



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

13<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sunday 2 September 2012

A warm welcome to our services today.

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

**Hymns: 253 (i), 583, 483 and 323**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

Refreshments will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The St Albans Diocesan Registrar and Registry Team.  
The Episcopal Church of Sudan, Daniel Deng Bul Yak, Archbishop.

The Anglican Church in Egypt and the work of USPG there.

**The World:** Youth Clubs and other provision for Young People.

Young people experiencing self-harm.

All people living in countries experiencing civil unrest.

**The Community and Parish:** Staff and Residents at River Court and Fairhaven.

The Multicultural Community Centre AGM.

The artists preparing to exhibit in our Church.

**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, Trevor Hutchinson, Audrey and Harvey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Faith Nkugwa, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Christina and David Simon, Rosie Waite, Eric and Anne Wightman.

**The Departed:**

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**Collect**

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:  
help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**FIRST READING Song of Solomon 2.8–13**

A reading from the book of the Song of Solomon.

- 8 The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.
- 9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.
- 10 My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;  
11 for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.  
12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land.  
13 The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.'

**SECOND READING James 1.17–27**

A reading from the letter of James.

- 17 Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- 18 In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.
- 19 You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger;  
20 for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.
- 21 Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.
- 22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

- 23 For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror;
- 24 for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.
- 25 But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their doing.
- 26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.
- 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

## **GOSPEL Mark 7.1–8, 14–15, 21–23**

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

- 1 When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus,
- 2 they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.
- 3 (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;
- 4 and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)
- 5 So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’
- 6 Jesus said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;
- 7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.”
- 8 You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’
- 14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand:
- 15 there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.
- 21 For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder,
- 22 adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.
- 23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’
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## THIS WEEK

Mon	3	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 - 11.30am
			Service at River Court	3.00pm
Wed	5	Sep	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	6	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir Practice	7.00 - -8.30pm
Sat	8	Sep	St MICHAEL'S OPEN for HERITAGE OPEN DAY	
			RSCM Examinations (Choir Vestry)	9.00 – 11.35am
			Wedding	12.30pm
			Sponsored Bike 'n Hike Ride. Church open all day	
Sun	9	Sep	<b>TRINITY 14</b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			President Fr Geoff and preacher Jamie Wareham	
			Service of Thanksgiving and Praise (Simple Eucharist)	11.15am
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church)	1.00pm – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## NOTICES

GILLIAN HEATH invites every one to help her celebrate Martin's 70th by joining her for Birthday cake and a glass of wine or juice immediately after the 9.30 service today.

ART EXHIBITION There will be an INSPIRE Art Exhibition in St Michael's from 8 – 22 September. The Church will be open at published times each day during this period. Normal service times will not be altered. Posters at back of church.

EMMAUS: Please give your completed form to Father Geoff as soon as you can.

SIX O'CLOCK SERIES - 16 SEPTEMBER AT 6 PM: This service will take the form of a songs of praise followed by refreshments. We invite parishioners to suggest any hymns, readings or poems, that they would like to see included in this service. There is a list for your suggestions on the signings table at the west end.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

17 September Bible Study at 8 pm (Violet Allen Smith)

Everyone is very welcome to attend any of the 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.