

25 September

**Lancelot Andrewes
Bishop of Winchester and
Spiritual Writer 1626**

Lord God, who gave Lancelot Andrewes many gifts of your Holy Spirit, making him a man of prayer and a pastor of your people: perfect in us that which is lacking in your gifts:

of faith, to increase it,
of hope, to establish it,
of love, to kindle it,

That we may live in the light of your grace and glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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25 September

**Lancelot Andrewes
Bishop of Winchester and
Spiritual Writer**

Born in 1555 in Barking, Lancelot Andrewes studied at Merchant Taylors' School and Pembroke Hall (now Pembroke College), Cambridge. After ordination, he held several posts before accepting appointment as Bishop, first of Chichester, then of Ely and finally of Winchester in 1619. Andrewes was present at the Hampton Court Conference in 1604 which furthered the reform of the Church of England, and he was also a translator of much of the Old Testament of what is known as the 'Authorised Version' of the Bible. His preaching and his writings proved highly influential and his holiness of life and gentle nature endeared him to all who met him. He died on this day in the year 1626 and his remains lie in a church which was then in his diocese of Winchester but is now the cathedral for the diocese of Southwark.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

27 September

**Vincent de Paul
Founder of the Congregation of the
Mission (Lazarists) 1660**

Merciful God, whose servant Vincent de Paul,
by his ministry of preaching and pastoral care,
brought your love to the sick and the poor:
give to all your people a heart of compassion
that by word and action they may serve you in
serving others in their need; through Jesus Christ
our Lord.

Amen.

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27 September

**Vincent de Paul
Founder of the Congregation of the
Mission (Lazarists)**

Born in 1581 at Ranquine in Gascony, Vincent was
educated by the Franciscans and was ordained at the age
of nineteen. He was something of a token priest until his
conversion in 1609, when he resolved to devote himself
and all he owned to works of charity. He founded
communities for men and with Louise de Marillac, helped
to begin the Sisters of Charity, the first community of
women not to be enclosed and which was devoted to
caring for the poor and sick. Vincent worked for the relief
of galley slaves, victims of war, convicts and many other
groups of needy people. He became a legend in his own
lifetime and died on this day in the year 1660.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

29 September

Michael and All Angels

The Lord commanded his angels to keep you in all your ways.

There was silence in heaven while the dragon waged war; and Michael and his angels fought against him, and won the victory.

Then I saw an angel, soaring in the heavens, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to all who live on the earth.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

29 September

Michael and All Angels

Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel are the four named biblical angels, depicted as the beloved messengers of God. Michael, which means 'who is like God?' is described as protector of Israel and leader of the armies of God and is perhaps best known for his victory over the dragon, which is told in the Revelation of John. He is thus regarded as the protector of Christians from the devil, particularly those at the hour of death. Gabriel, means, 'the strength of God', is the one who, in the Gospel according to Luke, is sent by God to Mary to announce the birth of Christ. Raphael, which means, 'the healing of God', is depicted in the Book of Tobit as the one who restores sight to Tobit's eyes. Uriel ('the light of God') appears in a vision to Ezra in 2 Esdras.

A basilica near Rome was dedicated in the 5th century in honour of Michael on 30 September, beginning with celebrations on the eve of that day and 29 September is now kept in honour of Michael throughout the western Church.