

SEPTEMBER 29, DEDICATION OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

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This is the original feast of the leader of the heavenly armies, St. Michael. The captain of the heavenly armies, the angel named in the Canon of the Mass, held, from early times, the first place in the Liturgy among the other angels. Wherefore, many churches dedicated to St. Michael in the Middle Ages were simply known as churches "of the holy angel." St. Michael, whose name signifies "who is like unto God" cast the evil spirit out of heaven, and overcame Satan in the struggle for possession of the body of Moses. God has entrusted our defense, in the combat with the devil, to the angels. The reason for this is easily understood. The devil is a spirit who has lost none of the powers inherent to his nature. In order, therefore, that the struggle should not be unequal, God has placed at our side defenders of the same nature as Lucifer, that is to say pure spirits, who are, however, greater and more powerful than he is.

INTROIT Psalms 102: 20

Benedícite Dóminum, omnes Angeli ejus: poténtes virtúte, qui fácitis verbum ejus, ad audiéndam vocem sermónem ejus. (Ps.102: 1) Bénedic, ánima mea, Dómino: et ómnia, quæ intra me sunt, nómini sancto ejus. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Benedícite Dóminum, omnes Angeli ejus: poténtes virtúte, qui fácitis verbum ejus, ad audiéndam vocem sermónem ejus.

COLLECT

Deus qui miro órdine, Angelórum ministéria hominúmque dispénsas: concéde propítius; ut, a quibus tibi ministrántibus in cælo semper assistitur, ab his in terra vita nostra muniatur. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(If this feast falls on a Sunday, the Sunday is commemorated.)

EPISTLE Apocalypse 1: 1-5

In diébus iliis: Significávit Deus quæ opórtet fieri cito, mittens per Angelum suum servo suo Joánni, qui testimónium perhíbuit verbo Dei, et testimónium Jesu Christi, quæcúmque vidit. Beátus qui legit, et audit verba prophetiæ hujus: et servat ea, quæ in ea scripta sunt: tempus enim prope est. Joánnes septem ecclésiis, quæ sunt in Asia. Grátia vobis, et pax ab eo, qui est, et qui erat, et qui ventúrus est: et a septem spíritibus, qui in conspéctu throni ejus sunt: et a Jesu Christo, qui est testis fidélis, primogénitus mortuórum, et princeps regum terra', qui diléxit nos, et lavit nos a peccátis nostris in sanguine suo.

GRADUAL Psalms 102: 20, 1

Benedícite Dóminum, omnes Angeli ejus: poténtes virtúte, qui fácitis verbum ejus. Bénedic, ánima mea, Dóminum, et ómnia interióra mea nomen sanctum ejus.

LESSER ALLELUIA

Allelúja, allelúja. Sancte Michæel Archángele, defénde nos in prælio: ut non pereámus in treméndo judício. Allelúja.

GOSPEL Matthew 18: 1-10

In illo témpore: Accessérunt discípuli ad Jesum, dicéntes: Quis, putas, major est in regno cælórum? Et ádvocans Jesus párvulum, státuit eum in médio eórum, et dixit: Amen, dico vobis, nisi convérsi fuéritis, et efficiámini sicut párvuli, non intrábitis in regnum cælórum. Quicúmque ergo humiliáverit se sicut párvulus iste, hic est major in regno cælórum. Et qui suscéperit unum párvulum talem in nómine meo, me súscipit. Qui autem scandalizáverit unum de pusíllis istis, qui in me credunt, expedit ei, ut suspendátur mola asinária in collo ejus, et demergátur in profúndum maris. Væ mundo a scándalis. Necesse est enim ut véniant scándala: verúmtamen væ hómini illi, per quem scándalum venit. Si autem manus tua, vel pes tuus scandalizat te, abscide eum, et prójice abs te: bonum tibi est ad vitam ingredi débilem, vel claudum, quam duas manus, vel duos pedes habéntem mitti in ignem ætérnum. Et si óculus tuus scandalizat te, érue eum, et prójice abs te: bonum tibi est cum uno óculo in vitam intráre, quam duos óculos habéntem mitti in gehénnam ignis. Vidéte ne contemnátis unum ex his pusíllis: dico enim vobis, quia Angeli eórum in cælis semper vident faciém Patris mei, qui in cælis est.

OFFERTORY Apocalypse 8: 3-4

Stetit Angelus juxta aram templi, habens thuríbulum áureum in manu sua, et data sunt ei incénsa multa: et ascéndit fumus arómatum in conspéctu Dei, allelúja.

SECRET

Hóstias tibi, Dómine, laudis offérimus, suppliciter deprecántes: ut eásdem, angélico pro nobis interveniénte suffrágio, et placátus accípias, et ad salútem nostram provenire concédas. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(If this feast falls on a Sunday, the Sunday is commemorated.)

COMMUNION Daniel 3: 58

Benedícite, omnes Angeli Dómini, Dóminum: hymnum dícite, et superexaltáte eum in sæcula, allelúja.

POSTCOMMUNION

Beáti Archángeli tui Michaélis intercessióne suffúlti: súpplices te, Dómine, deprecámur; ut, quod ore poscimus, nostrám mentem. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

(If this feast falls on a Sunday, the Sunday is commemorated.)

Bless the Lord, all ye His angels: you that are mighty in strength, and execute His word, harkening to the voice of His orders. (Ps. 102: 1) Bless the Lord, O my soul: and let all that is within me bless His holy name. 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. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels: you that are mighty in strength, and execute His word, harkening to the voice of His orders.

O God, Who dost in wonderful order dispose the ministries of angels and men, mercifully grant that our lives be fortified by those who continually stand in Thy presence and minister before Thee in heaven. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(If this feast falls on a Sunday, the Sunday is commemorated.)

In those days: God signified the things which must shortly come to pass, 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.

Bless the Lord all ye His angels: you that are mighty in strength, that do His will. O my soul, bless thou the Lord: and all that is within me praise His holy name.

Alleluia, alleluia. Holy archangel Michael, defend us in battle, that we perish not in the dreadful judgment. Alleluia.

(If this feast falls on a Sunday, the Sunday is commemorated.)

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.

An angel stood near the altar of the temple, having a golden censer in his hand: and there was given to him much incense: and the smoke of the perfumes ascended before God, alleluia.

We offer Thee sacrifices of praise, O Lord, humbly praying that Thou be pleased to receive them, through the angelic intercession in our behalf, and grant that they may avail for, our salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

(If this feast falls on a Sunday, the Sunday is commemorated.)

All ye angels of the Lord, bless the Lord: sing a hymn, and exalt Him above all forever, alleluia.

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Relying upon the intercession of blessed Michael, Thine archangel, O Lord, we Thy suppliants pray that what we perform with our lips may attain with our hearts. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.