

Thoughts on the Daily Word

26th Week of Year. Monday 29th September. Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels. Readings: Daniel 7:9-10,13-14; Psalm: 137; John 1:47-51.

This is always a special time for me. My mother's birthday and her promise that if she had a son, she would name him Michael, hence my name. Two things touch me especially today. The first is that angels are messengers. It is an office, not an identity. To be a 'Michael' is to have a mission or a message to give to the world, as indeed we all have through our birth and our naming at baptism. The second to me comes through our readings. That is the humanity expressed in the 'son of man' as well as the integrity of Nathaniel, 'incapable of deceit'. He fulfils the role of an Israelite, someone on a mission. The son of man reveals just what it is to be human, someone personal. That is our task and mission, to personalise humanity and our world. May the angels assist us in that task!