



# THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

*St Michael and All Angels*

Watford

TRINITY 14  
1 September 2013

A warm welcome to our services today.

At the 9.30 am Eucharist Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches and Paul Jenkins leads the intercessions.

**Hymns: 253(i), 488, 435(i), 329(i) and 497**

**Setting: Rawsthorne**

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

Joint Evening Service (here at St Michael's) at 6.00pm

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

**The Church:** The Chancellor of St Albans Diocese.

The Diocese of Saldanha Bay (Southern Africa), Raphael Hess its Bishop and all its people.

St Peter's hospital on Likoma Island, Lake Malawi.

**The World:** The people of Syria.

Wisdom for world leaders and governments in dealing with the Syrian crisis.

The work of promoting ethnic and religious harmony.

**The Community and Parish:** Our young people preparing to begin or return to school, begin higher education or enter the workplace.

Residents and Staff at River Court and Fairhaven.

The clergy and readers of Watford Deanery.

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

Duncan Campbell, Jean and Robert Caton, Tony Coles, Peter Coley,

Bill and Marion Craddock-Jones, Jean Crouch, Pamela Cutler,

Audrey Dixon, Jessie Hobby, Jenny Houghton, Audrey Jaquest,

Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Jacqui Lyons, Audrey

Morgan, Dorcas Ochola, Brian O'Riordan, Helen Perry, Myrtle

Powell, Mark Pritchard, Christina and David Simon, Mark Simon,

Anne Wightman and Andrew Williams.

**The Departed:** Douglas Taylor.

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# THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY      YEAR C

## COLLECT

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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.

## OT READING Jeremiah 2.4–13

(Not read)

- <sup>4</sup> *Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.*
- <sup>5</sup> *Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?*
- <sup>6</sup> *They did not say, 'Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?'*
- <sup>7</sup> *I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.*
- <sup>8</sup> *The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.*
- <sup>9</sup> *Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children.*
- <sup>10</sup> *Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing.*
- <sup>11</sup> *Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.*
- <sup>12</sup> *Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD,*
- <sup>13</sup> *for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.*

## NT READING Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- <sup>1</sup> Let mutual love continue.
- <sup>2</sup> Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.
- <sup>3</sup> Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

- 4 Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers.
- 5 Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.'
- 6 So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'
- 7 Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.
- 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.
- 15 Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.
- 16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

## **GOSPEL Luke 14.1, 7-14**

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

- 1 On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.
- 7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable.
- 8 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host;
- 9 and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place," and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.
- 10 But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.
- 11 For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'
- 12 He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.
- 13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.
- 14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

## THIS WEEK

Mon	2	Sep	<i>Schools start back this week</i>	
			Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			River Court Service	3.00pm
Wed	4	Sep	Coffee in Church. Food Bank distribution	10.30am-12 noon
Thur	5	Sep	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	8	Sep	<b><u>TRINITY 15</u></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 Praise and Thanksgiving	11.15am
			(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church	1.00 – 5.00pm)
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

## NOTICES

QUESTIONNAIRES are still 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. **Please return the completed forms by Sunday 22 September.**

LAST SUNDAY'S BRING-&-BUY raised £38. Many thanks to all who contributed.

A QUIET DAY has been arranged for 21<sup>st</sup> September at Edgware Abbey. The cost will be £5, take your own lunch. There is a sign up sheet at the back of church.

REQUEST FOR HELP WITH PUBLICITY: A display of photos, articles, memorabilia is planned for the Centenary. Would anyone with possible display material please contact Kristine Jenkins. She would also like some volunteers to help with the actual display. VOLUNTEERS also wanted to help to provide a display of the repair work needed for St Michael's as required by the Quinquennial Report. Please contact Kristine if you can help with this.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 14 SEPTEMBER                      Heritage Open Day                      Sponsored Bike'n'Hike  
     Coffee Morning in aid of The Children's Society  
     RSCM Exams
- 27 SEPTEMBER                      Organ Recital    given by Andrew Benoy 7 pm (*please note that the date has been changed from the 28th to Friday, 27th.*)
- 29 SEPTEMBER                      Michaelmas
- 13 OCTOBER                          Harvest Festival will be at 10.30am. It will be a Sung Eucharist and there will not be services at 9.30 or 11.15.