



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ, who walks with us in the desert of our lives, just as He led the Israelites with a pillar of fire and cloud. On Thursday, October 2, we will celebrate the glorious Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels. We will gather to contemplate the tender mercy of God, who never leaves us orphans. As we celebrate these invisible companions sent by the Father to guide and protect us, let us open our hearts to hear the echo of the

Scriptures: “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father” (Mt 18:10). What a profound mystery! In the midst of our struggles, our falls, and our slow conversion, we are not alone. Each of us has been entrusted to a holy angel, a messenger of divine love, who whispers the Father’s will and shields us from the snares of the evil one.

How often have we felt lost in the wilderness, burdened by our weaknesses, doubting the promise of the Covenant? Yet, like the angels who pitched their tents around the camp of Israel (Ex 14:19), our guardian angels encamp around us, unseen sentinels of grace. They are not distant guardians, lofty and indifferent, but intimate friends, assigned from the moment of our baptism - or even from the womb, as the Church teaches - to accompany every step of our journey toward the Kingdom. Think of Tobias in the Book of Tobit, guided by the archangel Raphael through trials and triumphs, or of the angels who rolled away the stone from the Lord’s tomb, announcing the Resurrection that shatters our fears. These are not fairy tales for children, but living realities for us, the new people of God, called to proclaim with Mary, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior” (Lk 1:46-47).

We can know this truth not as abstract doctrine, but as flesh-and-blood experience. We can begin to sense their presence, if we haven’t yet - the gentle nudge during prayer, the sudden clarity in the midst of temptation, the protection from harm that we could only attribute to heaven’s intercession. Our guardian angels walk with us: patient, persistent, urging us onward when we falter. They remind us that the Church is a family of sinners redeemed by Christ, where no one is discarded, and every soul is cherished. How many times has an angel turned our gaze from despair to hope, from isolation to communion? They teach us to live the Beatitudes, to be poor in spirit so that the Kingdom may break through our fragility.

But this feast calls us to more than gratitude; it invites us to action, to a deeper listening in the silence of our hearts. In a world that mocks the unseen, that chases illusions of self-sufficiency, we are summoned to invoke our angels daily - with a simple “Angel of God, my guardian dear” - and to honor them in our families and parishes. Teach your children to pray to their protectors, just as we teach them songs of praise. Let us build icons of these holy messengers in our homes, not as idols, but as windows to the heavenly host that rejoices over one repentant sinner (Lk 15:7). Let us ask: How has my angel led me closer to the Cross? Where have I ignored his promptings, choosing the broad road instead?

Let the joy of the guardian angels fill our steps. They herald the great assembly in heaven, where we shall see God face to face, guarded no longer by intermediaries but embraced by the Trinity’s love. Until that day, may they fan the flame of our small faith into a blazing fire, drawing us ever deeper into the mystery of the Church. *Fiat voluntas tua* - as it is in heaven, so may it be on earth, with our angels as faithful witnesses.

Peace,