



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**FOURTH SUNDAY after TRINITY**

27 June 2010

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 305, 425, 601 and 470**

**Setting: Wilson**

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

Youth & Education Committee meets at 11.00am

There is a special Service of Thanksgiving for Creation and Blessing of Animals at 3pm.

Evening Prayer is at 6.30pm.

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

**The Church:** The Church of North India, and Purely Lyngdoh, its Moderator  
The work of the USPG in promoting mission in Britain and Ireland  
The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals.

**The World:** Christian Aid partners working in India  
People in India facing poverty, marginalisation and the effects of climate change  
A greater respect for and stewardship of God's gifts in creation.

**The Community and Parish:** Thanksgiving for our Church Building, and our care of it.  
Our children and young people, and those who lead activities for them.  
Disabled ex-service men and women.

**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, Eric and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:  
increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal;  
grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING 2 Kings 2.1–2, 6–14**

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- <sup>1</sup> When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.
- <sup>2</sup> Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel.
- <sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on.
- <sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.
- <sup>8</sup> Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.
- <sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.'
- <sup>10</sup> He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.'
- <sup>11</sup> As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.
- <sup>12</sup> Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.
- <sup>13</sup> He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan.
- <sup>14</sup> He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, 'Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?' When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

**SECOND READING Galatians 5.1, 13–25**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

<sup>1</sup> For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

<sup>14</sup> For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

<sup>15</sup> If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.

<sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want.

<sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.

<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,

<sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

<sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

<sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

## **GOSPEL Luke 9.51–62**

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

<sup>51</sup> When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

<sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him;

<sup>53</sup> but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem.

<sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?'

<sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them.

<sup>56</sup> Then they went on to another village.

<sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.'

<sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

<sup>59</sup> To another Jesus said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.'

<sup>60</sup> But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.'

<sup>61</sup> Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.'

<sup>62</sup> Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

## THIS WEEK

|      |    |      |  |                 |
|------|----|------|--|-----------------|
| Mon  | 28 | June | Toddlers' Group  | 10 – 11.30am    |
|      |    |      | Inspection of church by Rural Dean with churchwardens    | 4.00 pm         |
|      |    |      | Pause (23 Whippendell Road to confirm venue ring 229408) | 7.30pm          |
| Tue  | 29 | June | (Deanery Synod at St Luke's)                             |                 |
|      |    |      | Estates Committee (Choir Vestry)                         | 8.00 pm         |
| Wed  | 30 | June | Coffee in Church   | 10.30am-12 noon |
|      |    |      | Mothers' Union Garden Party in Vicarage garden           | 2 - 4.00pm      |
|      |    |      | Meeting of Sunday School teachers in church              | 7.30 pm         |
|      |    |      | Bible Study (Choir Vestry)                               | 8.00pm          |
| Thur | 1  | July | Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)       | 10.00am         |
|      |    |      | Fairhaven  | morning         |
|      |    |      | Choir Practice   | 7.00 – 8.30pm   |
| Sat  | 3  | July | Parish Walk  | depart 10am     |
|      |    |      | Ordination of Gladys Finlayson at St Albans Abbey        | 4.00 pm         |
| Sun  | 4  | July | <b><u>TRINITY 5</u></b>                                  |                 |
|      |    |      | Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)                         | 8.00am          |
|      |    |      | <b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> with crèche and Sunday School     | <b>9.30am</b>   |
|      |    |      | (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)                       |                 |
|      |    |      | Baptism of Emily Jane Nicole Lovesy                      | 3.00 pm         |
|      |    |      | Evening Prayer   | 6.30pm          |

## **NOTICES**

**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.

**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 (for which a donation will be requested) and a bring-and-buy stall. More information from Pat Gandy and Pat Ricketts.

**LAST SUNDAY'S BRING-&-BUY SALE** raised £57. Many thanks.

**BARBECUE:** St Michael's annual barbecue will be held on SUNDAY 11 JULY at 12.30 pm on the grass triangle. Tickets (which include sausages, burgers, salads, bread, puddings, bbqs and charcoal) are £4 (free for under 5s) and are available from today. If you wish to bring your own items to cook please do. Profits to church funds.

**PARISH WALK** - Saturday, 3 July, from 10 am. Please sign the list if you wish to go.