



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

TRINITY10

Sunday 13 August 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: 555 Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven, 467 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds, 318 O thou who at thy Eucharist didst pray, 455 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The Parish of King's Walden in our Diocese.
The Anglican Church of Chile.
The Parish Church of St Mary, Watford.

The World: Victims of wildfires in Hawaii.
Employees at Wilko.
Democracy in Niger and Ecuador.

The Community and Parish: People who use our Food Bank.
People in our parish preparing for marriage.
Parishes in vacancy in our Deanery.

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

The Departed: Ronald Day and John Pyatt.

Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you;
 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 37.1–4, 12–28

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- ¹ Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan.
- ² This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.
- ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves.
- ⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.
- ¹² Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem.
- ¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, 'Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.' He answered, 'Here I am.'
- ¹⁴ So he said to him, 'Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me.' So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem,
- ¹⁵ and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, 'What are you seeking?'
- ¹⁶ 'I am seeking my brothers,' he said; 'tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.'
- ¹⁷ The man said, 'They have gone away, for I heard them say, "Let us go to Dothan."' So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan.
- ¹⁸ They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him.
- ¹⁹ They said to one another, 'Here comes this dreamer.'
- ²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.'
- ²¹ But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, 'Let us not take his life.'
- ²² Reuben said to them, 'Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him' – that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father.
- ²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore;
- ²⁴ and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.
- ²⁵ Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt.
- ²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, 'What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?'
- ²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.' And his brothers agreed.
- ²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

SECOND READING Romans 10.5–15

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 5 Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that ‘the person who does these things will live by them.’
- 6 But the righteousness that comes from faith says, ‘Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into heaven?”’ (that is, to bring Christ down)
- 7 ‘or “Who will descend into the abyss?”’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).
- 8 But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);
- 9 because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.
- 11 The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’
- 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.
- 13 For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’
- 14 But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?
- 15 And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22–33

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

- Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish,
- 22 Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.
- 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,
- 24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.
- 25 And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake.
- 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, ‘It is a ghost!’ And they cried out in fear.
- 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, ‘Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.’
- 28 Peter answered him, ‘Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.’
- 29 He said, ‘Come.’ So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus.
- 30 But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’
- 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, ‘You of little faith, why did you doubt?’
- 32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- 33 And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, ‘Truly you are the Son of God.’

Our service today 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.

We will be holding the PCC commissioning during the morning service on the 20th August. It would be lovely to have as many as possible of the PCC there.

Food Bank – we are again in need of some donations for our Food Bank clients, particularly Washing Liquid Tabs, Shower Gel, Deodorant, Toilet Rolls, Toothpaste, and Sanitary Towels. Thank you so much for your support.

Congratulations to Valerie and Brian O’Riordan who will be celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on Thursday.