessica Adjekum to be baptised this afternoon

Those who work at the St Albans Diocesan Youth Office.

**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:** Jean Heather Brown, Croxley Green (aged 78).

Una Russell, Stanmore (Gary Russell's mother).

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**Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
 pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask  
 but through the merits and mediation of 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 Song of Solomon 2.8–13**

A reading from the book of the Song of Solomon.

- <sup>8</sup> The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.
- <sup>9</sup> My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.
- <sup>10</sup> My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
- <sup>11</sup> for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
- <sup>12</sup> The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land.
- <sup>13</sup> The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.'

**SECOND READING James 1.17–27**

A reading from the letter of James.

- <sup>17</sup> Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- <sup>18</sup> In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.
- <sup>19</sup> You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger;
- <sup>20</sup> for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.
- <sup>21</sup> Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.
- <sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

- 23 For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look  
at themselves in a mirror;  
24 for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they  
were like.  
25 But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere,  
being not hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their  
doing.  
26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their  
hearts, their religion is worthless.  
27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for  
orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the  
world.

## **GOSPEL Mark 7.1–8, 14–15, 21–23**

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

- 1 When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem  
gathered around Jesus,  
2 they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is,  
without washing them.  
3 (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash  
their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;  
4 and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there  
are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and  
bronze kettles.)  
5 So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live  
according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’  
6 Jesus said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is  
written, “This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from  
me;  
7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.”  
8 You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’  
14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and  
understand:  
15 there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that  
come out are what defile.  
21 For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come:  
fornication, theft, murder,  
22 adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.  
23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

## THIS WEEK

Mon	31	Aug	NO Toddlers' Group	<i>Bank Holiday</i>	
Tue	1	Sep	Intercessory Prayer Group (Choir Vestry)		2.30pm
Wed	2	Sep	Coffee in Church		10.30am-12 noon
			Bring-and-Share lunch		12.30pm
			Bible Study in Choir Vestry (John 6)		8.00pm
Thur	3	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)		10.00am
			Fairhaven		morning
			Choir Practice		7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	6	Sep	<b><u>TRINITY 13</u></b>		
			Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)		8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> (crèche available) (Pres & Preacher:		
			Fr George)		9.30am
			United Evening Service at Trinity Methodist		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. Individual invitations for church members are available to pick up on a table in the north aisle. Please take your own and any that you are able to deliver.

**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. A lot of the work has been done; could anyone volunteer to paint a ceiling? The other work necessary is for the vicarage to be cleaned – the paintwork is lovely but there is a lot of dust around. Please see one of us if you can help. Thank you. Paul & Sylvia.

**MOTHERS' UNION QUIZ:** Today is the last day for submission of your completed Mothers' Union Quiz. All those put in the box will be marked and returned after the entries have been put in the draw for the small prize.

**BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH:** Please sign the list for Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -**

**THE SPONSORED BIKE 'N HIKE DAY** is on Saturday, 12 September. Please see Phil Gough if you are interested in cycling or walking. If you can help 'man' the Church during the Saturday, please sign the list on the signings table.

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

**COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY:** 26 September 2009 in Church.

**MICHAELMAS AND BACK-TO-CHURCH SUNDAY:** 27 September 2009.