

Prayer Matters

Our community at All Saints

May we continue to support each other during this time of the vacancy. We give thanks to all our clergy, visiting and assisting. We especially pray for our PCC and church wardens.

National Non-Speaking/Nonverbal Awareness Day (30 September)

A day dedicated to raising awareness about the experiences and challenges faced by nonverbal and nonspeaking individuals. We give thanks to all involved in the care, training and support to all those working with non-speaking/nonverbal people.

Black History Month (October)

'Reclaiming Narratives' this theme offers a fresh perspective on Black history that goes beyond the traditional focus on slavery and civil rights. It's about celebrating Black excellence in all its forms—whether in the arts, sciences, politics, or everyday life. May we be inspired by our diverse community. May we learn to embrace all our narratives.

Charity for the week: Foodbank

"The foodbank was there when we really needed it, it was an absolute lifeline." The Foodbank doesn't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. That's why they provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred in crisis. They are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.

Those who are sick or in need

Elizabeth Flood, Mavis Adenekan, Brenda and Roger Beamond, Rosemary Cave, Julian Greene, Kelly Greene, Andy Higman, Steve Ivory, Ruth Kirk-Wilson, David Page, Gwynneth Pedler, Sue Beynon, and any others who are known to us.

Those with longer term needs

Mary Allen, Anthony Backs, Isabelle Backs, Jeremy Baker, Simon Berlyn, Judy Clark, Lauren Davidson, Laura D'Costa, Harriet Greene, Wisdom Kari Kari, Edward Kirby, Christopher Pick, Norma Prior and Hannah Sharma, and all who support and care for them.

Those who have lately died

Nosley Jellow and any others known to us, and all who mourn.

Those whose year's mind falls at this time

Violet Watts, Peter Robin, Sandra Huell, Ruth Anstey, Jennifer Coutts and Robert Betson.

Commemorated on 29 September:

Michael & All Angels

Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are the three named biblical angels, depicted as the beloved messengers of God. Michael, which means 'who is like God?', is described as protector of Israel and leader of the armies of God and is perhaps best known as the slayer of the dragon in the Revelation to John. He is thus regarded as the protector of Christians from the devil, particularly those at the hour of death.

A basilica near Rome was dedicated in the fifth century in honour of Michael on 30 September, beginning with celebrations on the eve of that day, and 29 September is now kept in honour of Michael and All Angels throughout the western Church.

Thought for the week:

A Blessing of Angels by John O'Donohue

May the Angels in their beauty bless you.
May they turn toward you streams of blessing.
May the Angel of Awakening stir your heart to come alive to the eternal within you, to all the invitations that quietly surround you.
May the Angel of Healing turn your wounds into sources of refreshment.
May the Angel of the Imagination enable you to stand on the true thresholds, at ease with your ambivalence and drawn in new directions through the glow of your contradictions.
May the Angel of Compassion open your eyes to the unseen suffering around you.
May the Angel of Wildness disturb the places where your life is domesticated and safe, take you to the territories of true otherness where all that is awkward in you can fall into its own rhythm.

If you would like prayer for yourself or another, please contact Mark Stevens on email mark.stevens2@hotmail.co.uk.