



Marianist Moments

Feast of the Guardian Angels

October 2

Anniversary of the Foundation of the Society of Mary

~ Meeting aid ~



Introduction

On October 2, the Church celebrates the feast of the Guardian Angels. The Marianist Family celebrates the anniversary of the foundation of the Society of Mary on this day in 1817, when five men, including Jean Baptiste Lalanne, met and resolved to form the Society of Mary under the direction of Father Chaminade. Soon, other men followed, and in December of that year, the first private vows were made in the sacristy of Madeleine Chapel in Bordeaux.

Prayer

Adapted from the Mass of the Feast of the Guardian Angels

✠ Eternal God, in your providence, you send your Holy Angels to guard and guide us. May we always be defended by their protection and rejoice eternally in their company. On this anniversary of the foundations of the Society of Mary, may your eternal light shine upon us and bless our efforts to make Christ known and loved. We make this prayer through Jesus your Son. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 18: 1-5, 10, RSVCE

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them, and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones; for I tell you that in heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven.”

Silent Introspection

The Chaminade Legacy, Vol. 4, p. 391

Contemplate the following text from the writings of Father Chaminade on the Guardian Angels.

. . . The guardian angels are our mediators. They do not pray only through charity as other saints do, or because we ask them. But by the duty of their office. . . .

Their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father (Mt 18:10). Behold, I will send my angel. He shall go before you and keep you in your journey and bring you into the place that I have prepared (Ex 23:20).



Group Sharing

Meditating on the feast of the Guardian Angels, recall and share an experience wherein you were inspired to call upon your guardian angel and/or felt the presence of your guardian angel. Alternatively, consider how you could explore and strengthen your relationship with your guardian angel.



† May the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified in all places through the Immaculate Virgin Mary. Amen.