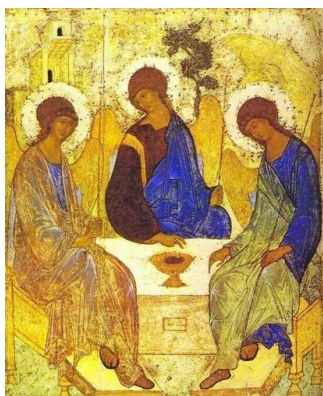


Chelmsford Cathedral – Prayer for Today

WEDNESDAY, 29 September 2020

MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS



O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise!
Praise the Lord!
Across the heavens,
from the heights,
all you angels, heavenly beings,
sing praise, sing praise!
Sun and moon, glittering stars,
sing praise, sing praise.
Highest heavens, rain clouds,
sing praise, sing praise.
Words from Psalm 148

As you enter into prayer today, take a moment to be still. Come into God's presence with a deepfelt desire to meet with God now. Know that God is the God who sees you and that God is looking at you now with great love. Pause for a moment and be still.

O glorious God,
the whole of creation proclaims your marvellous work:
increase in us a capacity to wonder and delight in it,
that heaven's praise may echo in our hearts
and our lives be spent as good stewards of the earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Only major holy days interrupt the cycle of daily readings, though today may be one we would prefer to omit. Angels don't fit easily into our vocabulary. They were glamorized for a while in Hollywood movies and even made it on to a perfume advert, and they are big in many of the new age traditions. But quite challenging for pragmatic Northern Europeans. As we read Jesus' words to Nathaniel today, let's remind ourselves that New Testament angels don't have wings and that "angel" in Greek just means messenger. They are inviting us to pay attention to what God is doing.

John 1.47-51

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

*Spend some time reflecting on the reading, mulling it over.
Ask God what God wants you to hear today.*

*Offer your personal prayers and thanksgivings
and offer the day to God in a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving.*

End this time of prayer by saying the Lord's Prayer.

*To keep in touch and for more resources for daily prayer
Please visit chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk*