

Reflection Friday Week 25 Sts Gabriel, Michael and Raphael Archangels 2023

God makes his presence experienced in many different ways. The Archangels take pride of place in this. Gabriel, the proclaimer of Good News to Mary, Michael, the vanquisher of Satan and of evil and Raphael the healer. The suffix letters of the names el was the word used for God. They were instruments of God and signs of how God works in our lives.

Pope Francis: These three Archangels played an important role in the history of salvation and also play an important role in our journey towards salvation." Michael is "great: the one who fights against the devil, our enemy, who "troubling our lives always tries to seduce [us] as he seduced our mother Eve". "This is mine' are the very words of the devil; he wins us over with seduction and then accuses us before God: `This [one] is mine, I will take him with me". "Michael fights against him", because the "Lord asked him to fight [the devil] for us who are on our life journey towards heaven; Michael helps us to fight against him and to not be seduced by this evil spirit which deceives us".

Archangel Gabriel "is the one who brings the good news, the one who brought the news to Mary, Zachariah and Joseph." He is therefore the messenger of the "good news of salvation". He too is "with us and helps us along our journey", especially when, as often happens, "with so much bad news or news with no substance, we forget the good news, the one of the Gospel". It is "Gabriel himself who reminds us of this."

Therefore, "Michael defends us, Gabriel gives us the good news and Raphael takes us by the hand and walks with us; he helps us with the many things that occur along the journey". We must ask Raphael to help "us not to be tempted to take the wrong step, to take the wrong path."