



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 4
23 June 2013

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr George celebrates and preaches and Pam Hart leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 584 (t357), 348 (tSP140, 163, 287 and 494

Setting: Wilson

Coffee and tea will be served in church after the 9.30 service – please stay on.

(The Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church

1.00 - 5.00pm)

Evening Prayers is at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

The Parish of Leighton Buzzard in our Diocese.

The Diocese of Oke-Ogun in Nigeria, Solomon Amusan its Bishop and all its people.

The Anglican Church in Ghana.

The World:

The work of Church Schools.

UN workers at risk of attack.

Refuges from war in Syria.

The Community and Parish: The Littlebury Children's Centre.

The work of GP practices in our area.

Residents in new housing complexes in our area.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Bruce Alexander, Janet Bridge, Jean and

Robert Caton. Peter Coley, Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean

Crouch, Pamela Cutler, Audrey Dixon, Ben Heath, Jessie Hobby,

Jenny Houghton, Audrey Jaquest, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch,

Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Maggie Maguire, Audrey Morgan,

Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Myrtle Powell, Mark

Pritchard, Christina and David Simon, Douglas Taylor, Anne

Wightman and Andrew Williams.

The Departed:

Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING I Kings 19.1–4, 8–15a

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- ¹ Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.
- ² Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.'
- ³ Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.
- ⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.'
- ⁸ He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.
- ⁹ At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'
- ¹⁰ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'
- ¹¹ He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake;
- ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.
- ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'
- ¹⁴ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'
- ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.'

SECOND READING Galatians 3.23–29

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

²³ Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.

²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian,
²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ;
²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

GOSPEL Luke 8.26–39

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

²⁶ Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs.

²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me' –

²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

³⁰ Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him.

³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission.

³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country.

³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.

`THIS WEEK

Mon	24	Jun	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	26	Jun	Coffee in Church. Food Bank distribution	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	27	Jun	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Choir Practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	30	Jun	<u>TRINITY 5</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST	9.30am
			(President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	
			followed by a Bring-&-Buy sale	
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

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

ON WEDNESDAY 3rd JULY I will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of my ordination to the Priesthood. There will be a eucharist at 7.30 pm, followed by refreshments. I would like to invite all members of the St Michael's congregation. Please sign the list at the back of church if you are able to come, so that we can gauge numbers. Fr Geoff.

NEXT SUNDAY there will be questionnaires available for members of the congregation to give their feedback on the trial of the new arrangement for the placing of the altar, chairs and choir for Sunday morning worship.

FOOD BANK: There is a list of the items of food that can be included in the food parcels that are given out and if you would like to donate any of these items please bring them to church and put them in the box at the west end.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES: If you still have one please bring it in to Norma Twitchin to be emptied.