

ARCHANGEL PRAYER

Heavenly King,
You have given us archangels
to assist us during
our pilgrimage on earth.

Saint Gabriel is a messenger
of the Good News;
I ask him to help me
clearly hear your voice
and to teach me the truth.

Saint Michael is our protector;
I ask him to come to my aid,
fight for all my loved ones,
and protect us from danger.

Saint Raphael is
the healing angel;
I ask him to take my need
for healing and that of
everyone I know, lift it up to
your throne of grace and deliver
back to us the gift of recovery.

Help us, O Lord,
to realize more fully
the reality of the archangels
and their desire to serve us.
Holy angels, pray for us.
Amen.

The archangel statues at St. Gabriel are
the generous gift of a parish family,
hand-carved in wood by
Demetz Art Studio in Milan, Italy.

Beside each believer stands
an angel as protector and
shepherd leading him to life.

ST. BASIL

Angels have been present since
creation and throughout the history
of salvation. They are purely spiritual
beings created by God to love, worship,
and serve him. The whole life of the
Church benefits from their mysterious
and powerful help. From infancy to
death, we are surrounded by their
watchful care and intercession.

(Catechism of the Catholic Church 328-336)



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**THE
ARCHANGEL
STATUES** at St. Gabriel
Catholic Church

MICHAEL



GABRIEL



RAPHAEL



Michael, whose name means “Defender of God”, is mentioned in the books of Daniel, Jude and Revelation.

He is often garbed in military attire, carrying a weapon upon which Satan is impaled. Revelation 12 explains how many angels rose in rebellion against God. Michael led the war against them, casting them down to the earth.

He is the patron saint of the military and police officers.

Gabriel, whose name means “Messenger of God”, is referred to in the Old and New Testaments. He has a unique role in salvation history, appearing to the Virgin Mary. In asking if she would bear the Son of God, his message opened the door to the incarnation of God, who took on a human nature to save us. Gabriel is often depicted with a lily, a sign of Mary's purity. His staff symbolizes his authority, speaking for God. Gabriel is the patron saint of messengers and our parish.

Raphael, whose name means “God heals”, appears in the Old Testament book of Tobit. He is sent by God to guide Tobias on his journeys and heals his father's eyes with the “bile” of a fish. As the patron saint for those on a pilgrimage, Raphael carries a staff for travelers and a fish for healing. The bottles of water he carries may also be connected with pilgrimages or to an ancient tradition that links Raphael with the healing waters of the pool of Bethsaida.