

The Holy Guardian Angels

Sermon of St. Bernard, Abbot

“He hath given His angels charge over thee.” O wonderful bounty and truly great love of charity! Who? For whom? Wherefore? What has He commanded? Let us study closely, brethren, and let us diligently commit to our memory this great mandate. Who is it that commands? Whose angels are they? Whose mandates do they fulfill? Whose will do they obey? In answer, “He hath given *His* angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.” And they do not hesitate even to lift thee up in their hands.

So the Supreme Majesty has given charge to the angels. Yes, He has given charge to His own angels. Think of it! To those sublime beings, who cling to Him so joyfully and intimately, to His very own He has given charge over you! *Who are you?* “*What is man that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him?*” As if man were not rottenness, and the son of man a worm! Now why, do you think, has He given them charge over thee?—To guard thee!

With what great reverence should you treat this word! What devotion should you proffer it; what great confidence should you place in it. Reverence because of their presence; devotion because of their benevolence; confidence because of their solicitude. Walk carefully, in all thy ways, as one with whom the angels are present, as He has given them charge. In every lodging, at every corner, have reverence for thy Angel. Do not dare to do in his presence what you would not dare to do if I were there. Or do you doubt that he is present whom you do not behold?

What if you should hear him? What if you should touch him? What if you should scent him? Remember that the presence of something is not proved only by the sight of things.

In this, therefore, brethren, let us affectionately love His angels as one day our future coheirs; meanwhile, however, as counselors and defenders appointed by the Father and placed over us. Why should we fear under such guardians? Those who keep us in all our ways can neither be overcome nor be deceived, much less deceive. They are faithful; they are prudent; they are powerful; why do we tremble? Let us only follow them, let us remain close to them, and in the protection of the God of heaven let us abide. As often, therefore, as a most serious temptation is perceived to weigh upon you and an excessive trial is threatening, call to your guard, your leader, your helper in your needs, in your tribulation; cry to him and say: “Lord, save us; we perish!”

1. There will be Catechism classes after 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. *October is the Month of the Holy Rosary*- as always there is daily Rosary at 7:20 PM in the Abbey Church. Those who can are urged to attend; those who cannot attend are urged to say the Rosary at home. Daily Rosary is a MUST.
3. Monday, October 4, is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.
4. Tuesday, October 5, is the feast of St. Placid and Companions, Benedictine saints.
5. Thursday, October 7, is the great feast of the Most Holy Rosary. The Rosary is a powerful means for uniting families and friends. The Rosary has a way about it that can take us out of ourselves and establish peace. We want, as Benedictines, to go on record with our urgings concerning DAILY ROSARY.
6. Thursday, October 7, is the First Thursday of October, with Holy Hour and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the Abbey Church from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM.
7. All Souls Day Envelopes are available. Please return them ***BEFORE*** November 1, 2010.
8. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. Pray for all people who are in need. Please pray for Abbot Leonard, Alfred Kresbach, and Mrs. Betsy Hopkins.
9. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (6:00 AM schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: 6:00 AM: Prayer promises and benefactors
10:00 AM: For all the Faithful people of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: Dec. Jerry Jones
 - TUESDAY: For Judy Provost
 - WEDNESDAY: Special Intention Sarah Joyce
 - THURSDAY: Poor Souls in Purgatory
 - FRIDAY: Dec. Walter Drwiega
 - SATURDAY: Special Intention Thelma Steger

A Thought To Remember ...

We must concentrate our resolve to love Jesus and Mary continuously. This one resolution includes ALL other resolutions. If we observe this one resolution, we will be observing all the other resolutions absolutely and certainly.