

Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Kids love angels. And of all the angels in the divine universe, the archangels are easily the coolest. The most well-known archangels (and the only ones named in Scripture) are Michael, Raphael and Gabriel. There are even cartoon characters named after these guys, and for good reason: They are awesome! Each of these archangels performs a different mission in Scripture: Michael protects; Gabriel announces; Raphael guides (see the books of Daniel and Tobit). Their feast day is Sept. 29.

ST. MICHAEL is the leader of all of the archangels and is in charge of protection, courage, strength, truth and integrity. Michael is often depicted as carrying a flaming sword to protect and safeguard humanity.

ST. GABRIEL is a messenger who delivered the good news of their impending births to Elizabeth and Mary. Gabriel's name means "the strength of God" as he is one of the strongest of all of the archangels.

ST. RAPHAEL'S name means "the healing power of God" and he is known as a healing spirit and guide. Raphael is the patron saint of travelers because of his help with Tobias and his travels in the Hebrew Bible.

Help us, O Lord, to realize more fully the reality of the archangels and their desire to serve us.

Holy angels, pray for us. Amen.