

The Guardian Angels

FIRST READING

Exodus 23:20-23

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Thus says the LORD:

"See, I am sending an angel before you,
to guard you on the way and bring you to the place I have prepared.
Be attentive to him and heed his voice.
Do not rebel against him, for he will not forgive your sin.
My authority resides in him.
If you heed his voice and carry out all I tell you,
I will be an enemy to your enemies and a foe to your foes.

"My angel will go before you and bring you to the
Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites,
Canaanites, Hivites, and Jebusites;
and I will wipe them out."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 10-11 (R. 11)

R. The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
Say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust." **R.**

For he will rescue you from the snare of the fowler,
from the destroying pestilence.
With his pinions he will cover you,
and under his wings you shall take refuge. **R.**

The Guardian Angels

His faithfulness is a buckler and a shield.
You shall not fear the terror of the night
nor the arrow that flies by day;
Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness,
nor the devastating plague at noon. **R.**

No evil shall befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your tent,
For to his angels he has given command about you,
that they guard you in all your ways. **R.**

ALLELUIA

Psalm 103:21

V. Alleluia. **R.** Alleluia.
V. Bless the LORD, all you angels,
you ministers, who do his will.
R. Alleluia. **R.** Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:1-5, 10

✠. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The disciples approached Jesus and said,
"Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?"
He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said,
"Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children,
you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven.
Whoever humbles himself like this child
is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.
And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones,
for I say to you that their angels in heaven
always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.