



CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE LENDING LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER 2022 - NEWSLETTER

Our Mission

To provide Christian resources that will spark spiritual growth and development for every St. Luke parishioner.



Our Community Library Policies

Our Lending Library works on the honor system. Choose a book that you are interested in reading, log it out on the sign-out sheet and once read, return the book in the BOOK RETURN basket.

- Books can be signed out for up to a month, but we ask that you return them once read (extended time frame allowed for Lent and Advent book selections).
- Because we are a small library with a limited number of books, we ask that you only take one book out at a time.
- Each book contains a Lending Library bookmark. There is a space at the top of the bookmark where you can write the date that the book should be returned by.
- Please do not underline, highlight or write in the books.

We honor you by providing the best of Catholic reading. Please honor us by returning the books promptly so that they can be shared among all parishioners.

September Featured Books

Saint Michael the Archangel

by James F. Day

In *Saint Michael the Archangel* you'll discover the fascinating "biography" of the angel whose mission from God is to do battle against Satan and all the evil spirits. Weaving together Scripture, history, papal documents, and popular devotion, author James Day fills in the gaps of our knowledge about Saint Michael, revealing the impact the mighty defender has on individuals, the Church, and the world.

Saint Michael the Archangel also highlights the main shrines dedicated to Saint Michael, and includes the text of prayers, hymns, and poems written to honor him.

In His Sandals - A Journey with Jesus

by Mother Angelica

Sometimes it is difficult to understand God's will for our lives, especially when times are tough or when something happens that disturbs us. Mother Angelica counsels us in these pages to stop simply existing and start living. "You are called to be holy!"

Beloved by many, the practical wisdom of Mother Angelica radiates from this book as she guides you through Scripture and the writings of St. John, St. James and St. Paul. Replete with stirring real-life examples, Mother Angelica both comforts and challenges readers on the path toward holiness.

FREE Online Book Study for *In His Sandals*

In companion with the book, join Fr. Joseph Mary Wolfe for this 6-part online book study, a beautiful journey with Jesus, and discover how to surrender yourself to His immeasurable love and mercy.

Get free access to the online book study at: <https://www.ewtn.com/giving/campaign/in-his-sandals-24010>

Devotion of the Month

The 7 Sorrows of Mary

The feast of Our Lady of Sorrows dates back to the twelfth century. Since that time, Catholics have recognized 7 events in the life of Mary that caused her great sorrow. That is why the image of Mary as Our Lady of Sorrows often shows her with seven swords piercing her Immaculate Heart. She's also sometimes represented by a winged heart pierced with seven swords. The swords represent her grievous sorrows.

The Pope's Intention for September

Abolition of the Death Penalty

We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

September Dates to Remember

- 09/03/22: St. Gregory the Great-Patron of Sacred Music
- 09/08/22: Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 09/13/22: St. John Chrysostom-Patron of Epilepsy, Orators
- 09/14/22: Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
- 09/15/22: Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows**
- 08/17/22: St. Robert Bellarmine-Patron of Catechists
- 09/21/22: St. Matthew, Apostle-Patron of Bankers
- 09/23/22: St. Padre Pio-Patron of Teens, Stress Relief
- 09/26/22: St. Lorenzo Ruiz-Patron of the Philippines
- 09/26/22: Sts. Cosmas & Damian-Patron of Doctors
- 09/27/22: St. Vincent de Paul-Patron of Hospital Workers
- 09/29/22: Sts. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael-Archangels
- 09/30/22: St. Jerome-Patron of Librarians, Archaeologists

The Nine Choir of Angels



The Three Archangels and Tobias
by Botticini, Francesco (c.1446-97)

The word angel means “one who is sent”, or “messenger” and both the Old and New Testament of the Bible include multiple encounters that people have had with angels throughout history. Angels and humans are created beings; however Angels are purely spiritual beings, they are immortal and have been given intellect and free will. Humans have both a spirit (soul) that is immortal, a physical body for use on this earth and have also been given free will. For most humans, angels remain invisible, though many Saints have spoken of their interactions with their Guardian Angels.

St. Thomas Aquinas, a 13th century Dominican Friar, wrote about Angels extensively in his work, *Summa Theologica*. He discussed the various attributes, missions and the hierarchy of Angels. It is a Church tradition that there are three hierarchies of Angels and each hierarchy contains three orders, or “choirs” of Angels. St. Thomas believes that the Angels of the higher choirs enlighten those of the lower choirs, so that there is true communication among the angels. The Angels in this way can cooperate with one another to fulfill the mission that God gives them.

The first hierarchy of Angels adore God directly.

- 1) The **Seraphim**, are the first choir, they are called “the burning ones” who stand before the throne of God.
- 2) The **Cherubim**, “fullness of wisdom”, are the second choir and have an intimate knowledge of God, continually praising Him.
- 3) The **Thrones**, are the third choir and they contemplate God’s power and judgement.

The second hierarchy of Angels are charged with great and universal stewardships.

- 4) The fourth choir, the **Dominions** (or **Dominations**) deliver justice, show mercy, and help Angels in lower ranks stay organized.
- 5) The **Powers** are the fifth choir who are the warrior Angels, defending the cosmos and humans from evil spirits.
- 6) The **Virtues**, are the sixth choir, the shining ones, that govern nature.

The third hierarchy of Angels is concerned with God’s plan for salvation for all mankind.

- 7) The **Principalities** (or **Princes**) are the seventh choir and they are the guardians of nations or peoples.
- 8) The **Archangels** are the eighth choir and are associated with protection of nations, dioceses, religious communities, and the mission of the Church. There are seven Archangels but only the names of three have been revealed in the Bible. September 29th is the Feast day of the Three Archangels; Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael.
- 9) The ninth choir is the **Angels**, this choir are the Guardian Angels. These Angels are sent on missions by God that involve interaction with humans for their well-being, guarding, and protecting. October 2nd is the Feast day of the Guardian Angels.

Another way to honor the Angels and glorify God is through the recitation of the St. Michael Chaplet, also known as the “Rosary of the Angels”. Around 1750, a Carmelite nun, Servant of God Antonia d’Astonac had a vision of St. Michael where he requested that the nine choirs of Angels be honored and thereby glorifying God. St. Michael promised that whoever would practice this devotion would have, when approaching Holy Communion, an escort of nine Angels chosen from each of the nine choirs.

Many saints interacted with their Guardian Angels while on earth. St. Padre Pio interacted with his Guardian Angel from the age of five. He also saw Guardian Angels of others who were sent to him by these individuals to request prayers.

If you would like to learn more about Angels, see the [Lending Library](#) for these popular titles: *Devotion to the Nine Choirs of Angels* by Henri Marie Boudon, *His Angels at Our Side* by Fr. John Horgan and *St. Michael the Archangel* by James F. Day.

Our Lady of Sorrows

The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, given to our Blessed Mother focuses on her intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not limited to the passion and death event; rather, it comprised the seven dolours or seven sorrows of Mary.

These seven sorrows of our Blessed Mother included:

1. The prophecy of Simeon, who proclaimed to Mary, “This child [Jesus] is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare”. (Luke 2:34-35)
2. The Flight of the Holy Family into Egypt
3. Search for the Child Jesus in Jerusalem
4. Mary Meets Jesus on His way to Calvary
5. Standing at the Foot of the Cross
6. The Crucifixion and Descent from the Cross
7. Assisting at the Burial of Christ



Mary is sometimes depicted with her heart exposed and with seven swords piercing it. More importantly, each new suffering was received with the courage, love, and trust that echoed her fiat, let it be done unto me according to Thy word, first uttered at the Annunciation.

“Develop the beautiful habit of always thinking of him; that near us is a celestial spirit, who, from the cradle to the tomb, does not leave us for an instant, guides us, protects us as a friend, a brother; will always be a consolation to us especially in our saddest moments.”

-- St. Padre Pio on Guardian Angels --

Did you know...

Why do we call our worship “the Mass”?

The word *Mass* is really an accident of history. In the early days of Christianity, only the baptized were allowed to witness the Eucharist. After the Liturgy of the Word--the first part of our Mass, in which we hear the Scripture readings and the homily--the unbaptized were sent home with the words “*Ite, missa est*” -- roughly, “Go; you are dismissed.”

Christians knew that important division in the service as the *missa*, the dismissal. Soon they began to use the word *missa* for the whole service of the Eucharist that followed the dismissal and then for the entire worship. Our English word *Mass* comes from that Latin word *missa*.

The words *Ite, missa est* are still used to conclude the Mass when it is celebrated in Latin.

Taken from *Understanding the Mass-100 Questions • 100 Answers* by Mike Aquilina.