



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MICHAELMAS
29 September 2013

A warm welcome to our services today when we celebrate our Patronal Festival in our centenary year.

We give a special welcome to The Archdeacon of St Albans, the Venerable Jonathan Smith who will be our Celebrant and Preacher at the 9.30 Sung Eucharist. Phil Gough leads the intercessions.

Hymns: 247, 245(i), 392 and “In This Place”

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

From 3pm this afternoon there is a reunion of Choir members.

At 6pm there is a celebratory Choral Evensong with an augmented choir. This will also be followed by refreshments. Please come and support the augmented choir on this special weekend.

For your prayers this week:

The Church:

The people of All Saints, Peshawar, and the Church of Pakistan.
Anglican Christians in the Holy Land.

The parish of Southill in our Diocese.

The Diocese of SW Virginia in the USA, Neff Powell its bishop and all its people.

The World:

The people of Kenya.

Peace in the Holy Land and over the Middle East.

The Community and Parish: All former worshippers of St Michael's.

West Watford Community Association.

Residents and Staff at Fairhaven Care Home.

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:

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 Hebrews 1.5–14

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

⁵ To which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are my Son; today I have begotten you?’ Or again, ‘I will be his Father, and he will be my Son?’

⁶ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, ‘Let all God’s angels worship him.’

⁷ Of the angels he says, ‘He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.’

⁸ But of the Son he says, ‘Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’

¹⁰ And, ‘In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing;

¹² like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.’

¹³ But to which of the angels has he ever said, ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?’

¹⁴ Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

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.’

THIS WEEK

Mon	30	Sep	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Wed	2	Oct	Coffee in Church. Food Bank distribution	10.30am-12 noon
			Messy Church Group (35 Kings Avenue)	7.30pm
Thu	3	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language)	10.00am
			Fairhaven	morning
			Choir practice	7.00 – 8.30pm
Sun	6	Oct	<u>TRINITY 19</u>	
			Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff)	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (President and Preacher: Fr Geoff)	9.30am
			(Baptism (followed by reception)	3.00pm)
			Joint Service at Trinity Methodist	6.30pm

NOTICES

FR GEOFF would like to thank all those who so thoughtfully and prayerfully filled in their Nave Altar feedback forms. The responses are now being looked at by the vicar, churchwardens, organist and sacristan, as those mainly responsible for the ordering of worship. There will be no decisions made at this stage, but the responses will be condensed into a representative report (without names attached) to the PCC for a decision on how best to move forward.

FOOD BANK: There is a list of the items of food that can be included in the food parcels in particular there is a need for tinned meat and meat pies, and UHT milk. 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.

HARVEST SUPPER AT TRINITY METHODIST: This is on Monday, 7 October at 7 pm. Tickets (£5 for adults; £3 for children) obtainable from Violet Allen-Smith.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

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.

16 NOVEMBER St Michael's Christmas Fair. Please read about it in the new edition of **SWORD** which is available today and make sure you have written the date in your diary.