

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you...

Who do you sit near at Mass? Some of us always sit near the same folks, and some like to mix it up by moving around. But ALL of us celebrate Mass in the presence of ALL of heaven. The Mass is actually a participation in the liturgy of heaven.

What a thought. What a **reality**. It's kind of hard to wrap our brains around it.

Fortunately for us, the talented people at Spirit Juice Studios created a video that helps us imagine it. The video is just 7 minutes long, but it's incredibly powerful. Check it out at stjosephmech.org/Eucharistic-Revival or by scanning this QR code.



"The Veil Removed"
video link

At about the midpoint of the Mass, the reality that we're worshipping with heaven is made explicit. We give thanks for "the daily effects of [God's] care" and for "the pledge of eternal life." We respond in the only way imaginable: with love and awe for the God who gives us such gifts. The priest says, "And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful celebration we acclaim..." And then we sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts!" -- "we" being every member of our earthly congregation AND every member of heaven. What a joyful celebration, indeed!

May our awareness of this joining of heaven and earth at the Mass inspire us. And may our inspired engagement in the Mass prepare us to be transformed by Him in the Holy Eucharist. Amen!

**"The angels surround
the priest. The
whole sanctuary and
the space before the
altar is filled with the
heavenly Powers
come to honor Him
who is present upon
the altar."**

- Saint John Chrysostom

