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# THE CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

WITH MEDITATIONS FROM SACRED SCRIPTURE



# THE CHAPLET OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

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## Introduction

Sacred Scripture distinguishes nine ranks of angels, or Choirs: Seraphim, Cherubim, Thrones, Dominations, Virtues, Powers, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels (see Isaiah 6:2; Genesis 3:24; Colossians 1:16; Ephesians 1:21; Romans 8:38). The Seraphim is believed to be the highest Choir, the most intimately united to God, while the Angelic Choir is the lowest, closest to human nature.

In the beginning, God created both the heavens and the earth (see Genesis 1:1), understood as the spiritual creatures and the material ones, the angels and the universe in which man, who shares both realities, would come to exist (Fourth Lateran Council, 1225).

Man's choice for or against God would come much later, after his creation. The angels' choice, however, came immediately. In a single moment, in their first moral act, they chose the course which would characterize their entire existence, for or against God. They cannot change it because with their fierce intellects and wills, it ever appears correct.

Lucifer, who was likely a Seraphim, declared, "I will not serve." Michael, a lowly Archangel, cried from his humble station, "Who is like God!" And so the angelic spirits divided themselves into two camps, a third of their number from all the Choirs agreeing with Lucifer who in punishment were cast down to the material creation (see Revelation 12), there to oppose the divine plan for its governance, and in time, God's plan for Man (see Revelation 12; Genesis 3).

The Angels of the Nine Choirs who adhered to God were admitted to the Beatific Vision of God and assumed their intended places in the divine governance and later their role in the plan of salvation.

The Chaplet of St. Michael is a wonderful way to honor the Great Archangel and all the Holy Angels for their fidelity, for their ongoing role in the governance of the universe, and particularly for the place they play in the salvation won for us by Our Lord.

The Chaplet goes back to a devout Servant of God, Antonia d'Astonac. A Portuguese Carmelite nun, she was told by St. Michael in a vision that she could honor him by nine salutations to the nine Choirs of Angels. This devotion was approved by Pope Pius IX in 1851.

*"Who is like God!"*



## Introductory Prayers

O God, come to my aid. O Lord, make haste to help me.

Pray one Glory Be.

### The Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

Pray one Our Father in honor of each of the following Angels:  
St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael, and your Guardian Angel.

### The Our Father

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed by 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.



## The First Salutation

**Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Seraphim, may it please God to make us worthy to receive into our hearts the fire of His perfect charity. Amen.**

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### **Scripture Reflection:**

“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends; as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect; but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall understand fully, even as I have been fully understood. So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

– 1 Corinthians 13



## The Second Salutation

**Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Cherubim, may God grant us the grace to abandon the ways of sin and follow the path of Christian perfection. Amen.**

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### **Scripture Reflection:**

“Put off your old nature which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new nature, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Therefore, putting away falsehood, let every one speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his hands, so that he may be able to give to those in need. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may impart grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

– Ephesians 4:22-32



## The Third Salutation

**Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Thrones, may it please God to infuse into our hearts a true and earnest spirit of humility. Amen.**

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### **Scripture Reflection:**

“Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for ‘God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that in due time he may exalt you.”

– 1 Peter 5:5-6





## The Fourth Salutation

Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Dominations, may it please God to grant us the grace to have dominion over our senses and to correct our depraved passions. Amen.

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### Scripture Reflection:

“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you would. But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are plain: immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, selfishness, dissension, party spirit, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another.”

– Galatians 5:16-26



## The Fifth Salutation

**Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Virtues, may Our Lord keep us from falling into temptation and deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### **Scripture Reflection:**

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; above all taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that utterance may be given me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.”

– Ephesians 6:10-20



## The Sixth Salutation

**Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Powers, may God vouchsafe to keep our souls from the wiles and the temptations of the devil. Amen.**

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### Scripture Reflection:

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.’ But he answered, ‘It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”’

Then the devil took him to the holy city, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, “He will give his angels charge of you,” and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”’

Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, “You shall not tempt the Lord your God.”’

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them; and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’

Then Jesus said to him, ‘Begone, Satan! for it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”’

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and ministered to him.”

– Matthew 4:1-11



## The Seventh Salutation

**Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Principalities, may it please God to fill our hearts with the spirit of true and hearty obedience. Amen.**

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### **Scripture Reflection:**

“[Jesus said,] ‘Every one then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And every one who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it.’”

– Matthew 7:24-27



## The Eighth Salutation

Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Archangels, may it please God to grant us the grace of perseverance in the faith and in all good works that we may thereby be enabled to attain unto the glory of Paradise. Amen.

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### Scripture Reflection:

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Well, I do not run aimlessly, I do not box as one beating the air; but I pommel my body and subdue it, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.”

– 1 Corinthians 9:24-27



# The Ninth Salutation

**Through the intercession of St. Michael and the Celestial Choir of Angels, may God vouchsafe to grant that they may protect us during life and after death may lead us into the everlasting glory of Heaven. Amen.**

Pray one Our Father and three Hail Marys in honor of the nine Choirs of Angels.

### **Scripture Reflection:**

“Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, ‘Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. Rejoice then, O heaven and you that dwell therein! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!’”

– Revelation 12:7-12



## Concluding Prayers

O glorious prince St. Michael, chief and commander of the heavenly hosts, guardian of souls, vanquisher of rebel spirits, servant in the house of the Divine King, and our admirable conductor, you who shine with excellence and superhuman virtue deliver us from all evil, who turn to you with confidence and enable us by your gracious protection to serve God more and more faithfully every day.

Pray for us, O glorious St. Michael, Prince of the Church of Jesus Christ, that we may be made worthy of His promises.

Almighty and Everlasting God, Who, by a prodigy of goodness and a merciful desire for the salvation of all men, has appointed the most glorious Archangel St. Michael Prince of Your Church, make us worthy, we ask You, to be delivered from all our enemies, that none of them may harass us at the hour of death, but that we may be conducted by him into Your Presence. This we ask through the merits of Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Amen.



## About Us

Founded more than 40 years ago by a Poor Clare of Perpetual Adoration (PCPA), Mother Mary Angelica of the Annunciation, EWTN is the largest religious media network in the world. EWTN's 11 global TV channels are broadcast in multiple languages 24 hours a day, seven days a week to over 435 million television households in more than 160 countries and territories. EWTN platforms also include radio services transmitted through SIRIUS/XM, iHeart Radio, and over 600 domestic and international AM & FM radio affiliates; a worldwide shortwave radio service; one of the largest Catholic websites in the U.S. and second only to the Vatican worldwide; electronic and print news services, including Catholic News Agency, *National Catholic Register* newspaper, and several global news wire services; as well as EWTN Publishing, its book publishing division.

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