



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

**LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
23 October 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.

Hymn numbers are CP421 Father of heaven, CP174 (t.248) Breathe on me breath of God, CP500 Lift up your hearts (t.2), CP376 And can it be.

For your prayers this week:

Our nation as we enter another period of political uncertainty until a new Prime Minister is appointed.

Our Government and Parliament during this time and as policies are developed by a new administration.

In our Diocese, the Parish of Turvey who ask for our prayers for a deepening of their spiritual life and for a heart for mission.

In the wider church family, Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo (Anglican Church of the Congo) and their Archbishop the Most Revd Titre Ande Georges.

In our local community we pray for the work of the Trussell Trust and our own Food Bank and for all who need them.

In our church community we give thanks for the success of our Harvest Festival, for the local schools who have celebrated Harvest here and we look forward to welcoming local people during all our Advent and Christmas services and events.

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

The Departed:

Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Joel 2.23–32

A reading from the book of the prophet Joel.

- ²³ O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before.
- ²⁴ The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- ²⁵ I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.
- ²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.
- ²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.
- ²⁸ Then afterwards I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.
- ²⁹ Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.
- ³⁰ I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke.
- ³¹ The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes.
- ³² Then everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 4.6–8, 16–18

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- ⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come.
- ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
- ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.
- ¹⁶ At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them!
- ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.
- ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL Luke 18.9–14

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

- ⁹ Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:
- ¹⁰ 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector.
- ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector.
- ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income."
- ¹³ But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"
- ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

Our Eucharist for **the LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY** 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.

Today is Bible Sunday. Do have a look at the display in church from the **Bible Reading Fellowship**.

There are daily readings to suit all tastes! Ask Gillian for more information.

The Week of Prayer for World Peace this year finishes today. Daily prayer booklets are available in church, with prayer themes and contributions from the major faiths. This year’s theme is the on-going wars and their consequences. Do please take a booklet and join the great wave of international and interfaith prayer for Peace.

Watford Celebration 2022 will be in the Charter Place open air part of the Atria Shopping Centre on Sunday 30th October from 11am-3.00pm, with a Sacred Space discussion from 3.00pm until 4.30pm in another part of Atria.

REMINDER: British Summer Time ends next Sunday (30 October). Clocks go back one hour at 2 am.

Website: <http://www.stmichaels-watford.org.uk>
St Michael and All Angels PCC is a Registered Charity No 1132010