

Holy Angels of God, pray for us

This week we celebrate two feasts of the angels. On Wednesday we honour the three archangels mentioned by name in Scripture: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael; and on Saturday we have perhaps a more personal feast, that of the Guardian Angels who care for each one of us. The word 'angel' comes from the Greek *angelos*, 'messenger'. The angels help to communicate to us the grace of God, and help to lead us closer to the Lord. Jesus Himself speaks of the angels of God 'ascending and descending' (John 1:51) – in other words, carrying our prayers upwards and God's help down to us. With the two feasts this week we see the power and glory of God displayed in His Archangels, and the very personal and gentle care of God given to each of us through our Guardian Angels, who are continually in the presence of our heavenly Father (Matthew 18:11).



Today's Readings

On most Sundays there is a link between the first reading and the Gospel; in fact, the first reading is chosen to coincide with the Gospel passage we hear. Today the theme that unites them is one of not being jealous of the gifts of others, even when God appears to work through those we do not expect. We hear of Eldad and Medad prophesying the camp of the Israelites, but – far from being troubled that he might have a rival – Moses rejoices that God is working through them. Jesus makes the same point in the Gospel: "Anyone who is not against us is for us." Here is an invitation for us to work with all those who are open to the will of God. Jesus also teaches us today to remove from our lives anything that causes us to sin, and promises a rich reward to those who help His followers. St James in the second reading reminds us of what truly lasts: not riches, which will always wear out, but the life of heaven offered by God through Jesus Christ.

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 2; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 26

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Ints Alan Cockburn
Sunday 26 th	9:30am		People of the Parish
	11:30am		Holy Souls
	6pm		Holy Souls
Monday	9:15am	St Vincent de Paul	Shirley Gilleade RIP
Tuesday	7pm		Anne RIP and Gerald Topping (wedding anniv.)
Wednesday	9:15am	Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael	Monica S. (health and ints)
Thursday	9:15am	St Jerome	Special Intention
Friday	12noon	St Thérèse of Lisieux	Holy Souls
Saturday	10am	The Guardian Angels	Sabrina Brady RIP
	6pm (vigil)	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Holy Souls
Sunday 3 rd	9:30am		Pauline Wilkinson RIP
	11:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		John Cairns RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Fr Eugene McCaffrey OCD** (formerly of Tabor) and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11am-12noon and by appointment.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is also open Monday-Friday morning-6pm; Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 1-5pm.

ROSARY: After 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass on Fridays.

ANNIVERSARIES: Dorothy Jones, Catherine Lee, Joan Mary Clark, Betty Marcella, William Fowler, Clare Mulligan, Helen Gildert, James Smart, Margaret Holden, Anne-Marie McCabe, Betty Dickinson, Nora Jones, Cicely Brierley, Sharon Livesey, Maureen Masters, Elizabeth Mary Ivison.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER: We pray that all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

PARISH YOUTH GROUPS: Seekers (school years 4-6) and our Anointed and Sent groups (years 7-11) are now up and running again. See back page for times.

HARVEST FAST DAY: This coming Friday is CAFOD's annual Harvest Fast Day. We are invited to fast and give any money saved to help those in need. Gift Aid collection envelopes are available this weekend; please return them next Sunday.

FIRST FRIDAY: Please note, there will be no First Friday Holy Hour in October.

NCW CATECHESIS: An invitation to hear the Gospel anew, receiving its powerful message of hope and relating it to daily life. Monday and Thursday evenings, 7pm in the narthex. All are very welcome to come along.

11:30am MASS: Please note that there will be no 11:30am Mass on Sunday 24th October. All other Masses will take place as normal.

FIRST CONFESSION AND COMMUNION 2021-22: Children from school years 3 and 4 (and older children who haven't already received these sacraments) are invited to join the programme for the coming year. Registration forms are now available from the narthex. These should be returned to the presbytery by this Friday, 1st October.

CONFIRMATION 2021-22: For all young people in school years 6 and up who have not yet had the opportunity to be confirmed. The programme will start January 2022 with Confirmation in May 2022. Full details will be published before Christmas.

ST CLARE'S SCHOOL OPEN DAY: Wednesday 6th October until 5:30pm. Come and discover our primary school. Please contact the office to book a slot for your visit or for more information. Call 787037 or email bursar@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk

SEPTEMBER 200 CLUB WINNERS: £144 no. 111 Maureen Speariett; £87 no. 52 Prisca Lepcha; £58 no. 109 Greg Billington. Congratulations to our winners!

DAY BY DAY BOOKS contain readings and prayers for daily Mass. If anyone is interested in receiving a copy each month (£1/month) please contact the office.

CASTLERIGG 'LIT' RETREAT: 1st-3rd October at Castlrigg Manor, Keswick. An open retreat for school years 7-11, aimed at those who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the coming year. Visit www.castlriggmanor.co.uk to sign up.

METANOIA PROJECT is looking for volunteers. We have a wide range of ministries including our children/youth work, adult groups, homeless drop in and music ministry. We also have admin/tech tasks. If you could spare a little time, please contact Jen (Community Coordinator) 07957566741 or jen@metanoiaproject.co.uk.

FOOD BANK: Collection next weekend, 2nd/3rd October.

SPECIAL COLLECTION this Sunday for Bishop's Administration Fund.

LAST SUNDAY: At Mass: 309 (figures for individual Masses: 60/75/69/72 (NCW 33)) Collection: £525.33. Thank you.

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 26 th	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Mon-Fri	3:20pm	After School Club*	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7pm	NCW Catechesis (3)	Narthex
	7pm	Baptism Preparation (2)*	Side chapel
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
	7pm	NCW Catechesis (4)	Narthex
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates*	Parish Hall
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 3 rd	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

Events marked * are open only to members or those who have booked ahead.

COVID SAFETY MEASURES IN CHURCH: You are welcome to sit in groups if you wish, but please be mindful of those who would like to keep a safe distance from others. Face coverings should be worn when you are in church for any service, unless you are exempt. It is no longer necessary to book for any services.

“Unlocking” the Parish: our plan

The plan below gives some sense of how the parish may move towards normality in the coming months. It is subject to change!

This autumn

- Further steps back towards normality at Mass, including an offertory procession and intercessions.
- We hope to resume Children’s liturgy sometime in October.
- A normal year of sacramental preparation is planned, including for children whose confessions, first Communion and Confirmation have been delayed – see inside for more details.
- A full programme of parish social life will take place, if permitted.
- Other parish groups should be able to resume.
- We hope to be able to hold some events to mark the 50th anniversary of our parish and school, in November 2021.

We plan to continue to livestream Mass each day, for the benefit of those who are housebound; those who can are encouraged to attend Mass in person.