

# St Peter's

nurturing spirit and mind

# CATHEDRAL



## *I Believe in Angels*

(Celebrating St Michael and All Angels)

## **Taizé style service**

**Saturday 3 October 2020**

**7.30pm**

Coming together online for now

St Peter's Cathedral strives to be a Christ-centred, sacramental, inclusive, thinking, mission-oriented, faith community. The Cathedral resides on the lands of the Kaurna people whom we acknowledge as the original custodians of the Adelaide Region.



## **I Believe in Angels**

Welcome to tonight's service during which we give thanks for those who speak to us the Gospel of peace in our time of doubt, turmoil or grief.

Opening Song    Wait for the Lord whose day is near,  
                          Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7GexIvX8HU&ab\\_channel=AnalynSolano](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7GexIvX8HU&ab_channel=AnalynSolano)

### The Lighting of the Candles

L. Come to us this night O God,

**R. Come to us with light.**

L. Speak to us this night O God,

**R. Speak to us your truth**

L. Dwell with us this night O God,

**R. Dwell with us in Love.**

Song                Ubi caritas et amor  
                          Ubi caritas dues ibi est  
                          (Where charity and love are, God is to be found)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2o27qpvfUc&ab\\_channel=Pawe%C5%82Szczy%C4%99sny](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2o27qpvfUc&ab_channel=Pawe%C5%82Szczy%C4%99sny)

**Reading 1:        Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? (Heb. 1:14)**

Song                Bless the Lord my soul,  
                          And bless God's Holy name  
                          Bless the Lord my soul,  
                          Who leads me into life

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4Svh9ohg4&t=29s&ab\\_channel=MostarTaize](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4Svh9ohg4&t=29s&ab_channel=MostarTaize)

**Reading 2        For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; (Ps. 91:11)**

Song                Nada te turbe,nada te espante,  
                          Quien a Dios tiene, Nada ta falta.  
                          Nada te turbe,nada te espante,  
                          Solo dios basta.  
                          (Let nothing disturb you, rely on God alone)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5VnaGnPcAs&ab\\_channel=CoroInCrescendo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5VnaGnPcAs&ab_channel=CoroInCrescendo)

### **Reading 3**

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it<sup>a</sup> stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

(Genesis 28:10-17)

Homily:           The Rev'd Joan Claring-Bould

Link to Rev'd Joan's video sermon: <https://youtu.be/TWh8M81oiss>

When at night I go to sleep,  
Fourteen angels watch do keep.  
Two my head are guarding:  
Two my feet are guiding:  
Two are on my right hand;  
Two are on my left hand;  
Two who warmly cover;  
Two who o'er me hover;  
Two to whom 'tis given  
To guide my steps to Heaven.  
(Engelbert Humperdinck)

At a very young age I learnt this song, and as a child I inherently believed it. There has never been any doubt in my mind about the existence of angels.

Rather over many years I have learned a lot more about how other people have experienced angels and also how the Church has defined the work of Angels based on references to them in Scripture.

We are probably all familiar with the story of the Visitation of the Angel Gabriel the young unmarried girl, Mary, to tell her that God had chosen her to

be the mother of God's Son. We have heard that story so often that it is easy to miss the enormity of that message.

The Bible mentions many angels – sometimes seers see tens of thousands at a time. But for all the angels in the Bible, only two are explicitly named. Gabriel is the first. The other is Michael.

Michael is mentioned in the Book of Daniel in the Old testament. Michael was the advocate of the Jews.

In the New Testament, Michael leads God's armies against Satan's forces in the Book of Revelation where during the war in heaven he defeats Satan. In the Epistle of Jude Ch.9, Michael is specifically referred to as "the archangel Michael". By the 4th century, he was seen as a healing angel. Over time his role became one of a protector and the leader of the army of God against the forces of evil.

Within Christianity there has been a tradition Guardian Angels. A Guardian Angel is an angel assigned to protect and guide a particular person, group or nation. It's a concept which played a major role in Ancient Judaism.

A Guardian Angel is assigned to protect you and help you throughout your life, as a reminder of God's constant and never ending care for you.

(A priest friend of mine told his congregation last week that he thought that the wings of his guardian angel must be pretty tattered, due to the interesting and challenging life he has led.)

So why do I believe in Angels?

Well, for a start, I believe what the Scriptures and the Church and the Church's tradition teaches me. I believe in the "Holy Angels Bright that sit at God's right hand"; I believe in the cherubim and seraphim who sing their endless praises of "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory..." to our Creator; I believe in the Angels from the Realms of Glory who sang creation's story, and proclaimed the Messiah's birth.

But more intimately than that, I believe in the angels of compassion, the angels of friendship, the angels of encouragement, the angels of comfort, the angels of hope and the angels of healing that God sends to me in the form of a friend or stranger when I need them most.

May the angels of God proclaim to our aching world the Gospel of Healing, to our anxious souls the Gospel of Peace, and to our celebrations, the Gospel of Hope.

CD I have a Dream Anderson

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5VnaGnPcAs&ab\\_channel=CoroInCrescendo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5VnaGnPcAs&ab_channel=CoroInCrescendo)

Prayers of intercession (written by Angela McKay)

Heavenly Father

I call on you. I ask you to touch us with your healing power.

Cast out all sickness and recreate us.

Let the warmth of your healing love pass through us.

Lord grant that [we] will be free from pain, from anxiety, and from discomfort. Please allow your love and the compassion of caregivers, family and friends to bring peace and comfort to us. This we ask through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer for comfort - Walter Whitmore)

I believe in the sun  
though it is late in rising.

I believe in love  
though it is absent.

I believe in God  
though He is silent.

(Anonymous holocaust survivor - Cologne, Germany)

Hold on to what is good  
even if it is a handful of earth.  
Hold on to what you believe  
even if it is a tree which stands by itself.  
Hold on to what you must do  
even if it is a long way from here.  
Hold on to life even when  
it is easier letting go.  
Hold on to my hand even when  
I have gone away from you.

(Hold on to what is good - Nancy Wood - 1974)

Guardian Angel, guard us from harm. Protect us in sleep without cause for alarm. Keep safe through the darkness of night, and wake me gently with God's morning light. Amen.

### Songs for prayer and reflection

**1. Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rn\\_j5m8IIOY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rn_j5m8IIOY)

**2. Within our darkest night**

You kindle a flame that never dies away, never dies away (Charles Pope)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqQsZK57OX8&ab\\_channel=](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqQsZK57OX8&ab_channel=)

### Concluding Prayer

Deep peace of the running wave to you,  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.  
Deep peace of the gentle night to you,  
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you  
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you:  
Deep peace of Christ. (Scots Celtic Prayer)

Song            Sing to the Lord all my being  
                  And all that is in me proclaim God's salvation.  
                  Sing to the Lord all my being  
                  And remember all of God's marvellous deeds  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rn\\_j5m8IIOY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rn_j5m8IIOY)

**Next Taizé service  
Saturday 7 November 2020  
at 7.30pm**

*Cathedral Office*  
27 King William Rd, North Adelaide SA 5006  
Phone: (08) 8267 4551  
Email: [office@stpeters-cathedral.org.au](mailto:office@stpeters-cathedral.org.au)  
Website: [www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au](http://www.stpeters-cathedral.org.au)  
Office hours 9.00am-5.00pm  
Monday to Friday