

Devotion to  
**St Michael the Archangel**  
and the  
**Holy Angels**



**St Michael's Catholic Church, Hurstville**  
Congregation of St Michael the Archangel

## Opening Hymn

Holy God we praise Thy name; Lord of all we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy sceptre claim, all in heaven above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain, everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark the loud celestial hymn, angel choirs above are raising;  
Cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising.  
Fill the heavens with sweet accord: "Holy, Holy, holy Lord!"

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, (+) and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** You, O Lord, will open my lips.

**All:** And my tongue shall announce Your praise.

**Leader:** Incline unto my aid, O God.

**All:** O Lord, make haste to help me.

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**All:** As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

**All:** O most glorious Prince of the Heavenly Armies, St Michael the Archangel, defend us in our battle against the principalities and ruling forces who are masters of the darkness in this world, the spirits of evil in the heavens. Come to the assistance of men whom God has created in His likeness and whom He has redeemed at great price from the tyranny of the devil. The Holy Church venerates you as her guardian and protector; to you the Lord has entrusted the souls of the redeemed to be led into heaven. Pray therefore, the God of peace to crush Satan beneath our feet, that he may no longer retain men captive and do injury to the Church. Offer our prayers to the Most High, that without delay they may draw His mercy down upon us; take hold of the dragon, that primeval serpent, which is the devil and Satan, bind him and cast him into the bottomless pit so that he may not lead the nations astray again.  
Amen.

## **Prayer of Intercession to St Michael the Archangel**

St Michael the Archangel, loyal champion of God and His people, we turn to you with confidence and seek your powerful intercession. For the love of God, who made you so glorious in grace and power, and for the love of the Mother of Jesus, the Queen of Angels, be pleased to hear our prayers. You know the value of our souls in the eyes of God, may no stain of evil ever disfigure their beauty. Help us conquer the evil spirits that tempt us constantly. We desire to imitate your loyalty to God and to Holy Mother Church, and your great love for God and for his people. And since you are God's messenger who cares for His people, we entrust to you these special petitions and intentions:

### **Reading of Petitions/Intentions**

**Under the patronage of St Michael the Archangel, we pray especially for the intentions of:**

**Week 1:** Police officers and others involved in law enforcement and politics

**All:** St Michael, you are the patron of police officers. We place them under your protection as well as others who are involved in upholding law and order, particularly our nation's judicial and political leaders. God grant them wisdom and courage as they perform their duties without fear or favour. May they be true to their calling, defending Truth and Life. Guard them against all evil and keep them safe from harm. Amen.

**Week 2:** Seafarers

**All:** St Michael, protector of seafarers, let your light guide them as they journey through the sea of life. May they be aware of God's abiding presence and grant that all their righteous endeavours be fruitful and bear witness to his providence. In the face of danger, may they commit their souls into God's hands and at journey's end, may the Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, welcome them to the heavenly port. Amen.

**Week 3:** Grocers and others involved in commerce and trade

**All:** St Michael, you measure the fitness of souls for heaven with the scales of justice and mercy. Guide those who engage in commerce and trade to do so with prudence and integrity. With your help, may they continue God's good work through the labour of their minds and hands thereby accomplishing His purpose for their business. Amen.

**Week 4:** The sick and those involved in their care

**All:** St Michael, the sick is your assigned portion. Obtain for them the attentive ministrations of doctors, nurses and carers. Lend them grace and fortitude to bear their sufferings for the love of God and may they find ease and consolation in the healing presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Amen.

(Pause for personal prayer/petition)

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**All:** St Michael, since you are, by the will of the Creator, the powerful intercessor of Christians, we have great confidence in your prayers. We earnestly trust that, if it is God's Holy Will, our petitions and intentions will be granted. Pray for us St Michael and for all those we love. Protect us in all dangers of body and soul. Help us in our daily needs. Through your powerful intercession, may we live a holy life, die a happy death and reach heaven where we may praise and love God with you forever. Amen.

## **The Chaplet of St Michael the Archangel**

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Seraphim.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(x3)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Seraphim may the Lord make us worthy to burn with the fire of perfect charity. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Cherubim.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(x3)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Cherubim may the Lord grant us the grace to leave the ways of sin and walk in the path of Christian perfection. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Thrones.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(3x)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Thrones may the Lord infuse into our hearts a true and sincere spirit of humility. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Dominions.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(3x)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Dominions may the Lord give us grace to govern our senses and overcome unruly passions. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Powers.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(3x)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Powers may the Lord protect our souls against the snares and temptations of the devil. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Virtues.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(3x)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Virtues may the Lord preserve us from evil and giving in to temptation. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Principalities.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(3x)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Principalities may the Lord fill our souls with the spirit of obedience. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Archangels.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(3x)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Archangels may the Lord give us perseverance in faith and in doing good works in order that we may attain the glory of Heaven. Amen.

**Salutation:** In honour of St Michael the Archangel and the celestial Choir of Angels.

Our Father..... Hail Mary.....(3x)

**All:** By the intercession of St Michael and the celestial Choir of Angels may the Lord grant us their protection in this mortal life and safe conduct by them to life everlasting. Amen.

In honour of St Michael

**All:** Our Father

In honour of St Gabriel

**All:** Our Father

In honour of St Rafael

**All:** Our Father

In honour of our Guardian Angel

**All:** Our Father

### **Concluding Prayers**

O glorious prince St Michael, chief and commander of the heavenly hosts, guardian of souls, vanquisher of rebel spirits, servant in the house of the Divine King and our admirable conductor, you who shine with excellence and superhuman virtue deliver us from evil, who turn to you with confidence and enable us by your gracious protection to serve God more and more faithfully every day.

**Leader:** Pray for us, O glorious St Michael, Prince of the Church of Jesus Christ.

**All:** That we may be made worthy of His promises.

Almighty and Ever-living God, who, by a prodigy of goodness and a merciful desire for the salvation of all men, has appointed the most glorious Archangel St Michael Prince of your Church, make us worthy, we ask you, to be delivered from all our enemies, that none of them may harass us at the hour of death, but that we may be conducted by him into your Presence. This we ask through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Canon in Honour of St Michael**

O St Michael the Archangel you are praising our God.

Help us conquer evil spirits, always stand by Christ our Lord.

Help us conquer evil spirits, always stand by Christ our Lord.

## **Litany in Honour of St Michael**

Lord have mercy on us	Lord have mercy on us
Christ have mercy on us	Christ have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us	Lord have mercy on us
Christ hear us	Christ graciously hear us
God the Father of Heaven	Have mercy on us
God the Son, Redeemer of the World	Have mercy on us
God the Holy Spirit	Have mercy on us
Holy Trinity, One God	Have mercy on us
Holy Mary, Queen of the Angels	Pray for us
St Michael the Archangel	Pray for us
St Michael filled with the wisdom of God	Pray for us
St Michael perfect adorer of the Incarnate Word	Pray for us
St Michael crowned with honour and glory	Pray for us
St Michael most powerful Prince of the armies of the Lord	Pray for us
St Michael standard-bearer of the Most Holy Trinity	Pray for us
St Michael guardian of Paradise	Pray for us
St Michael guide and comforter of the people of Israel	Pray for us
St Michael splendour and fortress of the Church Militant	Pray for us
St Michael honour and joy of the Church	Pray for us

Triumphant

St Michael light of Angels	Pray for us
St Michael bulwark of orthodox believers	Pray for us
St Michael strength of those who fight under the standard of the Cross	Pray for us
St Michael light and confidence of souls at the hour of death	Pray for us
St Michael our most sure aid	Pray for us
St Michael our help in all adversities	Pray for us
St Michael herald of the everlasting sentence	Pray for us
St Michael consoler of souls detained in the flames of Purgatory	Pray for us
St Michael whom the Lord has charged to receive souls after death	Pray for us
St Michael our prince	Pray for us
St Michael our advocate	Pray for us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world	Spare us O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world	Graciously hear us O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world	Have mercy on us

**Leader:** Pray for us O glorious St Michael.

**All:** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**All:** Sanctify us we beseech you, O Lord Jesus with Your holy blessing and grant us, by the intercession of St Michael, that wisdom which teaches us to lay up treasures in Heaven by exchanging the goods of this world for those of eternity, you who live and reign world without end. Amen.

## Teaching/Reflection

### Act of Consecration to St Michael the Archangel

St Michael the Archangel, invincible prince of the angelic hosts and glorious protector of the universal Church, I greet you and praise you for that splendour with which God has adorned you so richly. I thank God for the great graces He has bestowed upon you, especially that of remaining faithful when Lucifer and his followers rebelled, and to battle victoriously for the



honour of God and the Divinity of the Son of Man. St Michael, I consecrate to you my soul and body. I choose you as my patron and protector and entrust the salvation of my soul to your care. Be the guardian of my obligation as a child of God and of the Catholic Church as again I renounce Satan, his works and his empty promises. Assist me by your powerful intercession in the fulfilment of these sacred promises, so that imitating your courage and loyalty to God, and trusting in your kind help and protection, I may be victorious over the enemies of my soul and be united with God in heaven forever. Amen.

## **Benediction**

### **Hymn**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth our full homage to demand.

King of kings yet born of Mary as of old on earth He stood.  
Lord of lords, in human vesture in the body and the blood.  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraphs, Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

### **Adoration Prayer of Blessed Fr Bronislaw Markiewicz**

Lord Jesus Christ concealed in the Blessed Sacrament, I beg You, through the love that You bear for Your Most Holy Mother, to magnify my faith, hope and love. Give me the spirit of true repentance and grant me everything for which the Most Holy Virgin asks for my sake. You who live and reign with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

### Silent Adoration (a few minutes)

TANTUM ergo Sacramentum  
Veneremur cernui:  
Et antiquum documentum  
Novo cedat ritui:  
Praestet fides supplementum  
Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque  
Laus et iubilatio,  
Salus, honor, virtus quoque  
Sit et benedictio:  
Procedenti ab utroque  
Compar sit laudatio.

Amen.

**V.** Panem de caelo praestitisti eis.

**R.** Omne delectamentum in se  
habentem.

Oremus: Deus, qui nobis sub  
sacramento mirabili, passionis tuae  
memoriam reliquisti: tribue,  
quaesumus, ita nos corporis et  
sanguinis tui sacra mysteria venerari,  
ut redemptionis tuae fructum in nobis  
iugiter sentiamus. Qui vivis et regnas  
in saecula saeculorum.

**R.** Amen.

DOWN in adoration falling,  
Lo! the sacred Host we hail,  
Lo! oe'r ancient forms departing  
Newer rites of grace prevail;  
Faith for all defects supplying,  
Where the feeble senses fail.

To the everlasting Father,  
And the Son Who reigns on high  
With the Holy Spirit proceeding  
Forth from each eternally,  
Be salvation, honour blessing,  
Might and endless majesty.

Amen.

**V.** Thou hast given them bread from  
heaven

**R.** Having in itself all delight.

Let us pray: O God, who in this  
wonderful Sacrament left us a  
memorial of Thy Passion: grant, we  
implore Thee, that we may so  
venerate the sacred mysteries of Thy  
Body and Blood, as always to be  
conscious of the fruit of Thy  
Redemption. Thou who livest and  
reignest forever and ever.

**R.** Amen.

## **Blessing with the Holy Eucharist**

### **Divine Praises**

Blessed be God

Blessed be His Holy Name

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man

Blessed be the Name of Jesus

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy

Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception

Blessed be her Glorious Assumption

Blessed be the Name of Mary, Virgin and Mother

Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints

### **Reposition Hymn**

O Sacrament most Holy, O Sacrament Divine

All praise and all thanksgiving

Be every moment Thine

Be every moment Thine.

### **Benediction Concluding Hymn**

Jesus, my Lord, my God, my all! How can I love Thee as I ought?

And how revere this wondrous gift, so far surpassing hope or thought?

Sweet Sacrament, we Thee adore!

Oh, make us love Thee more and more.

Oh, make us love Thee more and more.

Had I but Mary's sinless heart to love Thee with, my dearest King,

Oh, with what bursts of fervent praise, Thy goodness, Jesus, would I sing!

Sweet Sacrament, we Thee adore!

Oh, make us love Thee more and more.

Oh, make us love Thee more and more.

## **Prayer to St Michael (Pope Leo XIII)**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in the hour of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, (+) and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

## **Closing Hymn**

### **1) Michael Prince of All the Angels** (William J Marsh/music by M Owen Lee CSB)

Michael Prince of all the angels, while your legions fill the sky,  
All victorious over Satan, lift your flaming sword on high.  
Shout to all the seas and heavens, now the morning is begun;  
Now is rescued from the dragon, she whose garment is the sun!

Mighty champion of the woman, mighty servant of her Lord,  
Come with all your myriad warriors, come and save us with your sword;  
Enemies of God surround us; share with us your burning love;  
Let the incense of our worship rise before His throne above!

Gabriel, messenger to Mary, Raphael, healer, friend and guide,  
All you hosts of guardian angels ever standing by our side,  
Virtues, Thrones and Dominations, raise on high your joyful hymn,  
Principalities and Powers, Cherubim and Seraphim!

### **2) The Guardian Angel** (Text: Blessed Cardinal Newman)

My oldest friend, mine from the hour when first I drew my breath;  
My faithful friend, that shall be mine unailing till my death.

Thou hast been ever at my side; my Maker to thy trust

Consigned my soul, what time He framed the infant child of dust.

Thou wast my sponsor at the font; and thou, each budding year,  
Didst whisper elements of truth into my childish ear.

And thou wilt linger round my bed, when life is ebbing low,  
Of doubt, impatience and of gloom, the jealous sleepless foe.

Mine when I stand before the Judge; and mine if spared to stay  
Within the golden furnace till my sin is burned away.

And mine, O brother of my soul, when my release shall come;  
Thy gentle arms shall lift me then, thy wings shall waft me home.

### **3) Dear Angel, Ever At My Side**

(Adapted from Day's Psalter 1563/music by F W Faber)

Dear angel, ever at my side, how loving you must be  
To leave your home in heav'n to guide a little child like me!

Your beautiful and shining face is always very near;  
The music of your guiding voice is ever in my ear.

My eyes see only here below, but you are by my side,  
And you have God before your eyes; I need you for my guide.

My guardian angel, help me now to give to God my love,  
To serve Him in this world below and come to Him above.

### **4) This is the Month of Angels**

This is the month of Angels, sing for their love today.  
Bright are the banded Angels, grouping around our way.  
These are the sleepless warders; these are the keepers mild.  
Honour the Guardian Angels, woman and man and child.

Sing for the grand Archangels, mighty to live and guide.  
Over the head that rule us, they in their love preside.

Sing for their holy counsels; sing for their prompting true,  
Bending before our rulers, honour their guardians too.

Sing for the God who made them, Angels and Queen above,  
Sing for the God who gave them from His great heart of love.  
Still may that love consume us, with its sweet ardour here,  
Till we go forth as Angels fit for His own bright sphere.

### **5) Sing, Sing Ye Angel Bands**

Sing, sing ye Angel bands, all beautiful and bright;  
For higher still, and higher, through fields of starry light,  
Mary, your Queen ascends, ascends like the sweet moon at night.

O happy angels! Look how beautiful she is;  
See! Jesus bears her up; her hand is locked in His:  
O, who can tell the height, the height of that fair Mother's bliss?

A fairer flower than she on earth hath never been;  
And save the throne of God, your heavens have never seen  
A wonder half so bright, so bright as you ascending Queen.

### **6) Beautiful Angel**

Guardian angel, from heaven so bright,  
watching beside me to lead me aright.  
Fold thy wings round me, O guard me with love,  
softly sing songs to me of heav'n above.  
*Beautiful angel, my guardian so mild, tenderly guide me, for I am thy child.*

Angel so holy, whom God sent to me,  
sinful and lowly, my guardian to be.  
Wilt thou not cherish the child of thy care?  
Let me not perish, my trust is thy pray'r.  
*Beautiful angel, my guardian so mild, tenderly guide me, for I am thy child.*

O may I never forget thou art near;  
But keep me ever in love and in fear.

Waking and sleeping, in labour and rest,  
In thy sweet keeping my life shall be blest.  
*Beautiful angel, my guardian so mild, tenderly guide me, for I am thy child.*

Angel, dear angel, O close by me stay;  
Safe from harm shield me, all ill keep away  
Then thou wilt lead me when this life is o'er  
To Jesus and Mary to praise evermore.  
*Beautiful angel, my guardian so mild, tenderly guide me, for I am thy child.*

**7) Michael's Song – For Who Is Like Unto God!**

(Louise Amoroso ©1997)

Before all time all was darkness God gave His word and there was light.  
His angels came forth shining like the Sun, displaying God's glory and might.  
*For who is like unto God! For who is like unto God Most High!  
His glory fills the heavens with light. For who is like unto God!*

One filled with pride vainly thought his throne should equal God Most High's.  
Then angel Michael, as bright as Lucifer, came forth with his battle cry.  
*For who is like unto God! For who is like unto God Most High!  
His glory fills the heavens with light. For who is like unto God!*

A great battle in the heavens was fought; the rebel spirits fell from grace.  
Victorious angels encircled God's throne to worship Him face to face.  
*For who is like unto God! For who is like unto God Most High!  
His glory fills the heavens with light. For who is like unto God!*

So let us join choirs of heavenly hosts, face down in humble adoration.  
All praise and glory, honour and power to Yahweh our God, our salvation!  
*For who is like unto God! For who is like unto God Most High!  
His glory fills the heavens with light. For who is like unto God!*

**8) Pilgrims of the Night**

(J Richardson, FW Faber)

Hark! hark, my soul! angelic songs are swelling  
O'er earth's green fields and ocean's wave-beat shore;

How sweet the truth those blessed strains are telling  
Of that new life when sin shall be no more!

*Angels of Jesus, angels of light,  
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!*

Onward we go, for still we hear them singing,  
'Come, weary souls, for Jesus bids you come;'  
And through the dark, its echoes sweetly ringing,  
The music of the Gospel leads us home.

*Angels of Jesus, angels of light,  
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!*

Far, far away, like bells at evening pealing,  
The voice of Jesus sounds o'er land and sea,  
And laden souls, by thousands, meekly stealing,  
Kind Shepherd, turn their weary steps to thee.

*Angels of Jesus, angels of light,  
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!*

Rest comes at length, though life be long and dreary,  
The day must dawn, and darksome night be past;  
Faith's journeys end in welcome to the weary,  
And heaven, the heart's true home, will come at last.

*Angels of Jesus, angels of light,  
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!*

Angels, sing on, your faithful watches keeping,  
Sing us sweet fragments of the songs above,  
Till morning's joy shall end the night of weeping,  
And life's long shadows break in cloudless love.

*Angels of Jesus, angels of light,  
Singing to welcome the pilgrims of the night!*