

Day 196 – Friday, October 2 – Feast of the Guardian Angels

Today is the feast of the Guardian Angels. Sometimes I think we over theologize angels, especially guardian angels. In the seminary I learned that angels are messengers of God. A sort of intermediary between him and us, whereupon he bestows his grace upon us. Although, intellectually I believe this to be true, it doesn't make an impact on my day to day living. But when you think of a guardian angel as someone, sitting on your shoulder, protecting you from all harm...now that is something that brings me a lot of comfort. And there are just too many stories of, especially young children, who have miraculously been saved from tragedy...not to believe in guardian angels. I myself believe that my guardian angel need to take a vacation after it protected me in accident I had a few weeks ago. While I was in ICU, for observation, my guardian angel was off, wherever angels go for vacation. ☺

Now I know that this is not true, and is a very simplest way of looking at things, and our relationship with God. But sometimes we just need to let go of all the theology books, let go of all our seriousness, and just become little children again--letting our imaginations run wild.

After my accident I had a number of people ask me. Did you have one of those metal guardian angels in your car (I have two). I had a number of people tell me I should never drive faster than my guardian angel can fly. Intellectually I know that even if I was in a star ship flying at warp speed, my guardian angel could easily keep up. But we have these naïve saying to remind us of a deep truth. That God is always with. And if this feast of the guardian angels helps at least one person remember that God is always with us...then it has accomplished its purpose.

How many of you remember this prayer.

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
to whom God's love entrusts me here,
ever this day [night] be at my side
to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

In the light of eternity, we're here for a very short time, really. We're here for one thing, ultimately: to learn how to love, because God is love. - James Finley

Sincerely,
Fr. Jim Kaptein