



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

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

Sunday 23 September 2012

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and Martin Heath preaches. Violet Allen-Smith leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 605 (t416ii), 259, 432 and 598**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church

1.00 – 5.00 pm)

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 6.00 pm.

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

**The Church:** The Parish of Shefford in our Diocese.

The Episcopal Church in the USA, Katherine Jefferts Schori, its Presiding Bishop, and its people.

Christians in China.

**The World:** Families, friends and colleagues of the murdered police officers.

Serving police officers who put themselves “in harm’s way”.

Retired people and all they do in their churches and communities.

**The Community and Parish:** Our Emmaus course and all who will be taking part.

All our home communicants.

Our Parish Magazine Editor, contributors and all who receive the “Sword”.

**The Ill and the Housebound:** Especially Bruce Alexander, Robert Caton. Peter

Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, 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:** PC Fiona Bone and PC Nicola Hughes.

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**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 Proverbs 31.10–31**

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- <sup>10</sup> A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.  
<sup>11</sup> The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.  
<sup>12</sup> She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.  
<sup>13</sup> She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.  
<sup>14</sup> She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away.  
<sup>15</sup> She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls.  
<sup>16</sup> She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.  
<sup>17</sup> She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong.  
<sup>18</sup> She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.  
<sup>19</sup> She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.  
<sup>20</sup> She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy.  
<sup>21</sup> She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson.  
<sup>22</sup> She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple.  
<sup>23</sup> Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land.  
<sup>24</sup> She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes.  
<sup>25</sup> Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.  
<sup>26</sup> She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.  
<sup>27</sup> She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.  
<sup>28</sup> Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her:  
<sup>29</sup> 'Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.'  
<sup>30</sup> Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
<sup>31</sup> Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

## SECOND READING James 3.13 – 4.3, 7–8a

A reading from the letter of James.

- <sup>13</sup> Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom.
- <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth.
- <sup>15</sup> Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish.
- <sup>16</sup> For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind.
- <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.
- <sup>18</sup> And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.
- <sup>1</sup> Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you?
- <sup>2</sup> You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask.
- <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.
- <sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
- <sup>8</sup> Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

## GOSPEL Mark 9.30–37

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

- After leaving the mountain
- <sup>30</sup> Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;
- <sup>31</sup> for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, ‘The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.’
- <sup>32</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.
- <sup>33</sup> Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the way?’
- <sup>34</sup> But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.
- <sup>35</sup> He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, ‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’
- <sup>36</sup> Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,
- <sup>37</sup> ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’
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## THIS WEEK

Mon	24	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 - 11.30am
			Emmaus course in Vicarage (see below)	1.00pm
Tue	25	Sep	Emmaus course in Vicarage (see below)	7.00pm
Wed	26	Sep	Coffee in Church	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	27	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 - -8.30pm
Sat	29	Sep	<b>MICHAELMAS</b>	
			Wedding	3.00pm
Sun	30	Sep	<b><u>MICHAELMAS</u> – Patronal Festival</b>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr George)	
			<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
			President and preacher Fr Geoff	
			Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel	6.00pm

## NOTICES

EMMAUS – The days for the Emmaus Course will be Monday Afternoons and Tuesday Evenings, with no sessions in the first week of the month. They will begin at the Vicarage on Monday 24th September 1.00pm, and Tuesday 25th September 7.00pm, when we will arrange a full set of dates. All those who are following the Emmaus course with us, please sign on the list at the back (it's not too late to join in), and come along with sandwiches/buffet food for one of these first meetings.

HARVEST SUPPER at Trinity Methodist Church is on Monday 8th October 7.00pm for 7.15pm, cost £5.00, please sign the list at the back so we can tell them numbers.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE OCTOBER SWORD is MIDDAY today, Sunday, 23 September. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com

THE COFFEE MORNING on 15<sup>th</sup> September raised £273.71 for The Children's Society. Many thanks.

REVD PROF LINZEY'S, the foremost Animal Theologian, is preaching at evensong at St Albans Abbey on 30<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm (not 23<sup>rd</sup> as mentioned in Sword).

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6 October at 7.30 pm – Quiz Night in aid of the Church Repair Fund. Tickets available from Iola Bilson are £10 including a Ploughman's Supper.

14 October at 9.30 am – St Michael's will be celebrating Harvest Festival at the 9.30 and 11.15 services. See article on page 17 of the September *Sword* for more information.

17 November from 11.00 am to 2.30 pm St Michael's CHRISTMAS FAIR – please keep this date free.