



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 10

8 August 2010

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am said Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches and Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions. Thanks to Paul Chandler for accompanying on the piano. A crèche is available and there is Sunday School.

Hymns: 482, 40, 225 and 455

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

Evening Prayer is at 6.30 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The work of prison chaplains
The Church of the Province of South East Asia, and Jon Chew, its Archbishop

USPG supported education programmes in India.

The World: Victims of flooding in Pakistan
An end to religious and ethnic tensions in India
All who suffer from chronic ill health.

The Community and Parish: Residents at River Court and Fairhaven homes
All public sector employees in Watford
Voluntary organisations in our area.

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

The Departed: Peter Archie Winfield (aged 84), Combe Road.

Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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 Isaiah 1.1, 10–20

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- ¹ The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.
- ¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!
- ¹¹ What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD; I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.
- ¹² When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more;
- ¹³ bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation – I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.
- ¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them.
- ¹⁵ When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.
- ¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil,
- ¹⁷ learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.
- ¹⁸ Come now, let us argue it out, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.
- ¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;
- ²⁰ but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

SECOND READING Hebrews 11.1–3, 8–16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- ¹ Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
- ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.

³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.

⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

¹¹ By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old – and Sarah herself was barren – because he considered him faithful who had promised.

¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth,

¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return.

¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

GOSPEL Luke 12.32–40

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Jesus said to his disciples,

³² ‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

³³ Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;

³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.

³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.

⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	9	Aug	NO Toddlers' Group	
Tue	10	Aug	Publicity Committee (Choir Vestry)	8.00pm
Wed	11	Aug	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor (Violet)	3.00pm
Thur	12	Aug	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
Sun	15	Aug	<u>BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	8.00am
			EUCCHARIST: with crèche and Sunday School	9.30am
			(President: Fr George; Preacher: Martin Heath)	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE is at 4.30 pm on Sunday, 3rd October. This is an ecumenical service when we shall be joined by our friends from Trinity Methodist and West Watford Free Church and the hymns/songs will be chosen from requests made by members of all three churches. There is a list at the back of church for people to suggest their favourite hymns for this.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to Owen and Blossom Hutchinson who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 6th August.

FR GEOFF is away on holiday at present. Violet, Martin Heath, Sylvia and Paul Chandler are still at the end of a telephone.

TODDLERS GROUP: During August the Toddlers' Group will continue to meet (except on the Bank Holiday) provided there are families who are able to come. If you would like to come on a Monday morning please telephone 01923 234788 to make sure it is happening.

MICHAELMAS: This year we will be celebrating our Patronal Festival on the actual day – Wednesday, 29 September – with a Sung Eucharist at 7.30 pm when the Rev Grantley Finlayson will be the preacher. This will be followed by some suitable festive refreshments. Please make a note of the date.

11 SEPTEMBER: An important date for your diaries. It is the day of the Historic Churches Bike 'n Hike ride – please see Phil Gough if you wish to take part. In Church we shall be having a Coffee Morning in aid of The Children's Society from 10.30 – 12 noon – please make a note to come and support that.