



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

THIRD SUNDAY after TRINITY

20 June 2010

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates, Violet Allen-Smith preaches and Phil Gough leads the intercessions. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

Hymns: 376, 383, 411 and 494

Setting: Wilson

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and there is a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

The Baptism of Charlotte Marie House and Nathan David Roy Turnbull is at 3 pm.

At 6pm there is a Celtic Service in our 6 o'Clock Series.

This is followed by refreshments.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Work and witness of the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban

The Church of Nigeria, and Peter Akinola, its Archbishop
USPG's work alongside Christians in Pakistan.

The World: Refugees, stateless and displaced people across the World
All people who are unemployed
People living with disability.

The Community and Parish: The Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Project
The Littlebury Children's Centre
All who come to "Kids' Saturday".

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Brian Barnard, Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Fiona Craddock, Jean Crouch, June Dickinson, David and Janet Freeman, Jocelyn Harewood, Susetta Hartropp, Gladys Holloway, Jenny Houghton, Susan Jones, Mary Kearns, Kate Kirwan, Vera Levinson, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Elaine Robinson, June Tatnall, Margaret Taylor, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father:
 give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
 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 | Kings 19.1–4, 8–15a

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- ¹ Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.
- ² Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.'
- ³ Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.
- ⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.'
- ⁸ He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.
- ⁹ At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'
- ¹⁰ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'
- ¹¹ He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake;
- ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.
- ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'
- ¹⁴ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'
- ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.'

SECOND READING Galatians 3.23–29

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- ²³ Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.
- ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.
- ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian,
- ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.
- ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ;
- ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.
- ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

GOSPEL Luke 8.26–39

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

- ²⁶ Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.
- ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs.
- ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me' –
- ²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)
- ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him.
- ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.
- ³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission.
- ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.
- ³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country.
- ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.
- ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.
- ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.
- ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying,
- ³⁹ 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

THIS WEEK

Mon	21	June	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	23	June	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL	7.45 for 7.55pm
Thur	24	June	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	26	June	Kids Saturday	2.00 -4.00 pm
Sun	27	June	<u>TRINITY 4</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Fr George)	
			Youth & Education Committee	11.00am
			Service of Thanksgiving for Creation and Blessing of Animals	3pm
			Evening Prayer	6.30pm

NOTICES

MOTHERS' UNION BIBLE SEARCH QUIZ: Once you have completed your quiz please place it in the labelled box at the west end of the church by today, 20 June 2010. If you wish to negotiate more time for completion, please see Violet or Sylvia.

10 JULY: We are invited to visit St Mary's, North Leigh, which is the church attended by John and Pat Brown. They have arranged for us to have a guided tour of the church which has many interesting features including a Saxon tower, time to look round and then tea in the church hall. We hope that people will drive up and offer lifts to those who need them. Car parking and a map are available. Please see Martin Matthews if you would like to go. We need to leave Watford at 1.30 pm.

GLADYS FINLAYSON is being ordained priest in St Albans Abbey on 3 July.

GARDEN PARTY: The Mothers' Union is having a garden party in the Vicarage garden, by kind permission of the Vicar, on Wednesday, 30 June 2010, from 2-4 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. There will be afternoon tea and a bring-and-buy stall. More information from Pat Gandy and Pat Ricketts.

CAR PARKING: If you use a car to come to church for the 9.30 service could you please park it in Mildred Avenue where it is free to park on Sunday mornings and leave the space outside the west doors so that disabled people who get lifts and people driving electric scooters are able to get through the glass doors. Thank you.

GIVING: A list of envelope numbers with the total amounts they contained during the tax year 2009-2010 is on the information notice board at the west end. This information could be useful for completing tax returns when gift aid is involved. Anyone who pays income tax can gift aid their giving to the church and this enables us to claim 28p extra on every £1 that is given. If you want to know more please see one of the Churchwardens or the Treasurer.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE JULY SWORD is MIDDAY today Sunday, 20 June. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.