St Michael and All Angels with St Mark Preston

Second Sunday before Advent 15th November 2026

Safeguarding Sunday

Holy Communion and Junior Church10.00am



Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

A prayer for our parish: Heavenly Father, as our church enters a new chapter, we ask for your guidance and strength during this time of change, keeping us united in faith, hope and love. Grant wisdom to those seeking our new vicar, and lead us towards a future filled with compassion, inclusivity and opportunities to grow together in your name. **Amen.**

Vision Prayer: God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome to St Michael's Church

Large print newsletters and service booklets are available, please ask the Welcome 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:	754	O worship the King
Gradual:	658	Help us, O Lord to learn
Offertory:	692	Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Final:	827	Ye servants of God, your master proclaim
Communion:	788	

First reading: *1 Thessalonians 5.1-11*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore, encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 25.14-30*

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time, the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so, I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have received what was my own with interest. So, take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Eddie Swift: It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Edward Swift on Saturday 31st October. Please hold his son, Andrew and family in your prayers at this very sad time. His funeral will be held at St Cuthbert's church at 1.00pm on Friday 20th November.

Services:
Weekday Communion: Thursday at 10.30am
Holy Communion: Sunday 22nd November at 10.00am
BCP Holy Communion: Sunday 6th December at 8.30am
All Angels and Toy Service: Sunday 6th December at 10.00am
Christingle Service: Sunday 13th December at 3.00pm
Junior Church: Sunday 17th January at 10.00am

Regular Events:
Farmers' Market: the next market will be on Saturday 21st November 9.00am to 12.30pm
Cupboard Love: the next session will be on Saturday 28th November 9.30am to 10.30am
Bible Study: the next meeting will be on Friday 4th December at 7.00pm in the MPR. Please take a flyer. All are welcome.
Coffee Morning: the next coffee morning will be on Saturday 5th December 10.00am to 12.00pm

Living Generously: Please can any remaining forms be returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

Girlguiding Charity show: Wednesday 18th November at 6.45pm in church. Raising money for St Michael's church and Medicinema. Entry (payable on the door): £8 adults & children free (Includes refreshments & cake). There'll be a raffle too.

Eco-Church: We want to set up a group to work towards becoming an Eco-Church. Our first meeting will be held in church after the Sunday morning service, at 11.30am on 22nd November. Everyone who is interested in helping to make changes which will improve our environment and preserve God's world will be very welcome.

King's Trust: We have been invited to attend the final presentation for the volunteers who tidied our church grounds last month. The presentation will be held at 12.30pm on Wednesday the 25th of November 2026 at Farringdon Park Community Centre, Thirlmere Road, Preston, PR1 5TR. Refreshments will be provided after the presentation.

Facebook: search St Michael and All Angels with St Mark's Preston.
Instagram: search St_michaels_church_preston
Website: www.stmichaelswithstmarkpreston.co.uk
Telephone enquiries: contact the churchwardens on either 07779449874 or 07518412018