

## **Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael | Wednesday 29 September 2021**

Today is Wednesday the 29 September, the feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, the Archangels.

The nuns of Mary, Queen of Apostles, sing the hymn *Christe Sanctorum*. A hymn in praise of St Michael, the Archangel. "We pray that Michael, the angel of peace, be swiftly sent to this abode, that he, quickly coming, may prosper all things.

Today's reading is from the Prophet Daniel.

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14

As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement,  
and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

Today is the feast of St Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, the Archangels. These are the only

angels named in scripture, eternal beings entrusted with specific tasks to defend, heal and guide. The only angels named of the thousands on thousands that Daniel describes so powerfully here. What is your understanding of angels? Do you have a sense of connection to this heavenly community?

The feast day is also known as Michaelmas and marks one of the Church's quarter days of the year. It marks a turning of the season, a time of transition. Do you sense this movement within you?

As you listen to the scripture again, enter into Daniel's imagery, into the timeless witness of the angels.

As this time of prayer comes to an end, you might like to bring up whatever has stirred within you today... perhaps something new has come up for you, or something you would like to ask the Lord for wisdom about. Talk to the Lord now, as one friend speaks to another...

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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