

Guardian Angel Prayer



O Angel of God, my Guardian dear,
To whom God's love, commits me here;
Ever this day, be at my side,
To light and guard, to rule and guide.
Amen.

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WHO ARE THE ANGELS?

Angels are pure spirits, holy beings whom God created to have direct contact with Himself. Angels are God's messengers. They are invisible, immortal, and have great intelligence. The angels worship God face-to-face at all times. The Scripture teaches that God sends angels from heaven to earth to deliver help, warnings, or exciting news as they help Him in His mission to save all people.

The word *angel* comes from the Greek word *angelos*, which means messenger. Angels are a link between heaven and earth, between God and His people. In the Bible angels appear in different ways. Sometimes they appear in brilliant glory, which is how the angels appeared to the shepherds in Bethlehem on the night that Jesus was born:

The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. ... And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "/>Glory to God in the highest /and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

—LUKE 2:9-11, 13-14

Angels sometimes appear to people while they are asleep. An angel appeared to Joseph in his dreams to tell him that Mary was expecting the Son of God. At other times angels take a human form. In the Old Testament Abraham met three strangers, whom he invited into his tent for a meal. It was only when they told him that his wife, Sarah, would have a child, that Abraham realized they were truly angels.

As well as delivering important messages, angels also provide practical help. At times they protect those who show obedience to God. In the Old Testament an angel protected Daniel when he was thrown into the lions' den. Likewise, the Archangel Raphael protected Tobiah and his wife Sarah from a wicked demon. In the New Testament, an angel freed Peter from prison by breaking his prison chains and leading him safely out to freedom – even though Peter was tied up between two soldiers!

The Bible tells us that angels worship only God. The Church, the people of God, joins with the angels in adoring God. The angels are happy when people come to know and love God.

Beside each believer stands an angel as a protector and a shepherd leading him to life. —SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL



Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

SPIRITUAL ARMOR PRAYER

Based on Ephesians 6:13-17

Heavenly Father, we ask You today for Your truth as a belt tight around our loins. We put on the zeal to announce Your good news of peace as shoes for our feet. We put on Your righteousness, O Christ, as our breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet for our head. Father, we take up faith as a shield which is able to put out all the fiery darts of the enemy, and the sword of the Spirit, which is Your Word, O Lord. Father, may the love with which You have loved Jesus be in us, and may Jesus be in us. We ask You for the grace of a servant heart. Amen.

PRAYER TO OUR GUARDIAN ANGELS

Heavenly Father, in Your infinite love for us, You have chosen a blessed angel in heaven and appointed him to be our guide during our earthly pilgrimage. Thank You for so great a blessing. Grant that we may experience the assistance of our holy protector in all our necessities.

And you, dear angel of God, watch over us with all the tenderness of your heart. Keep us always on the way that leads to heaven, and pray for us until we have attained our final destiny, eternal salvation. Then we shall love you for all eternity, praising and glorifying God unceasingly for all the good you have done for us while here on earth.

We ask you to especially protect and watch over our children. Take our place, and supply what may be wanting in us through human frailty, shortsightedness, or sinful neglect. Lighten, O you holy servants of God, our weighty task. Guide our children, that they may become like Jesus, imitate Him faithfully, and persevere until they attain eternal life. Amen.