



With the Help of the Archangels for Battle

By Mary Ann Collett

On September 29th we honor the three “archangels” in Heaven: St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael. They are mighty, glorious, beautiful and magnificent in every way.

Today, please join me as we reflect upon our knowledge of the angels. Do we honor them? Do we rely upon their powerful intercession in our lives? God wants to use them, so we should truly seek their help in our everyday lives.

While reading several different articles about angels. I have discovered, archangels are the second order of angels just above the guardian angels. There are nine different orders of celestial beings that we commonly refer to as angels and all nine of these orders are traditionally organized into three spheres.

The entire hierarchy is traditionally organized this way:

- **Highest Sphere:** Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones.
- **Middle Sphere:** Dominions, Virtues and Powers.
- **Lower Sphere:** Principalities, Archangels and Angels (Guardian Angels)

The Archangels, were created for the purpose of bringing messages of great importance to us and to accomplish tasks of importance in our lives:

- **Michael:** The Archangel is most familiar to us as we pray to him after every Mass. St. Michael is well known as the archangel who was empowered by God to cast Lucifer (Satan) out of Heaven. Satan is traditionally thought to be of the highest sphere of celestial beings and being cast out by a lowly archangel was quite a humiliation.
- **Gabriel:** is well known for being the archangel who brought the message of the Incarnation to the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- **Raphael:** whose name means “**God heals**” is referred to in the Old Testament Book of Tobit and is said to have been sent to bring healing to Tobit’s eyes.

Though not much is known of these archangels, it’s important to believe in them, honor them and to pray to them. We pray to them because we believe God has entrusted them with a mission to help us bring healing, fight evil and proclaim the Word of God. Their power comes from God, but God has chosen to use the archangels, and all celestial beings, to accomplish His plan and His purpose.

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Prayer:

Glorious St. Michael, valiant commander of the angelic hosts, fierce archangel warrior! I need your protection in this daily combat against the ancient enemies of God; and I ask you to take me under your wing to train me as a soldier for the army of heaven. Teach me to be strong in battle, brave under assault, firm in virtue, unflinching in faith, persevering in loyalty to my comrades, fully armed and ready with the divinely made weapons and armor of this spiritual combat. St. Michael, lead me into the fray, and by God's grace I will follow, in the strength of Christ my King, under the bright banner of Our Lady, before whom the Serpent flees! Amen.

Composed by: Fr. Joseph Husslein, S.J.



Mary Ann Collett is the proud mother of 3 married daughters and 8 grandchildren. She is an inspiring and dynamic Catholic Lay Evangelist; whose gift is to intertwine Scripture and personal stories. Mary Ann Collett, MSW, MA, CLEM, LLC, is a *Bereavement Counselor, Life Coach, Pastoral Care Counselor, Spiritual Director, Support Group Leader, and Speaker for Retreats and Workshops*. She is in private practice in Red Bank. Mary Ann has been in the Healing Ministry for over 37 years. She is the co-founder of the thriving ministry Catholic Women of Zion celebrating their 32nd year in 2021.

She has traveled nationally and internationally to spread the message of the Kingdom of God through the power of the Holy Spirit.