

## **Sunday 29 September – Michael and All Angels**

### **Prayers written by Wendy Borgartz**

Let us pray for the church and for the world and let us thank God for his goodness.

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for calling into ministry your angels and all humans in a wonderful order. We ask that as your holy angels serve and worship you in heaven, so may they also help and defend us on earth. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory and angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim adore you without ceasing. Give your church the voice and faith to join in with their song and thus make its worship a foretaste of heaven. May your church be a strong witness to Jesus and may we grow to be more like Jesus, showing kindness and forgiveness to all our neighbours.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We think of Christians in other nations who are not free to worship you freely and ask you to send your angels to strengthen and defend them as they suffer hardship, loss of jobs, ill treatment and imprisonment due to their faith in the Lord Jesus. We pray that you may bring those who persecute those who follow you to come to know your name and to follow you instead.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

As Michael is the head of the angel host, we pray that your holy angels would bring wise counsel to the leaders of every nation. Lord Jesus, the prince of peace, we pray for wisdom and reconciliation between the nations of our world. We pray for all who work for peace, and we bring before you especially this morning the conflict in Israel, Gaza and Lebanon. Keep all nations safe in your care and teach us all those things which make for peace and keep us in harmony and righteousness until that day when you make all things new.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We lift before you all whom it would be easy to forget, but whose angels continually remember them before you: the homeless, neglected and needy; the poor, sick and aged; the mentally ill and physically or mentally challenged; those who are abused and their abusers. We bring before you this morning from our community Alfred Johnson, Jan Barker, Diana Webb, Daphne Hoare, Sue Copsey, Ken Hornett and in a moment of silence those known to us individually or only to you, heavenly Father. Surround them

with your loving presence, stir up compassion in all who care for them, and let your holy angels have charge of them.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

Gracious Father, we praise you for the victory your Son has won over sin and death. We entrust into your care our departed loved ones and grant us, with them, the protection of your holy angels. Comfort all those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, or the anniversary of a loved one, at this time. We bring before you today the family and friends of Betty Prime and Patricia Cottee, and from our memorial book we remember and give thanks for the lives of Cyril Southgate, Doreen and Bert Gilroy and Hugh Pullen.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

God our Father, in a wonderful way you guide the work of angels and humankind. May those who serve you constantly in heaven keep our lives safe from all harm on earth.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.