

Marianist Moments



“I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things
visible and invisible.”

-The Nicene Creed

“The union of the invisible with the visible is one of the great mysteries of the Catholic faith. The invisible God became flesh and dwelt among us; the invisible soul is experienced through the body; invisible grace is transmitted through the physical signs of the sacraments.

-David G Bonagura, Jr.

The innumerable invisible realities of the visible Catholic Mass are always present.

The Transubstantiation (the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist), the presence of angels, and the communion of saints, act as a bridge between heaven and earth and are truly invisible realities of the visible Mass.

God's generous, yet invisible grace, is imparted on believers, fostering a deeper union with Christ and His divine life. These invisible realities are not seen by the senses but are understood through faith and are considered just as real as the visible elements of the liturgy.

The Visible and Invisible of the Catholic Church

Sacraments: A Visible Sign of an Invisible Grace

- The Sacraments are defined as outward signs of inward grace, instituted by Christ to help individuals in their spiritual life and to grow in holiness.
- The sacraments are like invisible vitamins for our invisible souls. They help us nourish, strengthen, and express our faith, so that our visible hands and feet become like the hands and feet of Christ.

<https://stboc.org/sacraments>



SACRAMENTS



St. Gabriel

THE STRENGTH OF GOD

Gabriel was sent to Mary. He came to announce the One who appeared as a humble man to quell the cosmic powers. Thus God's strength announced the coming of the Lord of the heavenly powers, mighty in battle.

St. Michael

WHO IS LIKE GOD

Whenever some act of wondrous power must be performed, Michael is sent, so that his action and his name may make it clear that no one can do what God does by his superior power.

St. Raphael

GOD'S REMEDY

Raphael means God's remedy, for when he touched Tobit's eyes in order to cure him, he banished the darkness of his blindness. Thus, since he is to heal, he is rightly called God's remedy.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is clear about the existence of angels, who by nature are *invisible* in this world, but always not necessarily so.

- "The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls "angels" is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of Tradition.
- With their whole beings the angels are *servants* and messengers of God. Because they "always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven" they are the "mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word".
- On May 9, 2006, Navy SEAL Michael Monsoor rescued a wounded teammate while under heavy insurgent gunfire in Iraq. The teammate, who was not a religious man, later said that as Monsoor dragged him to safety, he saw "angel wings completely surround them," shielding them from harm.

The Feast of the Archangels is September 29th.
St. Michael is the Patron Saint of Middleton House.