

Opus Sanctorum Angelorum®

The Opus Angelorum and the Consecration to the Holy Angels

~ 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. Through a consecration one opens himself more to the influence of the holy angels, so that that can lead us more effectively to God through the trials of this life and threats of the modern culture to God. St. Pe Pio said in the 1960's, "This is the time of the angels", for "our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens" (Eph 6:12). Pope Pius XII stated, "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!"

The Work is under the overall direction of the Order of Canons Regular of the Holy Cross.

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



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

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 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!"

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

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

Pope Benedict XVI stated in a homily, "The [angels] bring God to men, they open heaven and thus open earth. ... The Angels speak to man of what constitutes his true being, of what in his life is so often concealed and buried. They bring him back to himself, touching him on God's behalf."

"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."

Membership in Opus Sanctorum Angelorum

The 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 an authorized priest.

To begin the the one-year formation towards the Consecration to the Guardian Angel, the candidate should be a practising Catholic, have a basic knowledge of the Guardian Angel and have a basic prayer life. Though not a requirement, it is recommended to attend a mission, a silent OA retreat or day of recollection, if possible (for events in your area, please check our website or email us). The application for formation may be submitted via regular mail or email (scanned copy).

The formation Process for Membership is as follows

After applying for the formation year, one will receive a formation book containing 12 monthly formation letters which treat among other topics: the nature and mission of the angels; the four fundamental directions of *adoration*, *contemplation*, *expiation* and *mission*; the Holy Eucharist and Mary, the Queen of the angels; the commemoration of Our Lord's Passion; how to collaborate consciously with the angels in our day-to-day life. The formation also includes prayer, readings and spiritual exercises. As soon as the candidate feels ready he may fill out the application for the actual consecration and submit it to our office. If someone feels called to go further, he can enter a 2-year formation in preparation for the **Consecration to all the Holy Angels**.



"From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by [the angels'] watchful care and intercession." (CCC 336)

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 full information on the "Children Consecration to the Guardian Angel" visit our website or request flyer by email.

For More Information:

Opus Sanctorum Angelorum
164 Apollo Rd SE, Carrollton, OH 44615
Tel. (330) 969-9900
website: www.opusangelorum.org
email: contact@opusangelorum.org