



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

**TRINITY 3**

Sunday 10 July 2011

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates, Violet Allen-Smith preaches and Sarah Dunning leads the intercessions. There is Sunday School and a crêche is available.

**Hymns: 4, 321, 625 and 609**

**Setting: Aston**

Tea and coffee will be served in church after the 9.30 service and this is followed at 11.15am with our monthly Service of Thanksgiving and Praise – please stay on.

At about 12.30pm there will be our Barbecue (on the grass triangle if the weather is suitable).

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel is at 6 pm.

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

**The Church:** Julio Murray, Bishop of Panama, Central America.

The Missions to Seafarers.

USPG Mission Companion Richard Owen in Trinidad and Tobago.

**The World:** Drought victims and refugees in East Africa.

The work of international aid agencies.

Young People in the Caribbean.

**The Community and Parish:** Our servers.

Residents at Home Manor and St Anthony's.

Recovery in-Sight Social Enterprises.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Bruce Alexander, Billie Bainbridge

(age 4), Christopher Bilson, Mary Calvert, Peter Coley, Bill and

Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Kate Dickinson, Darrell

Dunning, David and Janet Freeman, Jocelyn Harewood, Susetta

Hartropp, Ben Heath, Gladys Holloway, Leena Hosie, Jenny

Houghton, Mary Kearns, Dorothy Kiddle, Lesley Kinch, Loretta

Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Faith

Nkugwa, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Helen Perry, Myrtle

Powell, Bryony Purse, June Tatnall, Eric and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:**

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**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 Genesis 25.19–34**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- 19 These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac,  
 20 and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean.  
 21 Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived.  
 22 The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the LORD.  
 23 And the LORD said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.'  
 24 When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb.  
 25 The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau.  
 26 Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.  
 27 When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents.  
 28 Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.  
 29 Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished.  
 30 Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.)  
 31 Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.'  
 32 Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?'  
 33 Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.  
 34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

**SECOND READING Romans 8.1–11**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 1 There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.  
 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his  
own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the  
flesh,  
4 so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according  
to the flesh but according to the Spirit.  
5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but  
those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.  
6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.  
7 For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to  
God's law – indeed it cannot,  
8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.  
9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.  
Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.  
10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of  
righteousness.  
11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ  
from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in  
you.

## **GOSPEL Matthew 13.1–9, 18–23**

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

1 Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake.  
2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the  
whole crowd stood on the beach.  
3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow.  
4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.  
5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang  
up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.  
6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered  
away.  
7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.  
8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty,  
some thirty.  
9 Let anyone with ears listen!  
18 Hear then the parable of the sower.  
19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one  
comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.  
20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and  
immediately receives it with joy;  
21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or  
persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.  
22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares  
of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.  
23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and  
understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another  
sixty, and in another thirty.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	11	July	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Wed	13	July	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thur	14	July	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	16	July	Renewal of Marriage Vows	3.00pm
Sun	17	July	<b><u>TRINITY 4</u></b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST:</b> crèche and Sunday School	<b>9.30am</b>
			(Pres and Preacher: Fr George)	
			<b>THE SIX O'CLOCK SERIES: A CELTIC SERVICE</b>	6.00pm
			followed by refreshments	

## NOTICES

The St MICHAEL'S BARBEQUE is today Sunday 10 July at about 12.30pm following the 11.15 Service at the west end of the Church on the triangle. We provide the barbecues and charcoal, plastic cups, sausages, beefburgers, bread and butter, salads, ketchup and dressings, puddings and maybe one or two other items. Bring your own drinks and something to sit on. Tickets are £5 (under 5s free). Some tickets still available. Please see Alison Makin, Elizabeth Watkin or Iola Bilson after the 9.30 service.

GRAND TEA PARTY in aid of USPG at Sue Winterbotham's, Cassio Metro on July 28th. Invitations from Gill Heath.

CHURCH COMMITTEES: St Michael's PCC has several committees which consider certain aspects of church life (eg maintenance of buildings, worship, finance, mission, work with young people, publicity, social). Membership of the committees is open to all church members. At this time of year, we invite people to sign up for membership of one or more of the committees. The lists are on the signings table at the west end – please help your church by signing up for one.

CRAFT WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: An ecumenical event planned for the afternoon of our Harvest Festival, Sunday 2nd October, 4.00-6.30. Offers of craft activities for adults and children sought. Please make a note in your diaries. Registration form available soon.