

## **Michaelmas (Dedication of St. Michael the Archangel)**

2024-9-29

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### **Part 1: Epistle & Gospel**

#### LESSON Apoc. 1:1-5

In those days, God gave unto him, to make known to his servants the things which must shortly come to pass: and signified, sending by his angel to his servant John, Who hath given testimony to the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, what things soever he hath seen. Blessed is he that readeth and heareth the words of this prophecy: and keepeth those things which are written in it. For the time is at hand. John to the seven churches which are in Asia. Grace be unto you and peace, from him that is and that was and that is to come: and from the seven spirits which are before his throne: And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the first begotten of the dead and the prince of the kings of the earth, who hath loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

#### GOSPEL Matt. 18:1-10

At that time, the disciples came to Jesus, saying: "Who, thinkest thou, is the greater in the kingdom of heaven?" And Jesus, calling unto him a little child, set him in the midst of them. And said: "Amen I say to you, unless you be converted, and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, he is the greater in the kingdom of heaven. And he that shall receive one such little child in my name, receiveth me. But he that shall scandalize one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of scandals. For it must needs be that scandals come: but nevertheless woe to that man by whom the scandal cometh. And if thy hand, or thy foot, scandalize thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee. It is better for thee to go into life maimed or lame, than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into everlasting fire. And if thy eye scandalize thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee. It is better for thee having one eye to enter into life, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire. 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."

## **Part 2: Announcements**

- After Mass we will pray a consecration prayer to St. Michael<sup>1</sup> and Our Lady of Sorrows (pages 285-286 of the *Blessed Be God* prayer book<sup>2</sup>) [See Below].
- Please be aware of beautiful prayers to St. Michael found in the *Raccolta*.<sup>3</sup>
- The relic from the Cave Chapel of St. Michael will be available for veneration in the hall.
- Mater Dolorosa closed on the building on the feast of St Michael. Mater Dolorosa has taken St. Michael as a patron along with Our Lady of Sorrows.
- Notes of this sermon, as well as a catechism lesson, can be found at [embercatholic.com](http://embercatholic.com)

## **Part 3: Sermon Notes**

### **1. A sequence in honor of St. Michael:**

- 1.1. Written by Adam of St. Victor<sup>4</sup> [Mentioned by Dom Prosper Gueranger]<sup>5</sup>
- 1.2. Let love break forth into praise; let our choir sing in presence of the heavenly citizens: our praise will be pleasing and beautiful, if the purity of our hearts be in accord therewith.
- 1.3. Let all praise Michael; let none deprive himself of this day's joy. O happy day! whereon the solemn victory of the holy angels is recorded.
- 1.4. The old dragon is cast out, and all his hostile legions put to flight: the disturber is himself disturbed, the accuser is hurled down from the height of heaven.
- 1.5. Under Michael's protection there is peace on earth, peace in heaven, praise and exultation; for he, mighty and valorous, stands for the safety of all and triumphs in the battle.
- 1.6. Banished from heaven, the originator of sin wanders through the air: he watches to lay his snares, and insinuates his poison; but the guardian band of angels reduces his power to nought.

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<sup>1</sup><https://angeluspress.org/products/consecration-to-st-michael?srsId=AfmBOopmArTDaESxYz4jWyEg79gFZIO-3ymNTpyH3YN4wUcTdTEMBE6A>

<sup>2</sup><https://angeluspress.org/products/blessed-be-god?srsId=AfmBOoodj7bmZldNo6D9B2gf1fkmIyfindbyBynWOJl7iFh><https://angeluspress.org/products/raccoltaxiVCNObKHqB>

<sup>3</sup> <https://angeluspress.org/products/raccolta>

<sup>4</sup> A'Becket, J.J. (1907). Adam of St. Victor. In *The Catholic Encyclopedia*. New York: Robert Appleton Company. <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/01134b.htm>

<sup>5</sup><https://sensusfidelium.com/the-liturgical-year-dom-prosper-gueranger/september/september-29-dedication-of-st-michael-the-archangel/>

- 1.7. The three distinct hierarchies are ever occupied in contemplation and unending song; nor does their contemplation nor their ceaseless harmony interrupt their continual ministry.
- 1.8. Oh! in the heavenly city how wondrous is the charity of the three tripled choirs; they love us and defend us, and hope to see their ranks filled up by thee.
- 1.9. As among men there are divers graces upon earth, so in the heavenly reward the just will receive divers degrees of glory; other is the excellence of the sun, other that of the moon, and various the brightness of the stars; so shall be the resurrection.
- 1.10. Let the old man be brought into conformity with the new, the earthly to the purity of the heavenly citizens; he is one day to be equal to them, and though not yet wholly pure, let him in hope look forward to the prize.
- 1.11. That we may be assisted by these blessed spirits, let us devoutly venerate them and be untiring in our homage; sincere devotion reconciles to God and unites us with the angels.
- 1.12. Meanwhile let us be silent as to the secrets of heaven, and lift up pure minds and spotless hands on high:
- 1.13. Thus may the most high senate recognize us as coheirs: and may the divine grace be praised alike by angels and men.
- 1.14. To our divine Head be glory and among his members union. Amen.

## 2. **Who is St. Michael the Archangel?**<sup>6</sup>

- 2.1. [Prince of the Army of God]<sup>7</sup>
- 2.2. Name: Hebrew "Who is like God?"
  - 2.2.1. War-cry of the good angels in the battle fought in heaven against the enemy and his followers.
  - 2.2.2. In art, St. Michael is represented as an angelic warrior,
    - 2.2.2.1. Fully armed with helmet, sword, and shield (often the shield bears the Latin inscription: *Quis ut Deus*),
    - 2.2.2.2. Standing over the dragon, whom he sometimes pierces with a lance.

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<sup>6</sup> Holweck, F. (1911). St. Michael the Archangel. In *The Catholic Encyclopedia*. New York: Robert Appleton Company. <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/10275b.htm>

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H\\_xl-2iSC64](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_xl-2iSC64)

- 2.2.2.3. He also holds a pair of scales in which he weighs the souls of the departed, or the book of life, to show that he takes part in the judgment.
- 2.2.2.4. His feast (29 September) in the Middle Ages was celebrated as a holy day of obligation.

### 3. **St. Michael in Scripture**

- 3.1. Four times his name is explicitly mentioned in Scripture:
  - 3.1.1. Twice in the book of Daniel
  - 3.1.2. Once in the Epistle of St. Jude
  - 3.1.3. Once in the Apocalypse
- 3.2. Also, St. Michael appears in scripture many times, but his name is not explicitly mentioned.
  - 3.2.1. Some Church Fathers believe St. Michael is
    - 3.2.1.1. The cherub who stood at the gate of paradise, "to keep the way of the tree of life" (Genesis 3:24),
    - 3.2.1.2. The angel through whom God published the Decalogue to his chosen people,
    - 3.2.1.3. The angel who stood in the way against Balaam (Numbers 22:22 sqq.),
    - 3.2.1.4. The angel who routed the army of Sennacherib (2 Kings 19:35).
    - 3.2.1.5. [The Angel that appeared to Joshua (Joshua 5:13-15)<sup>8</sup>]

And when Josue was in the field of the city of Jericho, he lifted up his eyes, and saw a man standing over against him: holding a drawn sword, and he went to him, and said: Art thou one of ours, or of our adversaries? And he answered: No: but I am prince of the host of the Lord, and now I am come. Josue fell on his face to the ground. And worshipping, said: What saith my lord to his servant? Loose, saith he, thy shoes from off thy feet: for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Josue did as was commanded him.

### 4. **Christian tradition gives to St. Michael four offices:**

- 4.1.1. To fight against Satan.
- 4.1.2. To rescue the souls of the faithful from the power of the enemy, especially at the hour of death.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.catholic.com/qa/the-angel-of-joshua-513-15>

- 4.1.3. To be the champion of God's people (the Jews in the Old Law, the Christians in the New Testament)
- 4.1.4. To call away from earth and bring men's souls to judgment

## 5. Venerated by early Christians

- 5.1.1. Multiple medical bodies of water where healings take place under St. Michael's Intercession<sup>9</sup>
- 5.1.2. Healing at what is now called the "Castel di San Angelo. St. Michael appeared over the Moles Hadriani ( where Castel di S. Angelo stands today), in 950, during the procession which St. Gregory held against the pestilence, putting an end to the plague.
- 5.1.3. Christians of Egypt dedicated the Nile River to St. Michael.<sup>10</sup>
- 5.1.4. Earliest Missals have feasts in honor of St. Michael.
- 5.1.5. Renowned sanctuary on Monte Gargano.
- 5.1.6. [First appearance of a Saint to St Joan of Arc]
- 5.1.7. [Mount Sainte Michel Island Sanctuary in France]
- 5.1.8. [Oldest Church in Continental USA still in use: San Miguel Chapel]<sup>11</sup>
  - 5.1.8.1. Sante Fe, New Mexico [built in 1610, rebuilt in 1710]<sup>12</sup>
  - 5.1.8.2. 21 Franciscans were martyred here in an Indian Raid
  - 5.1.8.3. Church attacked using flaming arrows
  - 5.1.8.4. Icon of Church in USA

## 6. Prepared Holy Ones of God for Battle and Victory through Purification<sup>13</sup>

- 6.1.1.1. Brought them maturity,

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<sup>9</sup> Tradition relates that St. Michael in the earliest ages caused a medicinal spring to spout at Chairitopa near Colossae, where all the sick who bathed there, invoking the Blessed Trinity and St. Michael, were cured. Still more famous are the springs which St. Michael is said to have drawn from the rock at Colossae (Chonae, the present Khonas, on the Lycus). The pagans directed a stream against the sanctuary of St. Michael to destroy it, but the archangel split the rock by lightning to give a new bed to the stream, and sanctified forever the waters which came from the gorge. The Greeks claim that this apparition took place about the middle of the first century and celebrate a feast in commemoration of it on 6 September (Analecta Bolland., VIII, 285-328). Also at Pythia in Bithynia and elsewhere in Asia the hot springs were dedicated to St. Michael.

<sup>10</sup> The Christians of Egypt placed their life-giving river, the Nile, under the protection of St. Michael; they adopted the Greek feast and kept it 12 November; on the twelfth of every month they celebrate a special commemoration of the archangel, but 12 June, when the river commences to rise, they keep as a holiday of obligation the feast of St. Michael "for the rising of the Nile", euche eis ten symmetron anabasin ton potamion hydaton.

<sup>11</sup> <https://sanmiguelchapel.org/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qv20LFI6Ydc&t=188s>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qv20LFI6Ydc&t=188s>;  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H\\_xl-2iSC64](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_xl-2iSC64)

- 6.1.1.1.1. Taught them to pray,
- 6.1.1.1.2. Increased reverence, humility, piety
- 6.1.1.1.3. Filled with awe
- 6.1.1.1.4. Encouraged reparation
- 6.1.1.1.5. Made them reverent soldiers
- 6.1.1.2. Isaiah
- 6.1.1.3. Joshua [city of Jericho; took off shoes]
- 6.1.1.4. Daniel [Sought to understand the plight of God's people who were under oppression and exile. After penance, was aided by St. Gabriel and St. Michael. Was so purged unable to move for a while]
- 6.1.1.5. St. Joan of Arc [described St. Margaret and Saint Catherine as sweet and comforting, described St. Michael as brilliant, bold, and stern. Taught her reverence and right behavior]
- 6.1.1.6. St. John the Evangelist
- 6.1.1.7. Pope Leo XIII
- 6.1.1.8. Children at Fatima
  - 6.1.1.8.1. Three youths of Fatima remind us of three youths in the book of Daniel: Hanniah, Azariah, Mishael
  - 6.1.1.8.2. Offered Themselves in Sacrifice
  - 6.1.1.8.3. Fundamental Text The Offertory<sup>14</sup>

*In spiritu humilitatis, et in animo contrito suscipiamur a Te, Domine: et sic fiat sacrificium nostrum in conspectu Tuo hodie, ut placeat Tibi, Domine Deus. - In a spirit of humility, and in contrite heart, may we be received by Thee, o Lord; and so may our sacrifice take place in Thy sight this day, that it may please Thee, o Lord. [Based on Daniel 3:39-40]*<sup>15</sup>

- 6.1.1.8.4. An Angel was sent to keep them from being burned
- 6.1.1.9. Three youths of Fatima were also spared from being burned.  
They were also sent an Angel.

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.newliturgicalmovement.org/2014/07/the-theology-of-offertory-part-71.html>

<sup>15</sup> "sed in animo contrito, et spiritu humilitatis suscipiamur. 40 Sicut in holocausto arietum, et taurorum, et sicut in millibus agnorum pinguum, sic fiat sacrificium nostrum in conspectu tuo hodie, ut placeat tibi, quoniam non est confusio confidentibus in te. That we may find thy mercy: nevertheless in a contrite heart and humble spirit let us be accepted. 40 As in holocausts of rams, and bullocks, and as in thousands of fat lambs: so let our sacrifice be made in thy sight this day, that it may please thee: for there is no confusion to them that trust in thee"

6.1.1.10. The three encounters with an “Angel of Peace”/“Angel of Portugal”

6.1.1.10.1. It seems that this was St. Michael

6.1.1.10.1.1. The First King of Portugal (d. 1185) dedicated the chapel of royal palace to St. Michael.

6.1.1.10.1.2. In 1514 Pope Leo 10th, gave special feast in honor of St. Michael to Kingdom of Portugal calling St. Michael “The Guardian Angel of Portugal”

6.1.1.11. Taught them ““My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee. Amen.”

6.1.1.11.1. Taught them Reverence. Gave them Holy Communion

6.1.1.11.2. See homework today to learn more about the the appearances of St. Michael

## 7. **Fatima is, in many ways, the lynchpin.**

7.1. St. Michael appeared to prepare the three youth

7.2. Our Lady appeared on October 13, 1917 as Our Lady of Mt. Carmel & Our Lady of Sorrows<sup>16</sup>

## 8. **Practical Exhortation**

8.1. Remember the beginning and the end

8.1.1. Basic Elements: Earth, Water, Fire → Get Back To Basics of Reality

8.1.2. Spiritual War→ Counter-Revolution

8.2. Humility

8.2.1. “Who is like God?”

8.3. Reverence

8.3.1. “Take off your sandals.”

8.4. Prayer & Reparation

8.4.1. ““My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee. Amen.”

8.5. Devotion to St. Michael

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<sup>16</sup><https://www.ncregister.com/blog/our-lady-s-seven-sorrows-seven-promises-and-fatima-s-connection#:~:text=Yet%20on%20Oct.,Carmel.>

- 8.6. Childlike Heart
- 8.7. Confidence in his intercession

#### **Part Four: Prayers after Mass**

##### **Prayers in Honor of the Seven Sorrows of Mary**

V. Incline unto my aid, O God.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me. Glory be to the Father , etc.

1 . O most sorrowful Mary, I compassionate thee, in the grief thy tender heart underwent when the holy old man Simeon prophesied to thee. Dear Mother, through that afflicted heart obtain for me the virtue of humility and the gift of the holy fear of God. Hail Mary , etc.

2 . O most sorrowful Mary, I compassionate those afflictions which thy most sensitive heart endured during the flight into Egypt and the dwelling there. O beloved Mother, by that afflicted heart obtain for me the virtue of liberality, specially toward the poor, and the gift of piety. Hail Mary, etc.

3 . O most sorrowful Mary, I compassionate that intense distress which thine anxious heart experienced in the loss of thy dearest Jesus. O beloved Mother, by that deeply troubled heart, obtain for me the virtue of chastity and the gift of knowledge. Hail Mary , etc.

4 . O most sorrowful Mary, I compassionate that consternation which thy maternal heart experienced when thou didst meet Jesus bearing His cross. O beloved Mother, by that deep distress of thy tender heart, obtain for me the virtue of patience and the gift of fortitude. Hail Mary, etc.

5 . O most sorrowful Mary, I compassionate that martyrdom which thy generous heart endured in witnessing the last agony of Jesus. O beloved Mother, by that martyred heart obtain for me the virtue of temperance and the gift counsel. Hail Mary, etc .

6 . O most sorrowful Mary, I compassionate that wound which thy mournful heart endured from the lance which tore the side of Jesus and wounded His most lovely Heart. O beloved Mother, by thy heart then pierced through, obtain for me the virtue of fraternal charity and the gift of understanding. Hail Mary, etc.

7 . O most sorrowful Mary, I compassionate thee, for the anguish felt by thy loving heart when Jesus' body was laid in the sepulchre. Dear Mother, by all the bitterness of desolation thou didst then know, obtain for me the virtue of diligence and the gift of wisdom. Hail Mary, etc.



V . Pray for us, most sorrowful Mother.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us Pray

GRANT, we beseech Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Thy Mother, may intercede for us before the throne of Thy mercy, now, and at the hour of our death; through whose most holy soul in the hour of Thine own Passion the sword of sorrow passed. Through Thee, Jesus Christ, Saviour of the world, Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost forever and ever. Amen.

#### Consecration Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

SAINT MICHAEL the Archangel, most Noble Prince of the Angelic Hierarchies, valorous warrior of Almighty God, and zealous lover of His Glory, terror of the rebellious angels, and love and delight of all the just, my beloved Archangel Saint Michael, desiring to be numbered among thy devoted servants, I, today offer and consecrate myself to thee, and place myself, my family and all I possess under thy most powerful protection.

I entreat thee not to look at how little, I, as thy servant have to offer, being only a wretched sinner, but rather to gaze, with favourable eye at the heartfelt affection with which this offering is made. Remember that, if from this day onward, I am under thy patronage, thou must assist me during all my life and procure for me the pardon of my many grievous offences and sins, and the grace to love my God, my dear Saviour Jesus and my Sweet Mother Mary with all my heart. Obtain for me all the help necessary to arrive to my crown of glory.

Defend me always from my spiritual enemies, particularly in the last moments of my life. Come then, O Glorious Prince. Succour me in my last struggle. With thy powerful weapon cast far from me and into the infernal abysses that prevaricator and proud angel that thou prostrated in the celestial battle.

Saint Michael, defend us in our daily battles so that we may not perish in the Last Judgment.

Amen.

#### **Part Five: Weekly Home Catechism Lesson**

Here you will read about the 1916 apparition of the Angel of Peace [whom some say is St. Michael the Archangel] to the three children of Fatima<sup>17</sup> followed by the five prayers taught to the three children:

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<sup>17</sup> <https://fatima.org/circumstances-and-dialogue-of-the-1916-apparitions/>

In the spring of 1916, three young Portuguese shepherds, Lucy dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto, led their sheep to graze on a hill called the Cabeço. Rain began to fall, so the children found a place on the hillside to serve as a shelter. Even after the rain had passed and the sun had returned, the little shepherds spent the day at this spot, eating lunch, saying the Rosary and playing games. Lucy was then only nine years old, Francisco was eight, and Jacinta was six.

As they were playing, a strong wind suddenly blew, shaking the trees, and the children saw a figure approaching above the olive trees. Lucy described the figure as having “the appearance of a young man of fourteen or fifteen, whiter than snow, which the sun rendered transparent as if it were of crystal, and of great beauty. We were surprised and half absorbed. We did not say a word.

“While coming closer to us, the Angel said: ‘Do not fear! I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me.’ And kneeling on the earth, he bent his forehead to the ground. Prompted by a supernatural movement, we imitated him and repeated the words which we heard him pronounce: ‘My God, I believe in Thee, I adore Thee, I hope in Thee and I love Thee. I ask pardon for all those who do not believe in Thee, do not adore Thee, do not hope in Thee and do not love Thee.’

“Having repeated that prayer three times, he got up again and said to us: ‘Pray in this way. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to the voice of your supplications.’ And he disappeared.”

Lucy recalled, “The supernatural atmosphere which enveloped us was so intense that, during a long moment, we barely realized the fact of our own existence. We remained in the position in which the Angel had left us, always repeating the same prayer. The presence of God made itself felt in such an intense and intimate manner, that we did not dare even to speak any longer among ourselves. The next day, we still felt our spirit enveloped in this atmosphere which only disappeared very slowly.”

The Angel of Peace had come to speak to the children, to infuse them with this extraordinary grace through which they were penetrated with the Divine Presence, and to demonstrate to them the attitude, posture and fervor with which to pray to God. Interestingly, during the apparition Francisco could not hear the words of the Angel, and had to be told what was said

afterward; this would be the case for all of the other apparitions as well. After some time the three little shepherds recovered their physical strength and playfulness.

The second apparition of the Angel took place during the summer of 1916. While the children were playing around their favorite well, the Angel suddenly appeared. "What are you doing?" he asked. "Pray, pray a great deal! The Holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary have designs of mercy on you. Offer unceasingly prayers and sacrifice yourselves to the Most High."

Lucy asked the Angel how they were to make sacrifices.

The Angel replied, "Make of everything you can a sacrifice and offer it to God as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and in supplication for the conversion of sinners. In this way, you will draw peace upon your country. I am its Guardian Angel, the Angel of Portugal. Above all, accept and bear with submission the sufferings which the Lord will send you."

Lucy comments, "Those words of the Angel engraved themselves in our spirit, as a light which made us understand Who God is, how much He loves us and wants to be loved by us, the value of sacrifice and how pleasing it is to Him, and that out of respect for it, God converts sinners." The dominant theme in this second apparition of the Angel was the importance of making offerings to God through every possible action and sacrifice, even the smallest, and of making the offerings with special intentions, especially for the conversion of sinners.

In the autumn of the same year, the children took their sheep to the same place where the first apparition took place. There in the blessed place of the Cabeço, they were reciting the prayer the Angel had taught them when above them an unknown light appeared. Lucy relates, "We got up again to see what was happening, and we saw the Angel again, who had in his left hand a Chalice over which was suspended a Host, from which some drops of Blood fell into the Chalice."

Leaving the Chalice and the Host suspended in the air, he prostrated himself down to the earth near the children and repeated three times this prayer:

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, I adore Thee profoundly, and I offer Thee the Most Precious Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of the same Son Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for all the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference by which He Himself is offended. And by the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of Thee the conversion of poor sinners.

Then, getting up, the Angel took the Chalice and Host. He gave Lucy the Sacred Host on the tongue. Then while giving the Precious Blood from the Chalice to Francisco and Jacinta, he said:

“Eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, horribly outraged by ungrateful men. Make reparation for their crimes and console your God.” Then, prostrating himself on the ground he repeated with the children three times the same prayer: Most Holy Trinity, etc., and disappeared.

This final apparition of the Angel was clearly the summit of the three, as the children were graced to see the Precious Blood of Our Lord fall from the Sacred Host into the Chalice, and then receive Holy Communion from the hands of the Angel.

Again, the need for converting poor sinners was a theme in this final apparition of the Angel. The prayer repeated by the Angel demonstrates that through our prayers, united with the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, sinners can be converted. Our prayers and sacrifices alone amount to very little; but when they are united to the merits of the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts, they become infinitely valuable. Also emphasized was the need for reparation for the sins committed against God, by which He is constantly hurt and seeking consolation. In addition, the way the children received Holy Communion is particularly instructive for our time: they received Communion in the kneeling position, and the Sacred Host was given on the tongue.

The appearance of the Angel of Peace to three little Portuguese shepherds was a preparation for the signal grace that was about to be bestowed upon them: the appearance of the Queen of Heaven, the Blessed Virgin Mary. The apparitions of the Angel prepared them for seeing the Mother of God, through the transforming Divine graces the Angel showered on them, and his instructions about prayer, sacrifice and offerings. Through his apparitions to Lucy, Francisco

and Jacinta, the Angel of Peace came to ready them for the decisive roles they were each to play in the most important event of the Twentieth Century, the appearance of Our Lady at Fatima.

Yet the Angel of Peace's instructions were not meant for the children alone. They apply to each of us, and just as they prepared the children for the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin, they can also serve as a preparation for our reception of Our Lady's Fatima Message.

### The 5 Prayers given to Children at Fatima:<sup>18</sup>

#### The Five Prayers Given to the Children at Fátima

Over many years, the children at Fátima received five prayers from the Angel of Peace and Our Lady. As Our Lady of Fátima has become very well-known in the last several decades, people worldwide turn to these short prayers to draw near to God.

#### (1) Fátima Prayer/Decade Prayer/Oh My Jesus Prayer

Also called the "Oh My Jesus" prayer and the "Decade Prayer," the Fátima prayer is said after the Glory Be for each decade of the Rosary. Mary gave it to the three children at Fátima on her second apparition.

"O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen."

#### (2) Pardon Prayer

The Angel of Peace gave the Pardon Prayer to the children at Fátima on his first visit.

"My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee. Amen."

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<sup>18</sup> <https://hallow.com/blog/our-lady-of-fatima/>

### (3) Angel's Prayer

The Angel of Peace gave the Angel's Prayer to the children at Fátima with the Body and Blood of Christ on his third visit.

“O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners.”

### (4) Eucharistic Prayer

The three children received this prayer in their hearts at the first apparition “after a bright line shone all around them.”

“Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament.”

### (5) Sacrifice Prayer

Mary gave this prayer to the children on July 13 at the third apparition.

“O Jesus, it is for the love of Thee, in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners.”