



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

BIBLE SUNDAY

25 October 2009

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches and Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

**Hymns: 573 (i), 469, 96 (ii) and 277**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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 Lily-Mai Schmid is at 2.00pm

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

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

**The Church:** Bernard Balmoi, Bishop of Torit, Sudan and Colin Johnson, Bishop of Toronto, Canada.

Christ Church, Bedford: Vicar, Richard Hibbert; Curate, Tim Horlick; Readers, Michael Bishop and Sue Ives.

Christians working in education, healthcare, and local and national government.

**The World:** United Nations Day (yesterday) and UN work in Development. One World Week.

The protection of Human Rights; Refugees.

**The Community and Parish:** Lily-Mai Schmid to be baptised this afternoon.

The young people of our church family. Those preparing for confirmation. Children and their parents in half-term week.

Christians across Watford.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Ray Angles, Ellen Benoy, Gunter Bouché, Christopher Browne, 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, Stella Nicholas, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Ann Reed, Elaine Robinson, Maureen Swann, June Tatnall, Anne Wightman and Eric Wightman.

**The Departed:** Barbara Towle of Mildred Avenue

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**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 Isaiah 55.1-11**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this:

- 1 Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
- 2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.
- 3 Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.
- 4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.
- 5 See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.
- 6 Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;
- 7 let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
- 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- 10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
- 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

## SECOND READING 2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- <sup>14</sup> Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it,  
<sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.  
<sup>16</sup> All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,  
<sup>17</sup> so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.  
<sup>1</sup> In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:  
<sup>2</sup> proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.  
<sup>3</sup> For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.  
<sup>4</sup> As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.  
<sup>5</sup>

## GOSPEL John 5.36–47

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

Jesus said to the Jews:

- <sup>36</sup> 'I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me.  
<sup>37</sup> And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form,  
<sup>38</sup> and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.  
<sup>39</sup> You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf.  
<sup>40</sup> Yet you refuse to come to me to have life.  
<sup>41</sup> I do not accept glory from human beings.  
<sup>42</sup> But I know that you do not have the love of God in you.  
<sup>43</sup> I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him.  
<sup>44</sup> How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God?  
<sup>45</sup> Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope.  
<sup>46</sup> If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.  
<sup>47</sup> But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	26	Oct	<i>Half Term week</i>	
			Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	27	Oct	(MCCC Committee meeting in Choir Vestry)	7.30pm
Wed	28	Oct	<i>(Choir Vestry in use for U3A</i>	<i>10am – 12 noon)</i>
			Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Pause (23 Whippendell Road)	7.30pm
Thur	29	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			NO Kids' Club (Half Term)	
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	1	Nov	<b><u>ALL SAINTS/MEMORIAL SERVICE</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Chantry List to be read; Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			<b>MEMORIAL SERVICE:</b> with crèche and Sunday School	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	
			Evening Prayer	6.30pm

## **NOTICES**

**THE TELEPHONE** at the Vicarage is now working and has the old telephone number of 01923 232460. Fr Geoff can also be contacted by email: [geoffrey.calvert@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:geoffrey.calvert@yahoo.co.uk).

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE:** . All the names in the book form our Chantry List and are read out at the 8 am service on our Memorial Sunday (1 November).

**CHRISTMAS FAIR** on Saturday, 14 November, from 11 am – 2.30 pm. This is an important occasion when we open the church doors to our neighbours and make new friends. It is also a time when we hope to raise some money to help pay our housekeeping bills. Please think how you can help. We need items to sell, people to run stalls, and food for the Littlebury lunches which, this year, will be led by Alison Makin. Further details on the signings table at the west end. We look forward to hearing from you. Sylvia, Paul and Norma.

**FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER *SWORD*** is MIDDAY today Sunday, 25 October. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to [dhbeach@sky.com](mailto:dhbeach@sky.com) (**please note change of email address**).

**CHOIR VESTRY LOCK:** This has been changed. Please see Paul or Sylvia if you need to have the new key.

**BRING-&-SHARE LUNCH:** Please sign the list for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

**HARVEST COLLECTIONS:** Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our collections at Harvest Thanksgiving. We were able to take several black sacks with requested items to the New Hope Trust and the collection for the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal amounted to nearly £100.

**CONFIRMATION:** Fr Geoff is starting a group of people (all ages welcome) for confirmation on 24 February 2010. There is still time to be included in this. The first meeting is next Sunday 1 November at 4 pm at the Vicarage. Please see Fr Geoff for details..