



The Parish of Christ the King Southport

PART OF THE OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE UNITED KINGDOM & AMERICA



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PARISH NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO: 203

JUNE 2025 | DONATION 80p

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Dear All,

(You may wish to read St. John 17: vv.6-19)

Though we don't always recognise it, the world in which we live is a battlefield! Only very recently, I was told about a person whose anger towards another person amounted to deploying bullying tactics as well as a violent assault. Then there are those who will use devious ways to secure what they want for themselves, even to the point of selfish dishonesty and untruthfulness.

Though we don't always recognize what is happening around us, Sacred Scripture assures us that the forces of darkness are constantly fighting against God's forces of truth and light. Jesus knew how much we would need His Spirit-filled prayers and words of life from generation to generation.

In this portion of scripture, we hear how Jesus prayed and understood his days left on earth would be short. His disciples didn't fully understand what was still to come. Christ actually prayed for Himself, for His disciples, and for all future believers. It took place after the Last Supper and before He entered the garden, before the betrayal by Judas. Jesus' heart and compassion is evident in these verses as He prayed for His disciples. The ones who walked beside Him on the journey, the ones who left everything to follow Him, and the ones who shared meals with Him and watched Him perform miracles. The words of Christ reflect His knowledge that He would not be in the world for much longer, and He called on His Father to continue to protect his followers, as He himself had, by the power of His name.

Jesus also knew that there were hard things ahead for his friends, He knew what it was to be hated by the world because of the call to live set apart from what it offers. He understood the warfare that dark forces and Satan would bring against God's people.



Well, I wonder if you have ever heard what some people may well describe as a chilling story. It has been entitled **"The Twenty-six Angels"**

At one time or another you may have felt the urge to pray for someone and then just put it on a list and said, "I'll pray for them later." On the other hand, has anyone ever called or said to you, "I need you to pray for me,

Well, here is a true story about an overseas missionary on holiday. Whilst there, he was asked to preach at his home church in Michigan, and told them the following story of the "Twenty-six Angels". - Whilst serving at a small field hospital in Africa, every two weeks I had to travel by bicycle through

the jungle to a nearby city for supplies and provisions. A journey took two days and required camping overnight at the halfway point.

On one of these journeys, I arrived in the city where I planned to collect the money I needed from a bank, before being able to purchase the medicine and supplies. Then afterwards, I had to begin my two-day journey back to the field hospital.

Upon arrival in the city, I saw two men fighting, one of whom had been seriously injured. I treated him for his injuries and at the same time talked to him about Christian love and charity. I then travelled the return journey of two days, camping overnight, and arrived back home without incident.

Two weeks later I repeated that same journey. Upon arriving in the city, I was approached by the young man I had treated. He told me that he had known about the money which I carried to pay for the medicines. He said, "Some friends and I followed you into the jungle, knowing you would camp overnight. We planned to rob you and take your money and the drugs. But just as we were about to move into your camp, we saw that you were surrounded by Twenty-six armed guards."

At hearing this the missionary began to laugh and said that he was certainly all alone in that jungle campsite. The young man pressed the point, however, and said, "No sir, I was not the only person to see the guards. My five friends also saw them, and we all counted them. It was because of those guards that we were afraid and left you alone."

At this point in the sermon, one man in the congregation jumped to his feet, interrupted the missionary, and asked if he could tell him the exact day this happened. Unperturbed, the missionary told the congregation the date, and so the man continued:

"On the night of your incident in Africa, it was morning here and I was preparing to go and play golf. I was about to tee-off when I felt the urge to pray for you. In fact, the urging was so strong, I called several friends of mine who are church members to meet with me here in the sanctuary and pray for you." Then he asked everyone who met with him on that day to please stand. Twenty-six friends got to their feet.

Perhaps this story is an incredible example of how the God's Holy Spirit, can and does move in mysterious ways. There will be times in each of our lives when we will hear such promptings. For heaven's sake, let's go along with it, for there is nothing in this world which has ever been hurt by prayer; that is, except the gates of hell. +Geoffrey

PARISH MASS JUNE / JULY:

Takes place at Christ the King Oratory Southport on
Sunday 29th June & Sunday 27th July 2025 at 11.00am –
The Angelus & Holy Anointing follows.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please pray for Tom and Brady who will be married on Sunday 25th
at the Holy Family Chapel by Archbishop Geoffrey.

CARTOON CORNER:



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Sheila Hogarth | Ruth Barr | Lesley Fudge | Thelma Thompson | Clarice Shaw | Sally Hayes | Bishop Gerard & Pam Crane | Brian & Brigitte Duffett | Archbishop Norman & Dorothy Dutton | Eileen Duffy | Lilian King | Geoff Lamb | Bev Chester | Shelley Coulter | Thelma Dunkley | Sylvia Holgate | James Hardman | Matthew Shaw | Alex Wiseman | John Illingworth | Harry Seymour | Brian Keane OSR | Lawrence & Penny Bell-wright OSR | Ritchie Old | Richard Scott OSR | Randle Cutts | Andrew Stenson & family | Helen Wilson OSR | Joyce Kelford | Margaret Gunnel | John Beesley | Pauline Bayley | Michael Rogers | Christine Smith | Carol (Caz) Arnold | The Park Family (Mary, Matthew, Charlotte & Edward) | Julie Corner | Barry & Diane Uttley OSR | Roy Weatherall | Elaine & Phillip Coope | Brian Everett OSR | Ray & Jean Wilde | Deacon Adrien Sulo | David Bainbridge | Ian Cameron OSR | Richard Scott OSR | John & Gwen Simons | Stanley Smith OSR | Joyce Raper | Maureen Fitzgerald | (Bishop) Howard Doe OSR | Christine & John Edwards | Stanley Lewis | Gordon McFarlane | Norma Cropper | Bridget (Bridy) McConnell | Fr Baltasar, priest (Spain) | Lorna Meredith | Stuart & June Price | Pauline Weatherall | Gordon Buchanan | Isobel & Grahame Smith | Dawn Adair | Martin Sparkes | Annis Buchanan | John Jackson | Chloe Dodd | Max & Christine Kitchen | Farrar Campbell | Ray Wilde | David Haywood | Richard Ayling ||



THE ASCENSION: That the Ascension of the Lord, a pivotal event in Christian faith, and commemorates Jesus' bodily ascent into heaven 40 days after his resurrection. This event signifies Jesus' return to the Father and is a promise of his future return. It's celebrated as a liturgical feast by all Christian churches, typically on a Thursday or the following Sunday, depending on the particular denomination. The key aspects of the Ascension are:

Forty Days: After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to his apostles, confirming his identity and preparing them for their ministry.

Ascension to Heaven: Is described as Jesus being taken up before their eyes, with a cloud hiding him from sight.

Witnessed by Apostles: The event was witnessed by the Apostles, who were instructed by angels to focus on the task of spreading the Gospel, not on gazing at the sky.

Significance: The Ascension marks the end of Jesus'

earthly ministry and the beginning of his heavenly reign.

Promise of Return: The angels told the apostles that Jesus would return in the same way they had seen him go, offering hope for the second coming.

Celebration: The Feast of the Ascension is a significant liturgical event, emphasizing Jesus' victory over death and his exaltation as Lord and Christ.

FREDERICK WILLIAM FABER (born 28th June 1814, in Calverley, West Yorkshire, and died 26th Sept. 1863, in London. He was a British theologian, noted hymnist, and founder of the Wilfridians, a Roman Catholic Religious Society living in common, but without taking vows.



1. Faith of our fa - thers! Liv - ing still
2. The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark,
3. Faith of our moth - ers! Ma - ry's pray'rs
4. Faith of our fa - thers! We will love

1. In spite of dun - geon, fire and sword:
2. Were still in heart and con - fess free:
3. Shall win all na - tions un - to thee;
4. Both friend and foe in all our strife:

1. O how our hearts beat high with joy,
2. And tru - ly blest would be our fate,
3. And through the truth that comes from God,
4. And preach thee, too, as love knows how,

1. When - e'er we hear that glo - rious word:
2. If we, like them, should die for thee,
3. We all shall then in - deed be free,
4. By kind - ly words and vir - tuous life.

1. Faith of our fa - thers, ho - ly faith!
2. Faith of the mar - tyrs, ho - ly faith!
3. Faith of our moth - ers, ho - ly faith!
4. Faith of our fa - thers, ho - ly faith!

1-4. We will be true to thee till death.

Fr Faber was born in Calverley Vicarage where his grandfather, Thomas Faber, was the vicar. The vicarage is in the parish of Calverley, West Yorkshire. Ed.

THE OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH WEBSITE

<http://www.theoldcatholic.church>

We are pleased to record that our denomination has received a 'YouTube' award for a record number of monthly hits (eg: On one day, Thursday 8th May, there were 32,000 visitors recorded)

What has become known, over the centuries, as The Old Catholic Church, has existed since it was founded by our Lord Jesus Christ, developed by the Benedictine Saints Willibrord and Boniface (730 AD), and has been an autocephalous Church authorized by the II Ecumenical Council of Lateran in 1139 AD. Papal Decree since 1145, later ratified by the IV Lateran Council of 1215 and authorized to be free of any judgement outside of its own jurisdiction by the Papal Bula "Debitum Pastoralis" of 1520 AD. It is, therefore, valid and licit, part of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

IT IS FULLY CATHOLIC BUT NOT ROMAN, FULLY ORTHODOX BUT NOT EASTERN, EVANGELICAL BUT NOT PROTESTANT.

PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD

(Ephesians 6:11-16)

Describes spiritual warfare, urging believers to "take a stand against the devil's schemes" by putting on the full armour of God, including the shield of faith.