THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS

GIVEN BY GOD TO GUIDE US
ON THE WAY TO HEAVEN

OCTOBER 2

HE SHALL GO BEFORE THEE

AND BRING THEE INTO THE PLACE



OUR JOURNEY IS NOT MERELY THROUGH THIS WORLD, BUT TO GOD.

EXODUS 23:20

Behold I will send my angel, who shall go before thee, and keep thee in thy journey, and bring thee into the place that I have prepared.
(Douay-Rheims)

MATTHEW 18:10

See that you despise not one of these little ones: for I say to you, that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.
(Douay-Rheims)

HEBREWS 1:14

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them who shall receive the inheritance of salvation?
(Douay-Rheims)

THE TEACHING OF THE CHURCH

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH §336

From its beginning until 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."
— St. Basil the Great

THEY GUARD US ON THE JOURNEY BECAUSE THE DESTINATION IS ETERNAL LIFE.

Guardian Angels

A Gift for Every Soul

October 2
Feast of the
Holy Guardian Angels

A Personal Guardian

Throughout earthly life, every human being is given by God a guardian angel — a pure, spiritual creature, assigned to guide, protect, and help each of us on the journey to eternal life.

A Real and Living Help

Our guardian angel is always with us: he prays for us, intercedes for us, protects us from spiritual dangers, enlightens our mind, strengthens our will, and helps us grow in virtue.

A Call to Cooperation

We are invited to listen to our guardian angel, be open to his inspirations, and follow his guidance with trust and gratitude.



The Angelic Hierarchy



First Hierarchy
Seraphim
Cherubim
Thrones

Second Hierarchy
Dominions
Virtues
Powers

Third Hierarchy
Principalities
Archangels
Angels

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them, who shall receive the inheritance of salvation?"
Hebrews 1:14 (Douay-Rheims)

What the Church Teaches

The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls angels is a truth of faith. From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession.

Catechism of the Catholic Church
CCC §§328, 336

"Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life."
St. Basil the Great
(Adversus Eunomium III, 1, PG 29, 656B)

St. Thomas Aquinas

Each Person Has a Guardian
Aquinas teaches that an individual angel is appointed to guard each human person.
(Summa Theologiae, I, q. 113, a. 2)

Guardianship Begins at Birth
He teaches that angelic guardianship begins when a person is born.
(Summa Theologiae, I, q. 113, a. 5)

Guardianship Serves Divine Providence
Angelic guardianship forms part of God's providential care for humanity.
(Summa Theologiae, I, q, 113, a. 1)

Our Response

- Pray to your guardian angel daily.
- Be attentive to his inspirations.
- Ask for his help in times of temptation, confusion, or fear.
- Thank him for his constant presence.
- Grow in virtue with his guidance.
- Help others to know and love their guardian angel.



Guardian Angels

Saints, Popes, History and Traditions

October 2
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Saints and Popes on the Guardian Angels



St. John XXIII (1881–1963)

Pope St. John XXIII urged a lively and profound devotion to one's Guardian Angel, reminding the faithful that the angel is always present and should often be remembered in prayer.



Pius XII (1876–1958)

Pope Pius XII taught that guardian angels do not desert us after childhood; they are our "fellow-wayfarers," defending and encouraging us as we grow closer to God through Christ.



St. Padre Pio (1887–1968)

St. Padre Pio had a deep confidence in his guardian angel and advised people to develop a close and trusting relationship with their angel, especially in times of trial.



St. Francis de Sales (1567–1622)

St. Francis de Sales taught that we should be very familiar with our guardian angel, speak to him often, and ask for his help in both the ordinary and difficult moments of life.



St. John Bosco (1815–1888)

St. John Bosco encouraged young people to trust in their guardian angel, to speak to him frequently, and to let him be a true friend and guide in daily life.



St. Josemaría Escrivá (1902–1975)

St. Josemaría had a great devotion to his guardian angel and encouraged everyone to speak to him often, to rely on his help, and to make him a close and constant companion in the journey to holiness.



A Feast with a Rich History



Devotion to the Holy Guardian Angels developed over time in the Church. Pope Paul V authorized the feast for the Roman Calendar in 1608, and Pope Clement X extended it to the universal Church in 1670, assigning the date of October 2.

Its place on October 2 closely follows the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel (September 29).

Portugal's Ancient Devotion



In 1504, King Manuel I formally requested a feast in honor of the Angel of Portugal, recognizing the nation's long-standing devotion to its protecting angel. This devotion predates the 1916 apparitions at Fátima.

In 1916, the Angel of Portugal appeared to the children of Fátima, preparing their hearts for the coming messages of Our Lady.

Naming Angels?



The Church teaches that the practice of assigning names to the Holy Angels should be discouraged, except in the cases of Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.

(Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy, §217)

Help Throughout Our Lives



In Childhood
He watches over us and helps us grow in virtue.

In Youth
He strengthens us in faith and helps us resist temptation.

In Adulthood
He enlightens our mind and supports our work and vocation.

In Old Age
He consoles us, sustains us, and prepares us for our final journey.

At the Hour of Death
He remains with us and leads us to God's mercy.

Angels Are Not Deceased Relatives



Guardian angels are pure spiritual creatures created by God. Human beings do not become angels after death. Our deceased loved ones remain human persons; angels belong to a different order of creation.

Traditions and Customs



Seasonal Flowers
Michaelmas daisies (asters), associated with the September 29 feast, often remain in bloom when the Guardian Angels are celebrated three days later.



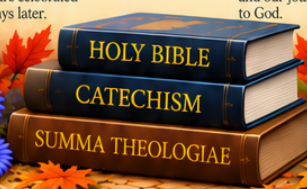
Angel-Food Cake
Some families serve angel-food cake as a simple, modern feast-day treat.



A Time of Transition
Early October, between Michaelmas and the Guardian Angels, reminds us of the spiritual reality beyond this life and our journey home to God.

A Few More FYIs

- The Feast of the Guardian Angels is celebrated on October 2.
- The Catholic tradition teaches personal angelic guardianship throughout our earthly life.
- Guardian angels are real, personal and always with us.
- They inspire, protect, correct and help us grow in holiness.
- We can and should speak to our guardian angel daily.
- They never leave us, even when we are unaware of their help.



Guardian Angels

Prayers for Our Journey

October 2
Feast of the
Holy Guardian Angels



Traditional 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,
to rule and guide.
Amen.

Angele Dei

Angele Dei, qui custos es mei, me tibi commissum pietate superna, illumina, custodi, rege et guberna. Amen.	Angel of God, who art my guardian, me, entrusted to thee by heavenly loving-kindness, enlighten, guard, rule and guide. Amen.

In Paradisum

In paradisum deducant te Angeli; in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Hierusalem. Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.	May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs receive you at your coming and lead you into the holy city Jerusalem. May the chorus of angels receive you, and with Lazarus, who was once a poor man, may you have eternal rest.

From the Church's funeral rites.

Remember to Pray

- Thank God each day for the gift of your guardian angel.
- Ask God for the protection, guidance and assistance of your guardian angel.
- Invoke your guardian angel often throughout the day, especially in times of temptation, difficulty or important decisions.
- Entrust yourself, your loved ones and your intentions to God, asking Him to guard you through the faithful assistance of your angel.
- Pray for others, asking God to protect them through the ministry of their guardian angels—especially children, the sick, the elderly and those in danger.
- Trust in God's providence and the faithful assistance of your guardian angel, even when you are unaware of his help.

"For he hath given his angels charge over thee; to keep thee in all thy ways."

Psalm 90:11
(Douay-Rheims)

FOUR ANGRY DACHSHUNDS

Johnny • Abby • Jimmy • Bella

Sixteen Paws. Four Personalities. One Pack.

Angry by Name, Adorable by Nature. Tiny Legs, Big Attitude. Short on Legs, Long on Sass!



"Around here, ordinary life
has a way of becoming a story.

Sometimes we laugh.
Sometimes we ponder.
Sometimes we cry.

And somewhere along the way,
we discover that
God has been with us all along.

The door's always open.
The light's always on.
There's always room for one more
at the table.

In Christ's peace, welcome!"

— Jimmy & Johnny's Dad

Four Angry Dachshunds

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***Angel of God, my guardian dear,
ever this day be at my side.***



To God be the honor and the glory.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
the Most Chaste Heart of St. Joseph,
and the Joyful Heart of St. John the Baptist
keep you and those you love close to God.

God bless you.

