



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sunday 12 August 2012

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr George celebrates and preaches. Graham Mordue leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 4, 532, 278 and 455

Setting: White (traditional words)

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church

1.00 – 5.00 pm)

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

The Parish of Northchurch in our Diocese.

The Church of South India (United) Suputhrappa Vasantha Kumar, its Moderator.

The work of the Church Army's Wilson Carlyle Centre in Sheffield.

The World:

The People of Syria.

Young People in our world on International Youth Day.

The legacy of the Olympics for the nation and local communities.

The Community and Parish:

Our Mothers' Union Members.

Trinity Methodist Church preparing for a new minister.

Our local funeral directors.

The Ill and the Housebound:

Especially Bruce Alexander, Robert Caton. Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Darrell Dunning, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby, Leena Hosie, Jenny Houghton, Audrey and Harvey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Faith Nkugwa, Dorcas Ochola, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Christina and David Simon, Rosie Waite, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed:

Joseph Burrell; Pamela Harding.

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 2 Samuel 18.5–9, 15, 31–33

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

- ⁵ The king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.
- ⁶ So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim.
- ⁷ The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men.
- ⁸ The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.
- ⁹ Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.
- ¹⁵ And ten young men, Joab's armour-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.
- ³¹ Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.'
- ³² The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' The Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.'
- ³³ The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

SECOND READING Ephesians 4.25 – 5.2

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- ²⁵ Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another.
- ²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

27 and do not make room for the devil.
28 Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with
their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy.
29 Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building
up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.
30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a
seal for the day of redemption.
31 Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and
slander, together with all malice,
32 and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in
Christ has forgiven you.
1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,
2 and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering
and sacrifice to God.

GOSPEL John 6.35, 41–51

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

35 Jesus said to the crowd, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will
never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'
41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread
that came down from heaven.'
42 They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother
we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?'
43 Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves.
44 No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will
raise that person up on the last day.
45 It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone
who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.
46 Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has
seen the Father.
47 Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.
48 I am the bread of life.
49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.
50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and
not die.
51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread
will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my
flesh.'

THIS WEEK

Mon	13	Aug	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	15	Aug	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	16	Aug	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) followed by a meeting of the Mothers' Union and coffee afterwards in the Choir Vestry	10.00am
Sun	19	Aug	<u>TRINITY 11</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff) SUNG EUCHARIST President and preacher: Fr Geoff Evening Prayer	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm

NOTICES

EMMAUS: Please give your completed form to Father Geoff as soon as you can so that he can start planning the Emmaus course. He will be happy to talk to you about the course if you have any queries.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

20 August Bible Study at 8 pm (Violet Allen Smith)

11 September Intercessory Prayer Group at 2.30 pm (Valerie Alvarez)

Everyone is very welcome to attend any of these groups. If you would like further information please ask the person named above.

8 September 2012: Sponsored Bike 'n Hike Ride. Please see article in the August Sword. After spending so much time in front of the TV watching the Olympics, this is your opportunity to get some exercise by doing a sponsored bike ride or walk on 8 September. Phil Gough has more details. If you are able to welcome visitors to our church during the morning or afternoon please see Jannice Mordue or Sylvia Moring.

PENDLEY SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL: A performance of *Much Ado About Nothing* on a beautiful sunny evening – was much enjoyed by members of St Michael's this week.