

The Angels



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The Annunciation

THE next time that Gabriel enters the Gospel of Luke he appears to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We read there that Mary was betrothed to a carpenter named Joseph. This means that she was engaged, but they had not yet started to live with one another. Mary was a virgin.

Gabriel greeted her as one who was “full of grace.” From the moment of her conception, God had protected her from every stain of sin.

Gabriel revealed to Mary that she would have a Child Whom she was to call Jesus, a name that means “Yahweh saves.” Like Zechariah, Mary was confused. She was not yet married, and she had never been with a man. How could she have a Child? But Gabriel told her that the Holy Spirit would come upon her and she would have a Son, for nothing was impossible with God.

Here we see the difference between Mary and Zechariah. Zechariah had to remain silent to figure out what God wanted; Mary was ready in an instant. She responded, “I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your Word.”

The Guardian Angels

BUT it is not just the great Saints who can talk to Angels. Every one of us has an Angel whom God has assigned to help and protect us from harm. It is our Guardian Angel.

Once, Jesus was speaking about how God loves and protects all of His people. He said, “Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that their Angels in heaven gaze continually on the face of My heavenly Father.”

In saying “little ones,” Jesus was talking about little children, but He also was talking about those whom the world considers to be unimportant.

The Guardian Angels are the guarantee that God will care for us. The most important job of the Guardian Angels is to remind us of what God wants us to do—be generous, not selfish.

Once in a while, the Guardian Angels even protect us physically. People tell stories of how they were almost in an accident, or how they were very sick, and then something happened to protect them. Guardian Angels reached out to them.