



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 6

Sunday 31 July 2011

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Vicki Matthews leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 555, 286, 309 and 455

Setting: Aston

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

At 6 pm there is evening prayer in the Lady Chapel.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Gregory Kerr-Wilson, Bishop of Qu'Appelle, Canada
The Anglican Church in Japan
Our Bishops, Alan, Richard and Paul.

The World: Drought victims in East Africa and the Horn of Africa
Reconstruction after the Japanese earthquake
People serving our country in the UK, Afghanistan and Libya.

The Community and Parish: Plans for our Church Centenary
Residents at River Court and Fairhaven
The prayer life of our Church.

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, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Faith Nkugwa, Dorcas Ochola, Gaynor Osbourne, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Bryony Purse, Douglas Redman, June Tatnall, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding:

pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 32.22–31

A reading from the book of Genesis.

²² Jacob got up, took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.

²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.

²⁴ Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.

²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

²⁶ Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.'

²⁷ So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.'

²⁸ Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.'

²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him.

³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.'

³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

SECOND READING Romans 9.1–5

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- ¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit.
- ² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.
- ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh.
- ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;
- ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.13–21

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

- ¹³ When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.
- ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.
- ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, ‘This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’
- ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’
- ¹⁷ They replied, ‘We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.’
- ¹⁸ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’
- ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.
- ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.
- ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

THIS WEEK

Mon	1	Aug	Toddlers' Group River Court Service	10 – 11.30am 3.00pm
Tue	2	Aug	Intercessory Prayer group (Choir Vestry) Pause (134 Mildred Ave)	2.30pm 7.30pm
Wed	3	Aug	Coffee in Church Parish Lunch (at the Harvester)	10.30am-12 noon 12.30pm
Thur	4	Aug	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Fairhaven NO Choir Practice	10.00am morning
Sat	6	Aug	Parish Walk Wedding	depart at 10.00am 2.00pm
Sun	7	Aug	<u>TRINITY 7</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff) EUCHARIST (Pres and Preacher: Fr Geoff) Evening Prayer	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm

NOTICES

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.

PARISH LUNCH (3 August) and PARISH WALK (6 August): Please sign the lists if you wish to join in on either of these occasions. As it is the holiday month it is very important that you indicate whether you wish to participate as numbers may be small. The lunch will be an outing to the Harvester at Two Bridges. Please sign the list if you wish to join in as we ought to book a table.

CHOIR PRACTICE: No choir practice until Thursday, 2nd September.

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.

JUBILATUM AT MAINZ: Kristine has received an e-mail from Herr Lamby asking if any of us are going to Mainz at the beginning of September for their "Jubilatum" to be held in the Cathedral on 4th September (party afterwards - different venue). Anyone interested should discuss with Pat Beach.