



Angels & Demons

Catholic Truth League
Friday Apologetics
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The existence of Angels is considered to be a truth of faith, as seen through the witness offered by both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. "Angels have been present since creation and throughout the history of salvation, announcing this salvation from afar or near and serving the accomplishment of the divine plan... The whole life of the Church benefits from the mysterious and powerful help of angels" (CCC 332, 334). May we join with the angels in their continuous chorus of praise to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Guardian Angel Prayer

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, rule and guide.
Amen.

◇ Angels

- Comes from the Greek *angellos*, meaning "messenger."
- “Angel” is the name of their office; it is not their nature. Angels are pure spirit.
 - “The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls “angels” is a truth of faith... As purely *spiritual* creatures angels have intelligence and will: they are person and immortal creatures...” (CCC 328, 330)

◇ Angelic Hierarchy

- First Sphere: Heavenly guardians of God's throne.
 - Seraphim (Is. 6:1-7), Cherubim (Gen. 3:24, Ezek. 28:14-16), and Thrones (Col. 1:16)
- Second Sphere: Heavenly governors.
 - Dominions (Eph. 1:21, Col. 1:16), Virtues (Eph. 1:21), and Powers (Eph. 6:12)
- Third Sphere: Heavenly messengers and soldiers
 - Principalities (Eph. 3:10), Archangels (1 Thess. 4:16, Jude 1:9), and Angels (Ps. 8:4-5)
 - Scripture tells us of St. Michael (Dn. 10:13), St. Gabriel (Dn. 8:16), and St. Raphael (Tb. 12:15) the Archangels.

◇ Guardian Angels

- “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.” (Mt. 18:10)
- “From infancy to death human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. ‘Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life.’ Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united in God.” (CCC 336)
- “Our guardian angels pray for us, protect and guide us, and offer our prayers, good works, and desires to God” (Baltimore Catechism 223, 1891 ed.)
 - Offer our prayers:* St. Raphael the Archangel stated to Tobit that “I brought a reminder of your prayer before the Holy One” (Tb. 12:12)

◇ Demons

- Demons are fallen angels, who, by their own free will, “radically and irrevocably *rejected* God and his reign... It is the *irrevocable* character of their choice, and not a defect in the infinite divine mercy, that makes the angels’ sin unforgivable.” (CCC 391-2)
- “The Church teaches that Satan was at first a good angel, made by God: ‘The devil and the other demons were indeed created naturally good by God, but they became evil by their own doing.’ [Lateran IV, 1215]” (CCC 391)