



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MICHAELMAS

Sunday 30 September 2012

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist, Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: Back of Service Book, 401, 392 and 377

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

Baptism at 3.00 pm

Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

- The Church:** The ministers and people of St Albans Abbey.
The Church in Wales; Barry Morgan its Archbishop, its ministers and people.
The work of the Church Army nurturing Young People in the Gospel..
- The World:** Just treatment for women in India, and its fostering in the Churches.
The valuing of elderly people in our society.
All who act as carers for elderly people.

The Community and Parish: Residents and Staff at River Court and Fairhaven.
The Littlebury Children's Centre.
West Watford Community Association.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Robert Caton. Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby, Jenny Houghton, Trevor Hutchinson, Audrey and Harvey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Stella Nicholas, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Christina and David Simon, Rosie Waite, Eric and Anne Wightman.

The Departed: Leena Hosie (103).

COLLECT

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; 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 28.10–17

A reading from the book of Genesis.

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran.

¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.

¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

¹³ And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;

¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.

¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!'

¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

SECOND READING Revelation 12.7–12

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- ⁷ War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back,
- ⁸ but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.
- ⁹ The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.
- ¹¹ But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
- ¹² Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!’

GOSPEL John 1.47–51

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

- ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, ‘Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!’
- ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, ‘Where did you come to know me?’ Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.’
- ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’
- ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, ‘Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.’
- ⁵¹ And he said to him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.’
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THIS WEEK

Mon	1	Oct	Toddlers' Group Service at River Court	10.00 - 11.30am 3.00pm
Wed	3	Oct	Coffee in Church (Children's Centre Advisory Board (Choir Vestry)	10.30am-12 noon 12.30-2.00pm)
Thur	4	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) Fairhaven Choir Practice	10.00am morning 7.00 - -8.30pm
Sat	6	Oct	QUIZ NIGHT (see below)	7.30pm
Sun	7	Oct	<u>TRINITY 18</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff) SUNG EUCHARIST President and preacher Fr Geoff Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm

NOTICES

GOLDEN WEDDING: Yesterday was Norma and Roy Twitchin's Golden Wedding. Norma is not able to be in church today but she has provided tea and coffee and special biscuits for everyone, to be served after the 9.30 service. Please stay.

EMMAUS – The days for the Emmaus Courses are Monday Afternoons (starting at 1 pm) and Tuesday Evenings (starting at 7 pm), with no sessions in the first week of the month. Each group has had its first session and the next meetings will be on 8th and 9th October in the Vicarage. . 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 the next meeting.

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 or see the Vicar if you wish to attend so we can tell them numbers.

REVD PROF LINZEY'S, the foremost Animal Theologian, is preaching at evensong at St Albans Abbey on 30th September at 6.30pm (not 23rd 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. Read the article about the Fair in the October *Sword* and sign the list on the signings table if you are able to help in any way. Thank you.