

# Holy Angels



PRAYER BOOK



# Holy Angels Prayer Book

Written and compiled by  
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## *Introduction*

Sacred Scripture first introduces us to angels in the Book of Genesis (3:24) when God places the Cherubim with a fiery sword to guard the way to the tree of life. From that point on in the Old Testament, we encounter angels performing various services for the Lord and demonstrating their care and concern for God's people. In the New Testament, we read of an angel visiting Mary to tell her that God has chosen her to be the mother of his Son. An angel announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. An angel ministered to Jesus during his agony in the garden. An angel stood by the empty tomb and announced Jesus' resurrection. In the Acts of the Apostles, an angel freed Peter from prison. *(See more scriptural references on page 137.)* Our belief in angels is confirmed by Scripture and the

continual teaching of the Catholic Church throughout the centuries.

The word “angel” derives from the Greek *angelos* which means “messenger.” The Hebrew word *malak*, used in the Old Testament also means “messenger,” or, “one who carries out God’s commands.” For this reason, artists throughout the ages have often depicted angels with wings, flowing garments, and transparent-like bodies encircled in light so as to convey the idea of swiftness and other-worldliness. Angels, however, are pure spirits, and as such are inaccessible to our senses. They cannot be seen or touched by us unless God chooses to make them visible for a specific purpose. Although they are immaterial beings, angels possess understanding and free will, and because they do not have the limitations of a material body, they are immortal.

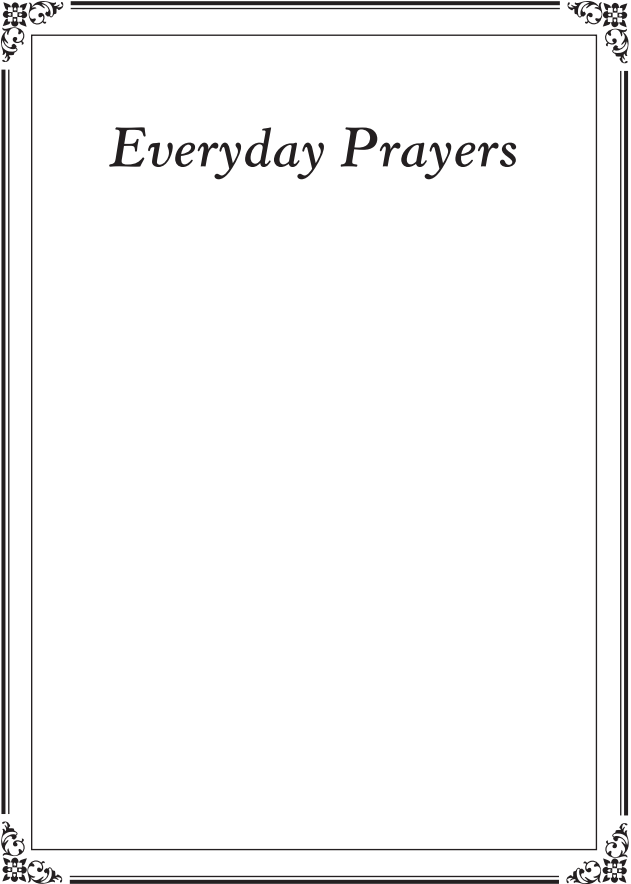
In the beginning, when God created these spiritual beings, God gave them special gifts of grace, wisdom, power, and holiness. According to references in Holy Scripture, the number of angels is countless. The Letter to the Hebrews (12:22), speaks of thousands; the Book of Revelation (5:11)

mentions tens of thousands, while the Book of Daniel suggests ten thousand times ten thousand (7:10). The New Testament mentions Angels, Archangels, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Virtues, and Powers. The Old Testament speaks of Seraphim and Cherubim. Theologians throughout the ages, Saint Thomas Aquinas in particular, reasoned that there are particular groupings, orders, or choirs of angels, nine in all.

Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones are dedicated to the praise and worship of God. Dominions, Virtues, and Powers carry out God's providential designs for the universe. Principalities, Archangels, and Angels are assigned to the care of human beings and their salvation.

As messengers of God's providential love, angels can enlighten our minds and inspire our wills so that we are better able to respond to the graces they bring to us from God. We can use all the help the good angels provide to overcome the powers of darkness and the spirit of evil active in our world today. We need the angels to assist us in our daily struggles to live upright and devout lives. Who

among us doesn't experience crises of all kinds—health issues, friends or family members struggling with addictions, financial setbacks, unemployment, the loss of a loved one, depression? Angels, channels of God's love and compassion, convey a sense of peace and security along with an assurance of daily strength and courage to face difficult situations. We can think of angels as companions on a journey that leads us beyond this world to our home in heaven. They remind us of the things that are really important in life so that one day we can join them in heaven to praise God for all eternity. In the here and now, we can thank our loving God who placed these heavenly spirits at our service, and we can honor the angels with our devotion and gratitude.



*Everyday Prayers*







## The Sign of the Cross

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

## The Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you all my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day, for the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of my loved ones, and for the general intention recommended this month by the Holy Father.

## Adoration and Praise

I adore you, my God, and I love you with all my heart. I thank you for having created me, made me a Christian, and sustained me through the night. I

offer you my actions of this day: grant that they all may be according to your will and for your greater glory. Preserve me from sin and all evil today. May your grace be always with me and with all whom I love. Amen.

## The Angelus

℣. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,  
℟. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

*Hail Mary . . .*

℣. Behold the handmaid of the Lord,  
℟. Be it done unto me according to your Word.

*Hail Mary . . .*

℣. And the Word was made flesh,  
℟. And dwelt among us.

*Hail Mary . . .*

℣. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,  
℟. That we may be made worthy of the  
promises of Christ.

*Let us pray.*

Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Regina Caeli

*(Prayed during the Easter Season instead of the Angelus.)*

Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia:

For he whom you merited to bear, alleluia,

Has risen as he said, alleluia.

Pray for us to God, alleluia.

℣. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

℟. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

*Let us pray.*

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has been pleased to fill the world with joy, grant, we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his Mother, we may receive the joys of eternal life, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

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 evil. Amen.

## Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among 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.

## Glory

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever. Amen.

## An Act of Faith

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

## An Act of Hope

O my God, relying on your infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

## An Act of Love

O my God, I love you above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because you are all-good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

## An Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you, and I detest all my sins, because of your just punishments, but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin.

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under  
Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose  
again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the  
right hand of God, the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and  
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic  
Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness  
of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life  
everlasting. Amen.

## Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our  
sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor  
banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our  
sighs, mourning, and weeping in this valley of tears.  
Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of  
mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto  
us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement,  
O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

## Saint Bernard's Prayer (The Memorare)

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that  
never was it known that anyone who fled to thy  
protection, implored thy help, or sought thy

intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

## Prayer of Entrustment

Dear and loving Mother Mary, keep your hand upon me this day; guard my mind, my heart, and my senses, that I may not commit sin. Make my thoughts, affections, words, and actions holy, so that I may be pleasing to you and to your divine Son, Jesus, and attain heaven with you.

Jesus and Mary, give me your holy blessing:

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

## For the Faithful Departed

Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, and let  
perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.



## Invocations for a Holy Death

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I give you my heart  
and my soul.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, assist me in the hour  
of my death.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, let me die in peace  
with you.