



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday
of the Ordinary Season - 1st October 2023

ANGELS...

Last Friday, 29th September, was the Feast of the three Archangels: **Michael**, meaning "Who is like God?" - who fought against Satan, defending the people of God. **Gabriel**, meaning "Strength of God" - who told Zechariah about the future birth of John the Baptist, and to Our Lady, about the future birth of Christ. **Raphael**, meaning "Medicine of God" - the archangel who took care of Tobias on his journey to Ecbatana. On Monday, 1st October, we keep the Feast of our **Guardian Angels**. But who or what are angels?



When we profess our faith on Sundays, we sometimes use these words of the Nicene Creed: "We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen" - in other words, we believe that God created what is visible, the world we live out our lives in; but also of the invisible, such as the pure spirits that we call angels. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) states that the existence of angels is a truth of our faith. It teaches us that these spiritual creatures have

intelligence and will: they are personal and immortal, surpassing in perfection all other visible creatures (Cf. CCC nos. 328-330).

We sometimes refer to the **Choirs of Angels** at the end of the Preface (the prayer before the 'Holy, Holy' at Mass) when we say "With Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions...". What does this mean? Our faith teaches us that the number of angels is vast, but we have no way of knowing how many angels there are. The angels are not all equal, and based on their degree of knowledge and type of service, the angels are categorised into three Hierarchies, each containing three different Orders, making nine different choirs in total: The **First Hierarchy**: known as the **Councillors of God**, these angels have no direct contact with mankind, that is to say, they are the angels who stand in God's presence: **Seraphim**, **Cherubim** and **Thrones**. The **Second Hierarchy**: known as the **Governors**: they regulate the forces of nature: **Dominions**, **Virtues** and **Powers**. The **Third Hierarchy**: known as the **Messengers of God**, who minister directly to man: **Principalities**, **Archangels** and **Angels**.

In unseen ways the angels help us on our earthly journey by assisting us in our work, helping us in temptation and protecting us from physical harm. From our birth until our death, we are surrounded by the protection and intercession of angels, particularly our Guardian Angel: "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life." (CCC no. 336). Many of the saints of the past two thousand years have had much to say about Guardian Angels, for example Saint Bernard, monk of the Middle Ages: "Be alert in your every action as one should be who is accompanied by angels in all your ways... Remember, there are realities whose existence has not been proven by mere sight. These spirits are our protectors and our guides. With such bodyguards, what are we to fear?"

Do you remember learning the prayer to our Guardian Angels at school? **Angel of God, my Guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.** Father McGachey

THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am
CONFESSIONS - Saturday after 10am Mass; 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday-Friday at 9.15am
HOLY ROSARY - Monday-Saturday at 9.35am
PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after the Eucharistic Service
HOLY MASS - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am
EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE - Wednesday 10am
NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - on Tuesday after Mass
THE CHURCH will close Monday-Friday this week after 10am Mass

RETIRING COLLECTION - TODAY

To help defray the costs of educating the seminarians for Motherwell Diocese - the priests whom, please God, will serve in our parishes in the future - there will be retiring collection. We have three seminarians studying in Rome and two others in Birmingham. Please be generous as you always are.

SMALL CHANGE TO SCHEDULE

I am going on retreat this week from Monday to Friday. Father Johnny Vettickal will say Mass each morning, except Wednesday, at 10am. Deacon Joe Dowds will lead a Eucharistic Service on Wednesday morning at 10am. I will be back for 10am Mass on Saturday.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

The Opening Mass for the Synod on Synodality will be celebrated in Saint Peter's Square in Rome, on Wednesday, Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, at 8am UK time. On EWTN, sky channel 589 and on www.vaticanmedialive. At the Mass, the newly created Cardinals, amongst others, will concelebrate with Pope Francis.

THE STALL

Copies of 'My day by day' for October are on sale at the Stall - £1.00.

CLUB 200

This week's winner is Anne McShane. The quarterly winner is Phyliss (Pip) Slorach. Please collect your cheques from the sacristy.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION

Collection in the hall this weekend. Items need this month are: hot meal tins (eg. Macroni, Stew, Chili, Curry), long life milk, tinned tuna, hot dogs, passata, biscuits, tinned spaghetti, Weetabix, toilet rolls.

OCTOBER EDITION OF *FONTES*

The October edition of the Diocesan Magazine, *Fontes*, is included with your bulletin today.

CALENDAR



October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

Monday is the memorial of the **Guardian Angels**. Each person on earth has a guardian angel who watches over them and helps them to attain salvation. Angel or *angelos* in Greek means 'messenger'. They assist us our work, in moments of temptation and physical danger.

On **Wednesday**, we remember **Saint Francis of Assisi** (+1226). Francesco Bernardone was born and died in Assisi. The son of a rich merchant, Pietro, he received a good education, and followed the ways of the world. He was taken prisoner a local battle between the Assisi and Perugia, and after his release, decided to abandon everything for the sake of Christ. His father was displeased with his conduct and disinherited him. In 1220, he founded a new Order, which within ten years, numbered more than five thousand members. His followers were called Friars Minor because they considered themselves as the least among Religious. Out of humility, Francis never accepted the Priesthood but remained a deacon. He had at least two nick names: *the Seraphic* because of his ardent love of God and *Il Poverello* (the little poor one).

Thursday is memorial of **Saint Faustina Kowalska** (+1938), a Polish nun who was chosen by Jesus to remind the world of the mystery of God's merciful love - the devotion to the Divine Mercy.

Saturday is the memorial of **Our Lady of the Rosary**, a feast day instituted to honour Our Lady for the victory over the Turks at Lepanto on the 7th October 1571. Pope Saint Pius V had urged Christians to pray the Rosary for this victory. Pope Benedict XVI invited all families to pray the Rosary for the intentions of the Pope, the mission of the Church and peace. "It is as if every year Our Lady invited us to rediscover the beauty of this prayer, so simple and profound." The Rosary, a "contemplative and Christocentric prayer, inseparable from the meditation of Sacred Scripture", is "the prayer of the Christian who advances in the pilgrimage of faith, in the following of Jesus, preceded by Mary", said the Pontiff.

DIARY DATES

Mondays 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th October - Devotions for the Month of the Holy Rosary in honour of Our Lady with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm.

Sunday 22nd October - World Mission Sunday Special Collection for the Missions at all Masses.

Wednesday 1st November - Solemnity of All Saints, holyday of obligation. Vigil Mass Tuesday 7pm, 10am and 7pm.

Thursday 2nd November - All Souls' Day - Masses at 10am and 7pm.

Thursday 16th November - Mass for the Deceased Parishioners of Saint Bride's during the past year 7pm.

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Storach) Keane, Frankie Logan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Patricia Williamson, Jean O'Neil, Arthur Conner, Steven Holiway, Margaret Rose McMahan, Chris McBain, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Tony Jenson, Frank Kirk.

RECENTLY DEAD - Tommy Cartwright, Margaret (Madge) Jamieson, Arthur Kerr, Barry White, Mima McCabe,

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - John Garrity, Rose and George O'Connor, James McGuigan, Rose McCabe, John O'Brien, James (Jim) McSorley.

FUNERALS

Margaret Jamieson - Reception - Tuesday 10th October 6pm; Requiem Mass - Wednesday 11th October 10am.

Tommy Cartwright - Reception - Sunday 15th October 6pm; Requiem Mass - Monday 16th October 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

For the week ending 24th September 2023 - £2340. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £173,000. You may wish to make a one-off donation to the Parish or take out a Standing Order in favour of the Parish. Offerings can be made by Bank Transfer, the details of which are as follows: Stbrides, Sort Code 82-62-24, Account Number 40500017.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you wish to donate by Bank Transfer to Saint Vincent De Paul Society, the details are: SSVP, Sort Code 82 - 62 - 24, Account No. 20538417. If you are in need, or know someone who is in need of help, please contact John Mullen on 07712 903732.

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your Parish Priest to show that you accept and live Catholic Faith. For those living in Saint Bride's, this means from Father McGachey. This applies to those about to enrol in the teacher training Course, those about to start as probationary teachers and all those applying for teaching posts (promoted or otherwise) within the Catholic Sector. If you have any questions, please speak to Father McGachey.