

St Michael and All Angels with St Mark Preston,
1st Sunday of Lent 22nd February 2026
Holy Communion 10.00am



Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your
Spirit; and, as you know our weakness,
so, may we know your power to save;
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.

Diocesan Centenary Prayer:

Heavenly Father, in our Centenary year we rededicate ourselves
and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service, and love for our neighbours, that your
Church may be renewed and many come home to you, through
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Welcome to St Michael's Church

Large print newsletters and service leaflets are available, please ask
the Welcome Group if there is anything you need or let them
know if you require a gluten free wafer. Everyone is warmly invited
to stay for refreshments after the service.

*You are invited to stand for the hymns and some other parts of the
service if you are able, but if standing is difficult or uncomfortable for
you, just remain seated, no one will mind.*

Hymns:

Opening: 763 Praise to the Holiest in the height
Gradual: 121 Forty days and forty nights
Offertory: 116 Be thou my guardian and my guide
Final: 702 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
Communion: 'This is my body'

First reading: *Genesis 2.15-17 and 3.1-7*

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to
till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You
may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that
you eat of it you shall die.'

Now the serpent was craftier than any other wild animal that the
Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You
shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the
serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but
God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the
middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But
the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows
that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be
like God, knowing good and evil.' So, when the woman saw that
the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes,
and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of
its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was
with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they
knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and
made loincloths for themselves.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4.1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' "

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Services:

Weekday Communion: Thursday at 10.30am

BCP Communion: Sunday 1st March at 8.30am

Holy Communion: Sunday 1st March at 10.00am

Junior Church: Sunday 1st March at 10.00am

All Angels: Mothering Sunday 15th March at 10.00am

Lent and Easter Services:

Lenten Eucharist: Each Wednesday in Lent at 7.00pm

Maundy Thursday: Passover Meal at 7.00pm on 2nd April

Good Friday: Walking Stations of the Cross at 12.00pm and The Last Hour at 2.00pm on 3rd April

Easter Sunday: Dawn Light Service (time tbc) and Family Eucharist at 10.00am on 5th April

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 2026:

Our annual meeting will be on Low Sunday, 12th April after the service. We encourage everyone who comes to St Michael's to sign up for the electoral roll, to come to the meeting and to think about playing a bigger part in running our church and its mission. Electoral roll forms are available at the back of church.

Regular Events:

Bible Study: the next meeting will be on Friday 6th March at 7.00pm. All are welcome

Cupboard Love: the next session of Cupboard love will be on Saturday 7th March 9.30am - 10.30am

Coffee Morning: the next coffee morning will be on Saturday 7th March 10.00am – 12.00pm

Farmers' Market: The next market will be on Saturday 21st March 9.00am to 12.30pm

Blackburn Diocese Centenary: The diocese is organising several events for the centenary year. Here is advance notice of the main ones, more details to follow in due course.

The Big Day Out in Blackpool: Saturday 16th May. For further details and to book, visit www.bit.ly/4r1QlnF

Centenary Mission Weekends: 11th to 13th September

Centenary Service of Celebration: Thursday 12th November at 7.00pm

Supporting St Michael's: We welcome your donations to St Michael's. We are self-supporting and our costs are high. Many people make a monthly donation through the Parish Giving Scheme. Please ask Stephen Davies for details. Alternatively, there is a collection plate for cash donations, along with a card reader, at the back of church. Please give as generously as you can. Thank you

Facebook: search St Michael and All Angels with St Mark's Preston.

Instagram: search St_michaels_church_preston

Website: www.stmichaelswithstmarkpreston.co.uk

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