



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY 11

28 August 2022

Welcome to our service today. We are now able to receive the wine at communion. There will be a chalice on your left for those who wish to receive by drinking, and on your right for those who wish to receive by dipping their wafer in the wine. You are also welcome to just receive the bread.

The 9.30 Eucharist will include the renewal of their marriage vows by Elizabeth and Mark Watkin. The lessons will be read by Eluned and Damian.

Hymn numbers are CP523 My God, how wonderful thou art, CP308 Just as I am, CP515 Lord thy word abideth, (Communion Anthem: The Lord's my Shepherd; Br James' Air), CP362 Tell out my soul.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of St John the Baptist Farley Hill in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.
The work of Christian Aid.

The World: People experiencing extreme hunger in East Africa.
Action to prevent the dire situation in Afghanistan becoming a humanitarian disaster.
Ukrainian people caught up in the refugee crisis.

The Community and Parish: People who look after our Church finances.
Teachers who are members of our congregation.
Our organists and choir.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Jean Alexander, Violet Allen-Smith, Janet Chandler, Jemima Hill, Ron Hornsby, Keith Levinson, Lisa Mills, Catherine Stone, Fay Storey, Adelaide Tonkin, and all who care for them.

The Departed:

COLLECT

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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 Jeremiah 2.4–13

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- ⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.
- ⁵ 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?
- ⁶ 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?'
- ⁷ 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.
- ⁸ 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.
- ⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children.
- ¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing.
- ¹¹ 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.
- ¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD,
- ¹³ 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.

SECOND READING Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- 1 Let mutual love continue.
- 2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.
- 3 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.'

Our Eucharist for **Trinity 11** is available to attend in person or via livestream on our YouTube channel “St Michael’s Church Watford”
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8GTX0MfiICGmcDUkXTGFSw>

The 10.00am Eucharist on Thursdays is also available to attend in person, and livestreamed.

The Church will be open for tea and coffee on Wednesday mornings from 10.00am – 12.00 noon.

Many congratulations to Mark and Elizabeth Watkin who are renewing their marriage vows during the 9.30 Eucharist and celebrating their Golden Wedding. They would like to invite you all to refreshments after the service this morning.

Please put Saturday 10th September in your diary. There will be things going on all day at St Michael’s. In the morning – Angelic Coffee and Bring and Buy. In the afternoon – Tea on the Triangle. The Church will be open all day for the Historic Churches Trust Bike ‘n Hike, and also for Heritage Open Day.

In conjunction with a designer we have been working on a new website for St Michael’s. It still needs further work and we will continue to refine and expand the contents but we think it is now sufficiently advanced to be ready for release. Please do have a look at it via the following link:
<http://www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk/>.

All comments will be gratefully received either by the Vicar or by Simon Fowle (simon.fowle@ntlworld.com).