



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 16

Sunday 9 October 2011

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Sung Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates, there is a preacher from the New Hope Trust and Sylvia Moring leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 370, 562, 543 (i) and 299

Setting: Aston

Please stay on for tea and coffee which 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 which will include the Baptism of Millie Wragg.

There is a Youth Group Lunch at 12.30pm.

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

For your prayers this week:

The Church: Meeshack Mabuza, Bishop of Swaziland, and Peter Jensen, Bishop of Sydney.

USPG Mission Companions working with the Anglican Church in Swaziland.

Church Army International.

The World: People living in deprived areas of Britain.

People suffering in Pakistan and East Africa.

Wise leadership in the difficult economic conditions.

The Community and Parish: Residents and Staff at St Anthony's and Home Manor.

The work of New Hope Trust.

Planning for our Centenary Celebrations.

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, Susetta Hartropp, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby, 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, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed: Olive Robbins.

COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
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 Exodus 32.1–14

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- 1 When the people of Israel saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, ‘Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’
- 2 Aaron said to them, ‘Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’
- 3 So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron.
- 4 He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’
- 5 When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD.’
- 6 They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.
- 7 The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;
- 8 they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”’
- 9 The LORD said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are.
- 10 Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’
- 11 But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, ‘O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?
- 12 Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.
- 13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.”’
- 14 And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

SECOND READING Philippians 4.1–9

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- 1 My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.
- 2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.
- 3 Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- 4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
- 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.
- 6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
- 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- 8 Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.
- 9 Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.1–14

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

- 1 Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying:
- 2 ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.
- 3 He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come.
- 4 Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.”
- 5 But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,
- 6 while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them.
- 7 The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.
- 8 Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.
- 9 Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.”
- 10 Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.
- 11 But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,
- 12 and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless.
- 13 Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”
- 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	10	Oct	Toddlers' Group	10 – 11.30am
Tue	11	Oct	Centenary Group (Vicarage)	7.30pm
Wed	12	Oct	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
			Service at Home Manor	3.00pm
Thur	13	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Communion at St Anthony's	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sat	15	Oct	Quiz Night (see Notices)	7.00pm
Sun	16	Oct	<u>TRINITY 17</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Six O'clock Series (see Notices)	6.00pm

NOTICES

THE SIX O'CLOCK SERIES: The Service on **16 October at 6 pm** will be the RSCM Festival Service 'The Word Revealed' and will have an emphasis on the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. So many of our homes have a King James Bible gathering dust in the bookcase while we favour a more modern translation. But we know so many quotations from the King James Bible which make a more modern version sound strange (did you notice verse 8 of Philippians ch 4, read this morning?) This is an opportunity to celebrate this very special book. The service will be followed by refreshments. Please do your best to attend.

HARVEST: The **RETIRING COLLECTION** last Sunday raised £197-53 in support of **Water Aid's** famine and drought relief projects in Ethiopia. There will also be an additional amount of about £42 to reclaim in Gift Aid. Gift Aid is a tremendous help to charities – so please Gift Aid any donations you make whenever possible.

A QUIZ NIGHT will be held at St Michaels on Saturday 15 October (7 pm for 7.15 pm start.) Proceeds in aid of Leo Luke. Tickets are £8 including Ploughman's Supper. Tickets and further information from Valerie Blacklock (Tel: 251312).

CHRISTMAS FAIR: 12 November 2011 from 11 .am – 2.30.pm. Have you read the article in this month's Sword? This is an annual event when we raise funds to help pay the 'housekeeping' bills. There are sheets on the signings table asking for many kinds of help. Please do your utmost to help this year. Tell your friends and neighbours about it. Make a note to have lunch at the Fair on that day. Start to bring items for sale as soon as you can. Your church needs YOU.

MORNING PRAYER in the Lady Chapel will not be said until Monday 24 October.