

Like Guardian Angels

Call to Prayer

(Mark Link, S.J.— adapted)

Leader:

Jesus said,
“I am the light of the world. . . .
Whoever follows me
will have the light of life
And will never walk in darkness.”
(John 8:12)

(someone lights the candle)

Lord Jesus, you said that where two or three
come together in your name,
You are there with them.
The light of this candle
Symbolizes your presence among us.

And so, let us remember...

All: That we are in the holy presence of God.

- pause for reflection -

Prayer

(From St. John Baptist de La Salle's Fifth and Sixth Meditations for the Time of Retreat)

On our own we can never handle all the many challenges on the path to personal liberation. That is why God has given us a guardian angel, to keep an eye on us, lest we “dash our foot against a stone.”

The need is even greater for young people. They are still weak in body, they do not always understand what is good for them and they are only too ready to fall over one precipice or another. They require the friendship of a guide who is intelligent and observant, one who can accompany them on their journey, someone familiar with God's ways and the same time is aware of the problems faced by young people and knows how to cope with them. God has made provision for this. He has given young people into the care of teachers who assume responsibility for them, who are sensitive and alert to the dangers posed by their social environment. With their guidance and with God's protection they will be safe.

Let us ask Almighty God to make us sensitive to the dangers faced by the young and for the light to discern how best to guide them. This was chiefly what God had in view when he called us to so spiritual a ministry.

Do you ever think of yourself as a visible guardian angel to your students? Pray that you may be so.

Prayer

(Br. Nicholas Hutchinson, FSC)

Father, teach us to help young people
to appreciate their own worth.
Enable us to touch their hearts
and empower us to reveal your love for them.
Inspire us to support and encourage
and build others up as members of one body.
Help us to follow Christ our Teacher,
and be credible witnesses of your love. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

For those young people entrusted to our care, especially those most in need at this time, we pray...

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For those with whom we share this ministry of Lasallian education: fellow teachers, support staff, administrators, parents, we pray...

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who inspired us to pursue this vocation of education (pause to remember), we pray...

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For our students who have died (pause to remember), we pray...

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For what else and for whom else shall we pray? (after each petition, we respond, **God of mercy, hear our prayer**)

Closing

(Mark Link, S.J.—Adapted)

Leader: We conclude our prayer by listening to Jesus speak to us:

“You are the light of the world.

A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.

No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket;

instead, the lamp is put on a lamp stand,

where it gives light to everyone in the house.

In the same way, your light must shine before all people..

—Matthew 5: 14-16

(Someone extinguishes the candle.)

The light of this candle is now extinguished. But the light of Christ in each of us must continue to shine in our hearts and in our lives.

***Saint John Baptist de La Salle...Pray for us!
Live, Jesus, in our hearts...Forever!***