



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

HARVEST
13 October 2013

A warm welcome to our services today.

This morning's service is at 10.30 am and is a sung Eucharist for Harvest Thanksgiving. Fr Geoff celebrates and preaches.

Hymns: 274, 272, "Fill your Hearts with Joy and Gladness" (in Music Notes) and 275

Setting: Rawsthorne

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

(Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church for their Harvest **1.00 – 7.00pm**)

NO Evening Service.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Stagsden in our Diocese.

The Diocese of Tamale in Ghana, Jacob Ayeebo its Bishop and all its people.

The work of Us (USPG) with the Church in Ghana.

The World: World Peace.

All who work in food production and distribution.

The people of Pakistan.

The Community and Parish: Our Mothers' Union Members.

Chater Infants School.

New Hope Trust, Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Project and Watford Food Bank.

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, Sandra Fullerton, 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

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:

grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;

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 Deuteronomy 26.1–11

(Not read)

Moses spoke to the people, saying:

¹ *When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it,*

² *you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.*

³ *You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.’*

⁴ *When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God,*

⁵ *you shall make this response before the LORD your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.*

⁶ *When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us,*
⁷ *we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.*

⁸ *The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;*

⁹ *and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.*

¹⁰ *So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.*

¹¹ *Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.*

NT READING Philippians 4.4–9

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL John 6.25–35

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

²⁵ When they found Jesus on the other side of the sea, the crowd said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’

²⁶ Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’

²⁸ Then they said to Jesus, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’

²⁹ Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’

³⁰ So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?’

³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”

³² Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’

³⁴ They said to him, ‘Sir, give us this bread always.’

³⁵ Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’

POST COMMUNION

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:

by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THIS WEEK

Mon	14	Oct	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
Tue	15	Oct	Service at the Chase Care Centre	2.30pm
Wed	16	Oct	Coffee in Church.	10.30am-12 noon
Thu	17	Oct	Holy Communion (Order One in Traditional Language) attended by Mothers' Union and followed by a meeting in Choir Vestry Choir practice	10.00am 7.00 – 8.30pm
Fri	18	Oct	Littlebury Children's Centre Advisory Committee (Choir Vestry)	12.30 – 2.00pm
Sun	20	Oct	<u>TRINITY 21</u> Holy Communion (Pres: Fr Geoff) SUNG EUCHARIST (President Fr Geoff and Preacher Violet Allen-Smith) Six O'Clock Series	8.00am 9.30am 6.00pm

NOTICES

GIFTS FROM TODAY'S HARVEST FESTIVAL will be shared between New Hope Trust, the Watford and Three Rivers Refugees Project and the Watford Foodbank and a cash collection for Christian Aid, will be taken during the service.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE starts today (Sunday 13 October). Special prayer leaflets are available for you to take home and use.

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.

FINAL COPY DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER SWORD is MIDDAY next Sunday, 20 October. Hard copy or floppy disc to Dennis Beach or email to dhbeach@sky.com.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

16 NOVEMBER St Michael's Christmas Fair. Please read about it in the October edition of *SWORD* and make sure you have written the date in your diary. There is a table at the west end of the church with a list asking for volunteers to help with different jobs. Please sign this if you are able to help. There is also a box on the table for items that can be sold or used as raffle or tombola prizes. Please support St Michael's Christmas Fair as much as you can.