



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

Barnabas the Apostle
Sunday 11 June 2023

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.

Welcome to our service today.

Hymns are: 369 All People that on Earth do dwell, 426 Firmly I Believe and Truly (t.HONA133a), 377 Angel Voices ever Singing, 497 Let all the World (X2)

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of Northaw with Cuffley.
The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.
The work of Barnabas Aid.

The World: Flood victims in Ukraine.
Victims of the train crash in India and their relatives.
Carers for people living with dementia.

The Community and Parish: The people who care for our buildings.
Residents and staff at the Chase and St Anthony's care homes.
Our Church's mission locally and worldwide.

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

The Departed:

Collect

Bountiful God, giver of all gifts,
who poured your Spirit upon your servant Barnabas
and gave him grace to encourage others:
help us, by his example,
to be generous in our judgements
and unselfish in our service;
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 Acts 11.19–30

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- ¹⁹ Those who were scattered because of the persecution that took place over Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word to no one except Jews.
- ²⁰ But among them were some men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus.
- ²¹ The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number became believers and turned to the Lord.
- ²² News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch.
- ²³ When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion;
- ²⁴ for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord.
- ²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul,
- ²⁶ and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they met with the church and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called 'Christians.'
- ²⁷ At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.
- ²⁸ One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius.
- ²⁹ The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea;
- ³⁰ this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

SECOND READING Galatians 2.1–10

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- ¹ After fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me.
- ² I went up in response to a revelation. Then I laid before them (though only in a private meeting with the acknowledged leaders) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure that I was not running, or had not run, in vain.
- ³ But even Titus, who was with me, was not compelled to be circumcised, though he was a Greek.
- ⁴ But because of false believers secretly brought in, who slipped in to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might enslave us –
- ⁵ we did not submit to them even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might always remain with you.
- ⁶ And from those who were supposed to be acknowledged leaders (what they actually were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality) – those leaders contributed nothing to me.
- ⁷ On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel for the circumcised
- ⁸ (for he who worked through Peter making him an apostle to the circumcised also worked through me in sending me to the Gentiles),
- ⁹ and when James and Cephas and John, who were acknowledged pillars, recognized the grace that had been given to me, they gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.
- ¹⁰ They asked only one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do.

GOSPEL John 15.12–17

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Jesus said to his disciples:

- ¹² 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Our service today for Barnabas the Apostle 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.

Children’s Society Boxes: if you have one, please bring back to church over the next few weeks. – Thank you, *Valerie*.

Fr Geoff is compiling a list of names to go in the Book of Remembrance, which hasn’t been updated for a while. There is a list of names at the back of Church, to which you are welcome to add. The Book will be open this morning for you to check if certain names are there or not.

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