



# St Mary's & St Catherine's

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Fr Simon Henry ECLJ GOMLJ BA(Hons) MA

## Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year



<b>Twenty-Sixth Sunday Year B. 29th September</b>	<b>SC 5pm</b>	Pro Pop (People of the Parish)
<i>Feast of the Archangels, Michael, Gabriel &amp; Raphael</i>	<b>SM 8.30am</b>	Pro Pop (People of the Parish)
	<b>SM 10.30am</b>	Veronica Neilson, RIP
Monday 30th September: St Jerome, Priest	<b>SC 9.30am</b>	Intentions of Fr Scott Lawler
Tuesday 1st October: St Teresa of Liseaux	<b>SM 9.30am</b>	Intentions of Fr Gerry McCusker
Wednesday 2nd October: Guardian Angels	<b>SC 9.30am</b>	Fr Robert Halshaw, RIP
Thurs 3rd October: Feria	<b>SM 9.30am</b>	Canon John Worthy, RIP
	<b>SC 7pm</b>	NOVENA & BENEDICTION
Friday 4th Oct: St Francis of Assisi	<b>SC 8.30am</b>	Pro Pop (People of the Parish)
	<b>SM 7pm</b>	
Sat 5th Oct: St Faustina Kowalska	-----	-----
<b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b>	<b>SC 5pm</b>	
<b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday Year B. 6th October</b>	<b>SM 8.30am</b>	Paul Stevenson, RIP
	<b>SM 10.30am</b>	Pro Pop (People of the Parish)

**THANK YOU** for your offerings at St Catherine's  
last week of £158.86.

**THANK YOU** for your offerings at St Mary's last  
week of £242.65.

**Retiring Collection today for the parish debt.**  
Thanks you for £20.75 last week.

**St Catherine's 100 Club: Andrea Handyside (92)**

Fr Simon's blog is at **offerimus tibi domine** (where you will also find the Mass times each week)

WEBSITE: [www.stmarys-euxton.com](http://www.stmarys-euxton.com)

## “WITH ANGELS AND ARCHANGELS.”

The Catholic Church confirms the existence of angels, and that they are active in our lives. So, what is an angel? What is an archangel? And what makes them so special? The Catechism states, "The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls 'angels' is a truth of faith," (Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 328).

The word, "angel," comes from the Greek word, "angelos," which means, "messenger." The Bible recognizes, "nine choirs" of angels. Each choir has a name and a purpose. The Bible also mentions archangels. Archangels are recognized as leaders, and they are entrusted by God with special duties.

The Bible and the Church recognizes seven archangels, although just three are known by name, Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. The name Michael means "one who is like God." His will is focused, immovable, and entirely driven toward accomplishing goodness; he is the protector of souls and wields his powerful sword against the poisonous and indictive aspirations of the devil who Jesus calls a "murderer from the beginning" and the "father of lies" (John 8:44).

St. Michael the Archangel visited three children at Fatima, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta in 1917 to prepare them for the work of the Blessed Virgin. St. Michael the Archangel said to them, "Fear not. I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me." Then he prostrated himself and repeated three times: "My God; I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love Thee! I beg Thee forgiveness for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love Thee!" During a visit to the Sanctuary of Saint Michael the Archangel, Pope John Paul II said, "The battle against the devil . . . is the principal task of Saint Michael the archangel." Scripture narrates the same truth: "Then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels battled against the dragon. Although the dragon and his angels fought back, they were overpowered and lost their place in heaven. The huge dragon, the ancient serpent known as the devil or Satan, the seducer of the whole world, was driven out; he was hurled down to earth and his minions with him" (Revelation 12:7-9).

Gabriel means "God is my strength". He was sent from God to Nazareth, "to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, . . . and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you" (Luke 1:27-28).

Pope St. Gregory the Great wrote: "He [Gabriel] came to announce the One who appeared as a humble man to quell the cosmic powers. Thus, God's strength announced the coming of the Lord of the heavenly powers, mighty in battle" .

Raphael means "God is my health". He is one of seven angels "who enter and serve before the Glory of the Lord" (Tobit 12:15). The meaning of Raphael's name reflects the fact that he touched Tobit's eyes in order to heal them of blindness.

The Catechism teaches in reference to the angels' office: "With their whole beings the angels are servants and messengers of God. Because they always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven' they are the mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 329; Mt 18:10).

The angels are truly beautiful. As we reflect upon them, we are drawn toward a deeper and clearer understanding of God's love for man; for billions of angels, to be sure, are given the personal charge of looking after God's children as their guardian angels.

Every moment of each day, day after day, year after year, our faithful guardian angels stand at our side, focused on our well-being with far greater power and intensity than we ourselves can summon, since the strength of their angelic will is far greater than ours. Let us thank God each day for their protection and guidance, giving to us great advantage here below, for they see the reality of our life in clarity, which is something we often fail to do.

God has commended to each of us an angel for our very own. What love has God for his children, for those he has created in the image of his incarnate Son!



**Journey of Faith:** Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Would you like to know more about the Catholic Faith? Would you like to support your child's faith journey? We are offering a course of meetings at St Teresa's Church (Queensway in Penwortham PR1 0DS) starting on Wednesday 6th November at 7pm and continuing until Easter 2025. The meetings will last an hour. Please feel free to bring a friend. For more information contact your local parish priest or email [penwortham@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:penwortham@rcaol.org.uk) for more information. There are leaflets at the back of church with further information.



**An evening exploring St Thomas More's legacy and witness with Dr Marcus Cole:** at the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst College near Clitheroe. Dean Marcus Cole is one of America's most distinguished academics. His Law School's pioneering work on religious liberty is outstanding and inspired by St. Thomas More, the Patron Saint of lawyers and Statesmen and women. With an introduction by The Lord Alton of Liverpool.

Marcus Cole is the Joseph A. Matson Dean and Professor of Law at The University of Notre Dame Law School. He is a leading scholar of the empirical law and economics of commerce and finance as well as law relating to freedom of religion and conscience. He was a faculty member at Stanford Law School from 1997 until he went to Notre Dame in 2019. Prof. Marcus Cole received the 2023 Becket Canterbury Medal for Religious Liberty for his public advocacy for his Courage and Defense of Religious Liberty.

Timings: Doors open: 6pm. Talk: 6:30pm. drinks reception: 7:15pm.

Discounted B&B accommodation is available at Theodore House for Friday night. Please indicate requirements when booking below. Invoicing and payment for accommodation will follow separately.

Single en-suite room: £56 per night. Twin en-suite room: £75 per night.

Book online at: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/>



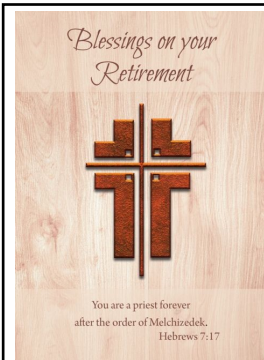
**REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS:** Once again this week there will be refreshments served in the parish centre after both Masses at St Mary's. This is an invaluable time to meet and build up relationships with our fellow parishioners and I encourage you to come along. The people of St Catherine's were made to feel very welcome last week - thanks to everyone. **Although weekly Refreshments after both Masses have not been in place at St Mary's, it would be wonderful if we could make that happen. Any new volunteers to help would be welcome.**



Fr. Swinney

**An Act of Spiritual Communion for those not receiving Holy Communion:** *My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

**THE PRESBYTERY:** Just to keep folks informed, the diocesan surveyor will be visiting this week, particularly to look at the Presbytery and parish office and sacristy areas, all of which are in need of some work, some of which has already been planned for some time as part of the rolling program of keeping the plant in good order.



**FR GERRY'S RETIREMENT:**

While many have thanked Fr Gerry with cards etc, for anyone who would like to contribute to a gift for him,

**please return TODAY**

and we hope a small delegation will be able to visit him in Southport to present this to him on behalf of the parish.

Thank you.

**YOUTH MASS**

A Mass for young people is being arranged through Holy Cross School and St Gregory's parish church at Weldbank in Chorley on *Sunday 6th October at 6.30pm.*



**MASS INTENTIONS:**

A reminder that The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass can be offered for your intentions, for both the living and the dead. This ancient practice enables the Church to apply the benefits of Our Lord's Sacrifice to be applied directly for your intentions. Often a card can be sent, especially if it's for a death or anniversary. A supply of such cards is available from the Piety stall at St Catherine's or from the sacristy at St Mary's. The donation attached to it goes to support the work of the parish. Please place your intention and the offering in an envelope and give it to Fr Simon.



**PROPOSED PARISH MERGER:** Again, thank you for the two way co-operation and attendance between the two churches which has been going on. This week I've been in touch with those in the in the Archdiocese who are assisting me in helping to make the transition in what is always going to be a sensitive matter. Archbishop Malcolm, Dean Graeme Dunne and Episcopal Vicar for Parish Development Fr Philip Inch are all being kept informed and I thank them for their counsel and help, which is re-assuring in a project that is also new and challenging for me as well as parishioners. We are all getting used to new ways of working and so patience, prayer and a generosity of spirit should be our watchwords.



May Our Blessed Lady, so close to both parish dedications, continue to help and inspire us all,



**Your Prayers are asked for all the sick, including:** Rita Swarbrick, Rosena Stacey, Vivienne Lee, Tom Miller, Paul Casey, Linda Melling, Tilly Gee, Kathleen Ward, Clare Butler, Maureen MacDonald, Louie Baines, Maureen O'Brien, Margaret McNiff, Elle Miller, Mark Duncan, Bill Sutton, Barbara Fow, Mary Ann Monaghan, Bernard Lawson, Mick Marshall, Carol Parkinson, Eric Nielson, Margaret Lawler, Ryan Troop, Catherine Thompson & David Thompson.

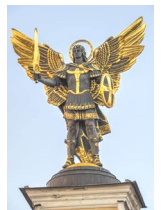
We pray for those who are housebound & for those who love & care for them.

*O Mary conceived without sin - Pray for us who have recourse to thee.*

*I've been in the habit of saying this prayer at the end of Masses where there is no music. Perhaps it would be good to continue it, given the sad situation in both countries still shows no signs of resolution: For God's justice and peace to triumph!*

**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

**Holy Michael, Archangel, defend us in the day of battle, be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God cast down into hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.**



*Let us pray for the people of Ukraine to their great patron St Michael for peace & justice. This statue stands in Independence Square in Kyiv. Not from ancient times but erected in 2002. He has been the Patron of Kyiv since 1108.*

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR MOBILE PHONES, INCLUDING MESSAGE NOTIFICATIONS, ARE TURNED OFF.**

**BONUS BALL at St Catherine's:** The Bonus Ball Prize has not been won for several weeks so the pot has grown. However, in light of the fact that Mass on Saturday night is before the draw is made, it seems no longer possible to keep it going, so when this pot is won, we bring it to an end. Thank you to all who have supported the parish through this over the years!

**SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:** St Catherine's, Elaine Carr. St Mary's, Marie Tootell.

**PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU**