

Opus Sanctorum Angelorum®

The Opus Angelorum and its Mission in the Church

~ An Introductory Letter into the Consecration to the Guardian Angel ~

Opus Sanctorum Angelorum, the Work of the Holy Angels, is an international movement within the Catholic Church faithful to the Magisterium. It is ordered to promoting devotion to the holy angels and a covenant bond with them through a consecration approved by the Holy See, so that the holy angels may lead us more effectively to God. The Work is under the overall direction of the Order of Canons Regular of the Holy Cross, under which has also been erected the Confraternity of the Holy Guardian Angels. The Sisters of the Holy Cross is aggregated to the Order and, though autonomous, forms with it one spiritual family.

The holy angels are powerful spirits present among us, "sent to serve those who are to inherit salvation" (Heb 1:14). *"From its beginning until death human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. 'Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life' (St. Basil)." (CCC 336).* Most Catholics know little about the holy angels except for the prayer, Angel of God, My Guardian Dear. Yet how much more progress we could make in our spiritual life if we looked more often to him who was given to us specifically as a "shepherd leading [us] to life"!

In an address to American pilgrims on October 3, 1958, Pope Pius XII reminded them that our lives are

"Behold, I send My angel before you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place which I have prepared. Give heed to him and hearken to his voice, do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression; for My Name is in him." Ex 23:20-21



"Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life." St. Basil ~ CCC 336

surrounded by the holy angels: "Each one of us, even the poorest of the poor, has angels watching over him. The angels are glorious, pure and splendid, but they have been given to us as companions along the way of life. They have the task of watching over you all, so that you do not stray away from Christ, your Lord."

At the end of the audience he admonished the faithful: "Have a familiar relationship with the angels, whose constant care is directed towards your salvation and holiness. God willing, you will spend an eternity of joy with the angels; learn to get to know them now!"

The same Holy Father stated at another occasion: "We must unite with the holy angels; with them we must become one great strong family in view of the times that are approaching us!"

Pope John Paul II gave six Catechesis on the angels at St. Peter's Square in Rome. In his second talk

"For He will give His angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways." Ps 91:11

he stated: "The Church believes that she renders a great service to man when she proposes sincerely the totality of the truth about God, the Creator, and also about the angels" (General Audience, August 6, 1986).

Through retreats and parish missions, the priests of the Opus Angelorum lead the faithful to a more conscious collaboration with the holy angels in daily life for their own personal sanctification, the salvation of souls and the sanctification of priests.

Membership in Opus Sanctorum Angelorum

The new General Statutes of Opus Angelorum were approved by the Holy See in November of 2008.

Membership in Opus Sanctorum Angelorum begins with the ecclesiastically approved Consecration to the Guardian Angel formally received in the name of the Church by a priest of the Order of Canons Regular of the Holy Cross or a delegated priest-member of the Opus Angelorum.

Normally, after becoming familiar with our spirituality over a period of time through, for example, the website, days of recollection/retreats and the newsletter, one would begin the formation year towards the Consecration to the Guardian Angel and membership in Opus Angelorum by attending a retreat, mission or day of recollection in your area. If no event is available in your area, you may send your request email or mail to begin the formation towards the Consecration to the Guardian Angel.

The current formation process for membership is as follows

After applying at an OA event for the formation year, one is prepared for the Consecration to the Guardian Angel and membership in the Opus Angelorum by monthly formation letters on the spirituality of the Opus Angelorum along with some prayers, readings and spiritual exercises. After one year, one would then be eligible to apply to make the Consecration to the Guardian Angel at an event in his area.

If someone feels called to go further, he can enter a 2-year formation in preparation for the Consecration to all the Holy Angels.



Children Consecration to the Guardian Angel

Through OA children can make a formal consecration to their Guardian Angel. St. Thérèse of Lisieux cherished a special devotion to the holy angels. At the age of nine years, before her First Holy Communion, she consecrated herself to the holy angels. This fitted very well her Little Way, since our Lord Himself associated littleness with the presence and care of the holy angels, "See that you do not despise one of these little ones; for I tell you, their Angels in heaven always behold the face of My Father in Heaven" (Mt 18:10).

The aim of this consecration is to give the child an understanding of the holy Guardian Angel; helping the child to love him, listen to him and receive from him its "first religious instruction", that is to say, the angel helps the child distinguish good from evil and helps it learn the first virtue of a child, which is obedience.

For more information see separate flyer "Children Consecration to the Guardian Angel"



"From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by [the angels'] watchful

For More Information:

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