



Michael McKenna was born in Liverpool on 18th May 1937, the son of Vincent and Grace McKenna. After the death of his mother, he was largely brought up by Marie McKenna, one of his aunts. He received his early education at St Charles' School, Aigburth, and then at St Francis Xavier's College. On 9th September 1950, he entered

St Joseph's College, Upholland, alongside 30 boys of similar age and began his training for the priesthood. Six of these, including Michael, were ordained priest by Archbishop John Carmel Heenan on 8th June 1963, during the period of the Second

Vatican Council and began their priestly ministry amidst a period of significant development. Following ordination, Fr McKenna was appointed to the parish of Saints Peter and Paul in Crosby and then after four years in the long-established parish at Crosby, he moved to the new town of Skelmersdale to immerse himself in the establishment of new parishes, communities and in the development of team ministry. During his time as Episcopal Vicar, he was Administrator at St Mary's, Highfield Street, Liverpool, for a short period. Subsequently, he was chaplain to the Redemptorist sisters at Gillmoss, whilst living in Upholland. He returned to parish ministry in 2000, succeeding Canon Richard Firth as parish priest at St Gregory's, Chorley, and relished the contact with parishioners again. Speaking of those to whom he brought Holy Communion at home, he remarked that, 'If I ever get to heaven, it will be because of them.' He had a great capacity for friendship, maintaining many lifelong friendships with his distinctive handwritten cards, even as his eyesight was failing. In 2016, he retired from active ministry, moving just a few yards to the lodge at the end of the drive at Weld Bank. He died on Friday 23rd August 2024, aged 87 years, in the 62nd year of priesthood.

Deo Gratias

Reception of the Body with Vigil Mass

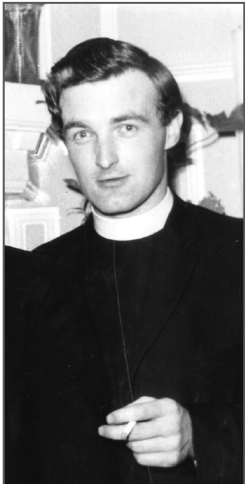
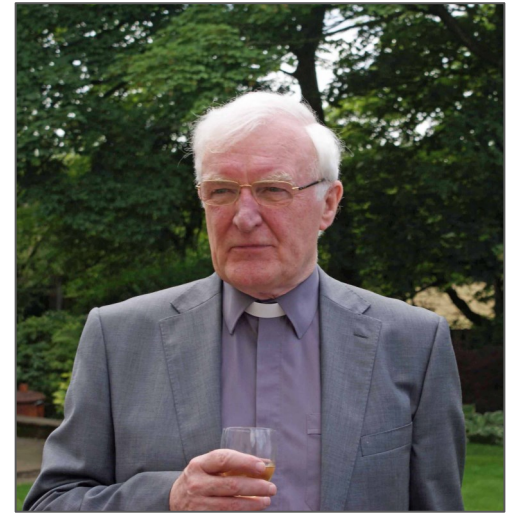
*Rt Rev Mgr Michael McKenna*

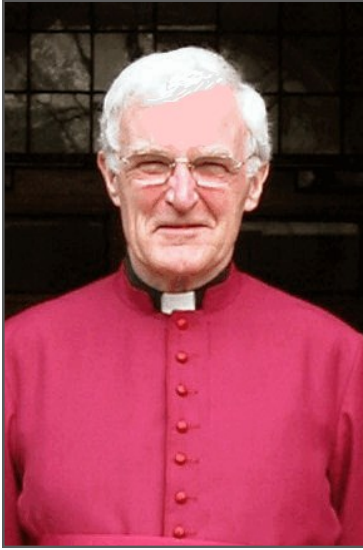
18th May 1937 ~ 23rd August 2024



St Gregory's Weld Bank  
Sunday 8th September 2024  
7:00pm

Principal Celebrant  
Most Rev Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP





ALL WILL .. ❖  
❖ . ❖ BE WELL  
and all will .  
❖ . ❖ BE WELL  
and all manner  
❖ . ❖ of things  
WILL BE WELL.  
❖ . ❖ - ❖ - ❖ - ❖ -  
*Julien of Norwich.*



## Order of Service

### ENTRANCE HYMN

I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will send the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
Til' their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?

*Daniel L. Schutte*

### INTRODUCTORY RITE

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **R. Amen.**

Peace be with you. **R. And with your spirit.**

## PLACING OF PRIESTLY SYMBOLS

*Archbishop Malcolm McMahon*

### PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father.

Lord have mercy. **R. Lord have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth.

Christ have mercy. **R. Christ have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the good shepherd leading us to everlasting life.

Lord have mercy. **R. Lord have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life. **R. Amen.**

### THE GLORIA

*Sung Mass parts taken from the Mass of St Gregory the Great by Teresa Brown*

*Please join in singing the response.*

**Glory to God in the highest, glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace, peace to people of good will.**

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

We give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

**Glory to God in the highest.....**

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;

You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

**Glory to God in the highest .....**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,

With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Glory to God in the highest .....**

*Michael always thought that saying 'thank' you was very important and so a big thank you to his family and friends for their love, care and support throughout his life but especially throughout his illness, making it possible for his wishes to be fulfilled, that he die peacefully at home.*

*Special thanks to the district nurses and to St Catherine's Hospice at Home Team for their care for Michael during his final few weeks.*

*Sincere thanks to those who worked and supported him in the many aspects of his long priestly ministry.*

*If anybody would like to show their gratitude, your kind donations in memory of Michael to St Catherine's Hospice would be much appreciated so that others may die with the same care and dignity that he was afforded.*

*Donations may be placed in the box at the back of church  
or online at:*

<https://www.stcatherines.co.uk/support-us/donate>

**Please take this booklet with you in memory of Michael  
or hand it to a steward as you leave the church.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,  
The darkness falls at thy behest;  
To thee our morning hymns ascended,  
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy church, unsleeping,  
While earth rolls onward into light,  
Through all the world her watch is keeping,  
And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island  
The dawn leads on another day,  
The voice of prayer is never silent,  
Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking  
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
And hour by hour fresh lips are making  
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,  
Like earth's proud empires, pass away:  
Thy kingdom stands, and grows forever,  
Till all thy creatures own thy sway.

*John Ellerton (1826 - 93)*

## THE COLLECT

Let us pray: Grant we pray, O Lord, that the soul of Michael, your servant and Priest, whom you honoured with sacred office while he lived in this world, may exult for ever in the glorious home of heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

*Please sit for the readings*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

*(7:29-40)*

*Read by Terence Donnelly*

With all your soul hold the Lord in awe, and revere his priests. With all your might, love him who made you, and do not abandon his ministers. Fear the Lord and honour the priest and give him the portion enjoined on you: first-fruits and sacrifices of reparation and the shoulder-gift, the sacrifice of sanctification, and first-fruits of the holy things.

Stretch your hand out also to the poor man, that your blessing may be perfect. Be generous in your gifts to all the living, do not withhold your favour even from the dead.

Do not fail those who weep, but share the grief of the grief-stricken. Do not shrink from visiting the sick; in this way you will make yourself loved. In everything you do, remember your end, and you will never sin.

The word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Cantor John Booth*

*Please join in singing the response.*

***R. For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.***

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
For you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
Like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
To see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
My lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,  
In your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
My mouth shall praise you with joy.

You have been my help;  
In the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
Your right hand holds me fast.

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (8:14-23)**

*Read by Christine Crossen*

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a Son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

The word of the Lord. ***R. Thanks be to God.***

Be still, and know I am with you,  
Be still, I am the Lord.  
I will not leave you orphans.  
I leave you with my world. Be one.  
You fear the light may be fading,  
You fear to lose your way.  
Be still, and know I am near you.  
I'll lead you to the day and the sun.

Be glad the day you have sorrow,  
Be glad, for then you live.  
The stars shine only in darkness,  
And in your need I give my peace.

*Anne Conway*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray:

Having received the Sacrament of salvation, we implore your kindness, O God, for Michael, your servant and Priest, that, as you made him a steward of your mysteries on earth, so you may bring him to be nourished by their truth and reality as unveiled in heaven.

Through Christ our Lord.

***R. Amen.***

## CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. ***R. And with your spirit.***

May Almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son,  
+ and the Holy Spirit. ***R. Amen.***

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. ***R. Thanks be to God.***



## HOLY COMMUNION

*Those who are not receiving Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing to express our 'communion' in Christ and as friends.*

## HYMNS DURING HOLY COMMUNION

*Oh the word of my Lord, deep within my being,  
Oh the word of my Lord, you have filled my mind.*

Before I formed you in the womb  
I knew you through and through, I chose you to be mine.  
Before you left your mother's side  
I called to you, my child, to be my sign.

I know that you are very young,  
But I will make you strong, I'll fill you with my word;  
And you will travel through the land,  
fulfilling my command which you have heard.

And ev'rywhere you are to go  
My hand will follow you; you will not be alone.  
In all the danger that you fear  
You'll find me very near, your words my own.

With all my strength you will be filled:  
You will destroy and build, for that is my design.  
You will create and overthrow,  
reap harvests I will sow – your word is mine.

*Damian Lundy (1942-1997)*

*Please stand to greet the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please join in singing the response*

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (R)***

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,  
Whoever believes in me will never die.

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (R)***

## GOSPEL

The Lord be with you. ***R. And with your spirit.***

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John  
(11:21-27)

***R. Glory to you, O Lord.***

Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you'. 'Your brother,' said Jesus to her, 'will rise again.'

Martha said,

'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day'.

Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said, 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

The Gospel of the Lord. ***R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

*Please be seated*

## THE HOMILY

*The Homily will be given by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon*

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Read by Linda Walmsley*

*We turn to you, our Father, in our grief and sadness and with our hopes  
but above all with thanks for the presence in each of our lives,  
of your faithful son and Priest, our brother Michael.*

For Michael who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life,  
that he may now be admitted to the company of the saints.  
Lord in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For our brother Michael, who ministered at your altar and shared the body  
and blood of Christ, the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation,  
that he may be raised up on the last day.  
Lord in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us,  
that they may have the reward of their goodness.  
Lord in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For the family and friends of our brother Michael  
that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord,  
who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus.  
Lord in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For the parishioners and the people of the Archdiocese who Michael  
ministered to and supported so kindly that they may find  
comfort in their sorrow.  
Lord in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith,  
that we may be reunited with Michael again in God's kingdom.  
Lord in your mercy. **R. Hear our prayer.**

We ask Mary, the blessed mother of our Lord Jesus Christ  
to pray with us as we say:

***Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou  
amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of our death. Amen.***

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our  
days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin  
and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming  
of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

*All join in singing.*

***For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.  
Amen.***

## RITE OF PEACE

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles, Peace I leave you, my peace  
I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **R. And with your spirit.**

## SIGN OF PEACE

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

## BREAKING OF BREAD

*Please join in singing.*

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.***

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the  
world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

***R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.***

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom you have summoned before you: in your compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world.

Remember your servant and Priest, Michael, whom you have called from this world to yourself. Grant that he who was united with your Son in a death like his, may also be one with him in his Resurrection, when from the earth he will raise up in the flesh those who have died, and transform our lowly body after the pattern of his own glorious body.

To our departed brothers and sisters, too, and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance into your kingdom. There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory, when you will wipe away every tear from our eyes. For seeing you, our God, as you are, we shall be like you for all the ages and praise you without end, through Christ our Lord, through whom you bestow in the world all that is good.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

*All join in singing.*

***Amen! Amen! Amen!***

## COMMUNION RITE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to sing:

***Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from all that is evil.***

*Please be seated.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*The gifts of bread and wine will be brought to the altar  
by Verity Arrowsmith & Jessica Arrowsmith-Porter*

### THE OFFERTORY HYMN

***Take our bread,  
We ask you take our hearts,  
We love you take our lives,  
O Father we are yours, we are yours.***

Yours as we stand at the table you set.  
Yours as we eat the bread, our hearts can't forget.  
We are the signs of your life with us yet.  
We are yours, we are yours.

Your holy people stand washed in your blood,  
Spirit filled, yet hungry, we await your food.  
Poor though we are, we have brought ourselves to you.  
We are yours, we are yours.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to  
God, the almighty Father.

***R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and  
glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.***

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that through these holy mysteries, Michael, your servant and Priest, may behold with clarity for ever what he faithfully ministered here. Through Christ our Lord. ***R. Amen.***

The Lord be with you. ***R. And with your spirit.***  
Lift up your hearts. ***R. We lift them up to the Lord.***  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ***R. It is right and just.***

## THE PREFACE

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For he is the salvation of the world, the life of the human race, the resurrection of the dead. Through him the host of Angels adores your majesty and rejoices in your presence for ever. May our voices, we pray, join with theirs in one chorus of exultant praise, as we acclaim:

*All join in singing.*

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.***  
***Heaven and earth are full of your glory.***  
***Hosanna in the highest.***  
***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***  
***Hosanna in the highest.***  
***Hosanna in the highest.***  
  
*Please kneel or sit.*

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you:  
by the same Spirit graciously make holy these gifts  
we have brought to you for consecration,  
that they may become the Body and + Blood  
of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ  
at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread,  
and giving you thanks he said the blessing,  
broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT:  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice,  
and giving you thanks he said the blessing,  
and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT: FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE  
OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT;  
WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.  
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMMATION

The mystery of faith.

*All join in singing.*

***When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,***  
***we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.***

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion of your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, and as we look forward to his second coming, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church, and, recognizing the sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself, grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

May he make of us an eternal offering to you, so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect, especially with the most blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs with St Gregory the Great, St Michael the Archangel and with all the Saints, on whose constant intercession in your presence we rely for unfailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant Francis our Pope and Malcolm our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for your own.