



**Archdiocese of St. Louis  
Office of Sacred Worship  
Lectio Divina**

**Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels**

**Lectionary: 650: Ex 23:20-23/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 10-11/Ps 103:21/Mt 18:1-5, 10**

Read the following passage four times.

- The first reading, simply read the scripture and pause for a minute.  
Listen to the passage with the ear of the heart. Don't get distracted by intellectual types of questions about the passage. Just listen to what the passage is saying to you, right now.
- The second reading, look for a key word or phrase that draws your attention.  
Notice if any phrase, sentence or word stands out and gently begin to repeat it to yourself, allowing it to touch you deeply. No elaboration. In a group setting, you can share that word/phrase or simply pass.
- The third reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?*"  
Notice what thoughts, feelings, and reflections arise within you. Let the words resound in your heart. What might God be asking of you through the scripture? In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.
- The fourth reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*I believe that God wants me to . . . . . today/this week.*"  
Notice any prayerful response that arises within you, for example a small prayer of gratitude or praise. In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.

**First Reading**

*Ex 23:20-23*

Thus says the Lord:

"See, I am sending an angel before you, to guard you on the way and bring you to the place I have prepared. Be attentive to him and obey him. Do not rebel against him, for he will not forgive your sin. My authority is within him. If you obey him and carry out all I tell you, I will be an enemy to your enemies and a foe to your foes. My angel will go before you and bring you to the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites; and I will wipe them out.



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**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 10-11*

***R. The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.***

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shade of the Almighty, Say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust."

***R. The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.***

He will rescue you from the fowler's snare, from the destroying plague, He will shelter you with his pinions, and under his wings you may take refuge.

***R. The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.***

His faithfulness is a protecting shield. You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day, Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness, nor the plague that ravages at noon.

***R. The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.***

No evil shall befall you, no affliction come near your tent. For he commands his angels with regard to you, to guard you wherever you go.

***R. The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.***



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**Alleluia**

*Ps 103:21*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Bless the LORD, all you angels, you ministers, who do his will.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel**

*Mt 18:1-5, 10*

The disciples approached Jesus and said, "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?" He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said, "Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."