

The Archangel



The Monthly Parish Newsletter
Saint Michael and All Angels' Church
Denver, Colorado

September 2026

SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS' CHURCH

1400 South University Boulevard
Denver, Colorado 80210

303-777-5181 • office@saintmichaelsdenver.org • www.stmichaelsdenver.org

The Reverend Father R. Trent Fraser, Rector
The Reverend Gary Stoddard, Deacon

WARDENS AND OFFICERS

Senior Warden

Jean Gross

Junior Warden

Alan Hamilton

Clerk of the Vestry

Nancy King

Treasurer

Mark Moore

Assistant Treasurer

Wendy Warner

VESTRY MEMBERS

2027

Mark Howard
Missy Shedd
Gregory Hinkle

2028

Kathy Bland
Theresa Frazer-Simser
Nancy King

2029

Billy Joe Dolce, III
Lynn Gonzales
Paul Lindholm

Founded as a Mission 1925

Original Church Built 1926 • Elevated to a Parish 1944

Present Church Built 1954 • Parish Hall Built 1974

Complex Remodeled 1985 • Parish Hall Remodeled 2018

Kitchen Remodeled 2019 • Bathrooms Remodeled 2021



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My Dear People:

Before focusing on the events of September, I would like to thank everyone who helped me to take some time away in August. I am especially thankful to both Father John Wengrovius and Father Broderick Greer for celebrating the Sunday Mass while I was away. I appreciated the opportunity to rest and rejuvenate last month. I am ready to be a part of the increased activity which September brings to Saint Michael and All Angels' Church.

Sunday, September 13th is the unofficial start of the "Church Season". The Choir returns, regular monthly Vestry meetings resume, and Christian Education (Sunday School and adults) begins. Sunday School Coordinator Nancy King and the Sunday School teachers are ready to welcome back students. Kathy, the Parish Administrator, will gladly put parents in touch with Nancy, if you have a student you wish to enroll in Sunday School. Anglican Catholicism 101, which is an in-depth study of the Faith and practice of the Anglican Church resumes at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Among topics to be covered this year, is the moral teaching of the Church.

The Queen of Angels' Ward of the Society of Mary resumes its monthly meetings on Saturday, September 12th, beginning with Mass at 9:00 a.m., followed by the Rosary, and discussion. Members of the Society concluded a consideration of the Anglican Roman Catholic International Committee's (ARCIC) statement about the Blessed Virgin Mary, last Spring. Members look forward to more opportunities to deepen their devotion to Our Lady. Important feasts of Our Lady this month are the Nativity (September 8), the Most Holy Name (September

12), and Our Lady of Walsingham (September 24). All are welcome to learn more about the Society of Mary by dropping by on September 12th.

The St. Teresa of Avila Ward of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament resumes its monthly meetings on Thursday, September 17th at 6:00 p.m., with Evensong, dinner, and discussion. The evening ends with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Join us!

This year, the feasts of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14th) and St. Matthew the Apostle, Evangelist, and Martyr (September 21st) are on succeeding Mondays. Mass will be said on both of these days, for reasons which I shall impart below. Therefore, my day away for those two weeks will be Friday, September 18th, and Tuesday, September 22nd.

Holy Cross Day, September 14th, is the anniversary of the dedication of the shrines built at the behest of the Empress Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine the Great in AD 335, especially the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The feast also commemorates the return of the Relic of the True Cross to Jerusalem in 627. King Chosroës of Persia, invaded Jerusalem in 617. Zachary, Patriarch of Jerusalem, and many citizens of the city were taken into exile in Persia. During the sack of the Holy City, there were more than 300 religious buildings destroyed, among which were the holy places at Mount Calvary. The relic of the Holy Cross was also taken by the Persians. The Byzantine Emperor Heraclius after attempting a diplomatic solution, set out under the banner of the Cross to defeat the Persian king. Once the relic of the Holy Cross was returned to Heraclius, he sought to bring it back to Jerusalem in a great procession, emulating the triumphal processions of the pagan Roman Empire.

The Emperor came to Jerusalem and bore the reliquary with solemn pomp unto the Mount whereunto the Saviour had borne it. However, the Emperor could not go past the gate, no matter how hard he tried. Patriarch Zachary told Heraclius that the Cross should not be carried by one attired as a conqueror, for thereby too little was shown of the poverty and lowliness of Christ Jesus. Heraclius cast away his princely robes and took off his shoes. In the garb of a poor man, he easily proceeded to Calvary.

The Feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, Evangelist, and Martyr (September 21st), holds a special place in my heart. Year A of the

Revised Common Lectionary is given over almost exclusively to St. Matthew's Gospel. St. Matthew had both a Hebrew as well as a Graeco-Roman name. Matthew was known as Levi, and he was a tax collector for the occupying Roman government in Judea. Many Jewish people regarded St. Matthew as both a traitor and ritually unclean, due to his Gentile contacts. The Pharisees were both scandalized and outraged, when Our Lord called St. Matthew from the Custom (Tax collector's) House and dined with him, along with other Jewish Roman employees. Early Christian tradition, cited by St. Irenaeus of Lyons, Clement of Alexandria, Origen, and Tertullian, indicated that St. Matthew preached the Gospel among the Hebrews. Later, he went to other lands and wrote an early form of the Gospel in Hebrew. St. Jerome, claimed to own and use a copy of this Hebrew document to correct translations from Greek and Latin, although there is no evidence that it exists today. According to tradition, St. Matthew went into the regions south of the Caspian Sea (and perhaps as far as Ethiopia). He was killed while celebrating Mass. During the time of Pope St. Gregory VII (1020-1085), St. Matthew's body was brought to Salerno, Italy, and laid in a church that now bears his name.

Why is St. Matthew a favourite of mine? Because on St. Matthew's Day, 1993, I celebrated my First Mass, after a lengthy immigration process, at S. Clement's, Philadelphia (I was waiting for permission to enter the country in Toronto, Ontario). I had been ordained to the Sacred Priesthood by Bishop Edward H. MacBurney, Bishop of Quincy, Illinois, on May 18th, 1993. I celebrated a Sung Mass, wearing the historic and sumptuous red S. Clement's vestments. Canon Barry Swain, who was Rector of S. Clement's (for the past 25 years, Rector of Church of the Resurrection, NYC), was the attending priest in cope. Monday, September 21st, is the 33rd anniversary of that First Mass.

The Patronal Festival of Saint Michael and All Angels, Tuesday, September 29th is the 101st Anniversary of the founding of this church. Canon Harry Watts began the church on his birthday with a clear vision of what St. Michael's would become. From the beginning, the Oxford/Catholic Revival movement in the Church of England, would serve as the guiding principles of St. Michael and All Angels' Church. While there have been ups and downs in our history the church continues to trust in God's grace to allow us to maintain our tradition and share it with others. Please join us after 6:00 p.m. High Mass for the Patronal Dinner in the Parish Hall. This year's theme is *On to the*

Future. We are providing the entrée (Roast Pork) and dessert. Please sign up to bring a side, either salad or vegetable as participants in the 101st Patronal. Tickets, which went on sale August 30th are \$20.00 for 12 years and up, \$6.00 for children aged 6-12 years, free for children under 6 years old. Reservations are a must!

October 4th is the observance of the 72nd anniversary of the Feast of the Dedication and Consecration of this church building. On October 3rd, 1954, when all building debt had been retired, the Bishop of Colorado came at the invitation of, Father Leon Conkling King, to set apart this building to be the place where God abides forever. The Introit for the Mass of the Dedication in Latin is *Terribilis est, or How dreadful (terrible, awful) is this place: this is none other than the house of God and gate of heaven: and men shall call it the palace of God.* It is awe inspiring, and a little terrifying when one realizes that within this building built of cinder block, brick, tile, and wood is Almighty God himself. The church houses the Word made Flesh in the Tabernacle, which is always the focal point of a Catholic church building. Jesus feeds us, in Holy Communion. He leads us like God's first Chosen People to the Promised Land, not Canaan but the New Jerusalem which is the place where God dwells.

As Michaelmas 2026 commences the 102nd year of the presence of this parish in south Denver, may we renew our commitment to share the Catholic and Apostolic Faith, which has been faithfully passed down by our forebears to this generation. It is both an honour and a privilege to celebrate Michaelmas with you, dear people, as your Priest, your Pastor, and your friend.

Affectionately, your Friend and Pastor,

Father Trent Fraser

Holy Michael Archangel, defend us in battle; be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who roam the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Books 'n' Brunch

Kathleen McGraw

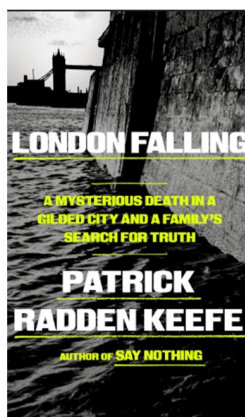
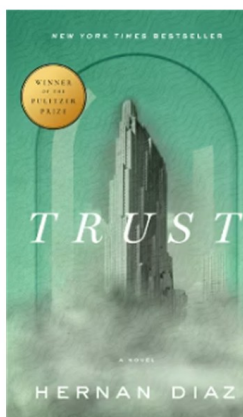
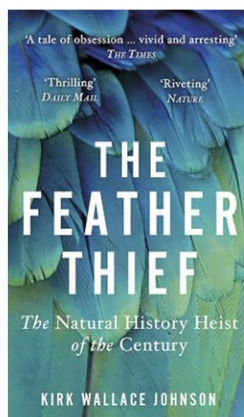
Books 'n Brunch will meet Sunday, September 6th at noon in the Parish Hall and via Zoom. We will be discussing **THE FEATHER THIEF** by *Kirk Wallace Johnson*. It is the fascinating story of a man with a passion for Victorian fly tying, his brazen theft of priceless specimens from the British Museum and the subsequent investigation of the crime.

Our October selection is **TRUST** by *Hernan Diaz*. The marriage of a Wall Street tycoon and a penniless daughter of aristocrats. A tale of how money and power manipulate facts.

November will bring us to how the mysterious death of a couple's son and their search for the truth is revealed through a powerful narrative driven by suspense and staggering revelations in **LONDON FALLING** by *Patrick Radden Keefe*.

Anyone is welcome to join in our discussions just as a drop in or on a regular basis. Call the office for more information.

Happy reading!



Flowers

September Flowers

GIVEN BY	AVAILABLE
	↓
September 6	
Avery	
Gross	
	Michael
	Mary
September 13	
Briggs	
Walker	
	Sanctuary
	Michael
	Mary
September 20	
Heerdt	
Greene	
Cesario & Hohen	
	Michael
September 27	
The Parish	
Warner	
	Sanctuary
	Michael
September 29 Patronal Feast	
	Available

Kindly take a look at the schedule for flowers.

Adjustments can be made by calling the office.

Contact the office for pricing.

Candles

September Candles	
GIVEN BY	AVAILABLE
	
September 6	
Hubbard	
Gross	
Shackleford+	
St. Martha's Altar Guild	
	Michael
September 13	
A Parishioner	
Hubbard	
Loiseau	
Walker & Loiseau	
	Passion
September 20	
Davis	
Jones Family	
Greening	
Walker	
St. Martha's Altar Guild	
September 27	
Benefactors of the Parish	
Hubbard	
St. Martha's Guild	
Jones	
Howe	
September 29 Patronal Feast	
	Available

Kindly take a look at the schedule for Candles.
Adjustments can be made by calling the office.
All memorial lamps are available for \$5.

Sunday School

Nancy King

We are getting so excited! Sunday School starts September 13th at 9:10 AM! All children preschool through middle school are welcome to join. If you have questions, contact Nancy King through the office.

Come Join Us on September 29th, for the Patronal Festival as we head On To The Future in our 101st year! Last year we celebrated with an unbeatable blast from the past for our Centennial. Come join together as a parish family as we start the next century! I was struck by the words of last weeks recessional hymn (#580) as I was thinking about the Patronal. I commend it to you to look at again as I think it is a perfect prayer as we go forward in faith and on to the future!

Save the Date

The 2nd Annual Parking Lot Rummage Sale at St. Michael's is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Gather your items for sale and invite your friends to attend. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Jean or any member of the Vestry.

The Society of Mary meets for Mass, Rosary, and fellowship on Saturday, September 12th beginning at 9:00 a.m.

The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament meets Thursday, September 17th at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and discussion. The evening ends with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us.

The Monthly Meeting of Vestry is at noon on Sunday, September 20th.

ON TO THE FUTURE
JOIN IN CELEBRATION
OF OUR
101st PATRONAL
MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED @ 6:00
DINNER TO FOLLOW
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2026



A PORK-ROAST DINNER WILL BE SERVED
ALONG WITH SIDE DISHES FURNISHED BY YOU
DESSERT IS INCLUDED

RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY FOR DINNER

ADULTS: \$20 CHILDREN 6 TO 12 \$6. UNDER 6 FREE

SIDE DISH SIGN UP SHEETS ARE IN THE NARTHEX

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1400 SOUTH UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD
DENVER, COLORADO 80210**

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