



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MICHAELMAS

Back to Church Sunday

27 September 2009

A warm welcome to our services today especially to visitors on this “Back to Church Sunday”. Today we celebrate our Patronal Festival of Michaelmas.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, the Revd David Tuck celebrates and preaches and Pat Beach leads the intercessions. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

Hymns: Leaflet, 245 (i), 377 and 466

Setting: Wilson

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.

Evening Prayer (NOT Choral Evensong as in Sword) 6.30pm

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans; Richard Inwood, Christopher Foster, Suffragan Bishops of Bedford and Hertford.
Back to Church Sunday 2009.
Michaelmas Ordinations in the Cathedral.

The World: Peace in all troubled places.
That the Economy Charter signed at the G20 Pittsburgh Conference may have a beneficial effect on the world’s economy.

The Community and Parish: Fr Geoffrey Calvert to be licensed to our Parish of St Michael and All Angels as Priest-in-charge on Wednesday.
The Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy and the new premises in Charter Place.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Ray Angles, Ellen Benoy, Gunter Bouché, John Brown, 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: Bob Merriman, formerly of Brightwell Court.

COLLECT

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; 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 Revelation 12.7–12

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- 7 War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back,
8 but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.
9 The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.
11 But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
12 Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!’

SECOND READING Hebrews 1.5–14

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- 5 To which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'?
- 6 And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.'
- 7 Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.'
- 8 But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.'
- 9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.'
- 10 And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;
- 11 they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing;
- 12 like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'
- 13 But to which of the angels has he ever said, 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet'?
- 14 Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

GOSPEL John 1.47–51

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

- 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!'
- 48 Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.'
- 49 Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'
- 50 Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.'
- 51 And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	28	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Rehearsal for Licensing Service	7.30pm
Wed	30	Sep	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			LICENSING and INSTALLATION of Fr Geoffrey Calvert as Priest-in-charge of St Michael & All Angels Church	8.00pm
			(Please be seated for service by 7.45pm)	
Thur	1	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Kids' Club	3.30 – 5.00pm
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	3	Oct	Bob & Iola's Quiz Night	7.00 for 7.30pm
Sun	4	Oct	<u>HARVEST THANKSGIVING</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School	9.30am
			(President & Preacher – Fr Geoff)	
			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 next Wednesday, 30 September. Everyone is welcome to attend this service and we hope to have a full church to give Fr Geoff a good welcome. Fr Geoff has now moved into the Vicarage and he is living there in a private capacity until his service of licensing.

REFRESHMENTS FOR LICENSING SERVICE: If anyone is willing to provide a plate of items for a finger buffet after the Licensing Service on 30 September, please see Sylvia Moring.

BOB AND IOLA'S QUIZ NIGHT, 3 OCTOBER 2009, 7 FOR 7.30 pm: Tickets for this are available (£8 including refreshments) from Bob and Iola – get yours TODAY.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING: On 4 October. The 9.30 Service will be Fr Geoff's first celebration at St Michael's. We shall be supporting the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal by collecting donations for fresh water; in addition we shall be having a collection of dried goods which will be taken to the New Hope Trust. Leaflets listing the items that the New Hope Trust find most useful are in the church.

8 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION ON SUNDAYS: This will be held on every Sunday as from 4 October. Please tell anyone you know who normally attends.

BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH AND PARISH WALK: Please sign the lists on the signings table. The lunch is on 7 October and the walk on 10 October.

MOSAIC will be giving a concert here on Saturday, 17 October, at 7.30 pm singing a programme of French music including the Fauré Requiem. See handbills for details.

CONFIRMATION: Fr Geoff is hoping to start a group of people (all ages welcome) to explore the possibility of confirmation in February 2010. Please speak to him if you want to know more.