

# SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL



J. ALEXZANDER AND S. ALDARNAY

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By J. ALEXZANDER AND S. ALDARNAY

## **Who is Saint Michael the Archangel?**

Saint Michael the Archangel is a powerful spiritual force, acknowledged by many religious groups as one of the holiest of beings in creation. He is one of the most well known angels within the celestial hierarchy and he is one of the few to be named in the Bible and the Koran.

The name Michael (مِيخَائِيل in Arabic, Μίχαήλ in Greek or מִיכָאֵל in Hebrew) means “Who is like God?” His name serves to remind us of the humility that should be shown before the divine. QUIS ET DEUS is the Latin form of this question and is often shown emblazoned on the shield of the archangel – it was also the rallying cry of the armies of heaven in their war against the legions of Lucifer.

Images of St. Michael are easy to identify: he is almost always depicted as a beautiful winged man in military garb, bearing in his hands a sword, spear, shield or set of weighing scales, whilst underfoot lays the devil, defeated after their battle. According to Hastings' *Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics* IV, 616, Michael has emerald green wings and “is covered in Saffron hairs, each of them containing a million faces and mouths and as many tongues which, in a million dialects, implore the pardon of Allah”.

Saint Michael enjoys feast days on September 29, which he shares with the archangels Raphael and Gabriel.

## **Why is this Angel also a Saint?**

There are a couple of reasons for this – firstly, the English word saint comes from the latin *sanctos* meaning holy, so “saint” is a description of the being's quality and “angel” is more of a species definition. The other reason is that Michael and the other angels possess the power of intercession – as do the human saints.

## **Area of Influence and Patronage**

As befits his nature, The Archangel Michael holds a dual solar-martial patronage. Primarily he is charged with watching over those who act to defend the masses, with soldiers, police and the air forces all coming under his patronage. The reason he is given this role is obvious when one considers Michael as the general of the angelic host and the angel who banished Lucifer from heaven. He is also the protector of the church itself, and of grocers, mariners and the sick.

In hoodoo, St. Michael is also considered one of the patrons of justice – in many depictions he is shown holding a set of golden scales. As such, he is called on for all work which is concerned with getting fair results, court case spells, and etc. In our experience, many people who are all too quick to delve into hexing an enemy would achieve much more effective results from calling on this saint to call the person in question accountable for their actions.

## **Cautionary Note to Goetic Magicians**

Just a quick note to those of you who work with demons and chthonic or infernal spirits. It should be fairly obvious that St. Michael is the natural enemy of demons and base spirits and as such, if you are wishing to appeal to this angel, it is worthwhile to suspend working with these spirits for the duration of your time working with him. At best, both demons and the archangel will depart and your efforts will be rendered naught – at worst there will serious backlash from one or both parties.

## **Shrines for St. Michael**

If you wish to work hoodoo with the aid of this archangel, or to set up a devotional space, then you will need to set a space aside for him as a shrine. This need not be a big space, as unlike the human saints, angels are less likely to require receptacles for food and drink. The archangel's shrine space should have the following on it:

- A clean white cloth, overlaid with red and/or green cloth.
- A source of light – lamp, candle, etc.
- A vase for flowers – red carnations, sun flowers, white roses or anything in red, or yellow is good (not red roses, however).
- A censer for the burning of incense.
- An image of St. Michael present – he has been a popular source of artistic inspiration for centuries, so it shouldn't be too hard for you to find an image you feel a connection to.
- Prayer cards, medals and other Catholic paraphernalia are also commonly found on shrines to this angel, and you should have no problem finding these online, or at your local Catholic supply store.
- More occult-minded readers might wish to include properly prepared sigils for this angel.

As with all shrines, make sure you leave room for any extra gifts and offerings this angel will accumulate as he assists you in your life.

## Offerings

Instead of food, it is more common to offer the angels incense. In the case of St Michael, blends comprising of herbs and resins which are of a solar or martial nature are most appropriate. The following is a personal recipe for loose-grain incense we find to be favoured by the archangel:

- 20g Frankincense – *Boswellia serrata*
- 30g Dammar – *Shorea spp*
- 10g White Sandalwood – *Santalum album*
- 10g Red Sandalwood – *Pterocarpus soyauxii*
- 5g Dragon's Blood – *Daemomorops draco*

Light from candles and lamps are appreciated by Saint Michael – as with most other spirits – and the most appropriate colours for these are red, white, gold and green. Michael is strongly attributed to the element of fire; candles in the colours listed above are a very suitable offering.

Like the other saints, flowers can be given to St. Michael; there are no real rules for this, though try and stick to appropriate colours. In our personal experience of giving flowers to this saint, we would advise against giving him red roses, but can recommend daffodils, sunflowers, white roses and red carnations.

Military artefacts would also be suitable to give to the commander of the heavenly host – both armour and weaponry can be given as gifts, and swords would be particularly appropriate, given the traditional images of this particular angel. Most saints will appreciate gifts of jewellery and beads, which should be red, gold and green.

A particularly novel offering given to this saint is that of metal shoes. This custom is found the area surrounding the Monastery of the Taxiarches on the island of Lesbos, where people leave metal shoes at the shrine to the angel and ask him for a boon. They then go about their lives, returning to the shrine to check the shoes, to see if they have been “worn”. If they have, then they know their petition has been heard.

Another appropriate way of offering thanks to this spirit would be to make donations to charities involved with the emergency services, war veterans and those who are unable to care for themselves. When food/drink offerings on the altar have been “used up”, it’s appropriate to dispose of them in a living body of water (river, stream, etc.) or to leave them on the steps of a court house or police station.

# Hoodoo and Magic with Saint Michael

## SAINT MICHAEL MOJO FOR PROTECTION

This mojo bag can be carried to protect from both supernatural and physical danger. You will need:

A pinch of each of the following:

- Angelica root – *Angelica archangelica*
- Salt
- Rue – *Ruta graveolens*
- Agrimony – *Agrimonia eupatoria*
- Sage – *Salvia Apiana*
- Iron filings
- A St. Michael Medal (the kind found in churches and Catholic supply shops)
- A protective condition oil
- A red flannel bag
- A white candle

The bag is prepared by taking a pinch of the following items: Angelica root, Salt, Rue, Agrimony, Sage, and Iron filings. Next, anoint the medal with protection oil – we have found the most effective to be “Fiery Wall of Protection”.

Add all of these items to the red flannel bag whilst you say the Leonine prayer to Saint Michael, which can be found in the Prayers and Devotions section of this pamphlet. Tie the bag shut and set it before a white candle dressed in your chosen protection oil and repeat the prayer.

The bag will need to be “fed” with a special mixture prepared by steeping a large pinch of sage and angelica root in a shot of whiskey – we always find that mini bar bottles are best to feed the bag; pour a couple of drops of the whisky mix onto the sealed bag and repeat the prayer. The bag is then ready to be used. Carry it in your pocket or attach it to a cord to wear around your neck. Make sure you feed the bag every month to keep it strong.

## SAINT MICHAEL'S SHIELD

This magically prepared mirror isn't traditional hoodoo but was taught to me by a root-worker. This mirror is used to defend a property and reflect evil influence and curses back to the sender. Firstly find a small mirror that can be hung facing the front door.

The mirror will need to be dressed and prepared; firstly it is physically cleaned with a mixture of water and vinegar. Next it is spiritually cleaned, which is achieved by creating the following wash:

Add a pinch of the following to two shots of whiskey:

- Sage – *Salvia Apiana*
- Rue – *Ruta graveolens*
- Bay – *Laurus Nobilis*
- Rust
- Jalop – powdered High John the Conqueror root
- Hyssop – *Hyssopus officinalis*

Simmer the mixture over a low heat for a few minutes, and allow the mixture to cool. Once cool, strain it and add two shots of holy water. Next, take a clean white cloth and wash the mirror down saying the following over and over.

*“Shield of Michael, flame of God, ward of evil, defend us, hold us, keep us!”*

Once the mirror is fully prepared you will need to attach a prayer card of St. Michael to the back. The picture should face inward, so Michael is looking out through the glass. Hang the mirror facing the front door and make the sign of the cross over it. Once a month anoint the frame of the mirror with protection oil and repeat the above line once over it.

## A LOUISIANA COURT SPELL

To have justice done there is nobody better than St. Michael to ask for intercession. So long as you are the innocent party he will help you get the justice you deserve. This trick comes from an old Louisiana gentleman who taught it to a friend who taught it to me.

You will need:

- A brown candle
- A red cloth bag
- A Saint Michael Medal
- A saucer
- Brown paper
- Brown sugar
- Cascara Sagrada – Rhamnus purshiana
- Castor oil
- Galangal – Alpinia officinarum

Take the medal of Michael and have it blessed by a Catholic priest, string it on a cord and wear it round your neck. Next, take the sugar, galangal and cascara sagrada and powder them finely. Take the brown candle and rub it down with the castor oil and roll it in the powder. Take the piece of paper and write down your name 9 times on one side and the name of the prosecutor 9 times on the other. Fold the paper so your name remains on the outside. Place this paper in a saucer and pour the powder over it. Next, stand the candle in the saucer. Say over the candle 9 times:

*“Just judge, blessed court, justice done and justice brought”*

Now light the candle and say:

*“Holy Michael, Archangel and saint hear now this call for intercession!  
Just Michael, good Michael come now, to my aid!”*

*Stand over me Michael, thwart my enemy and  
weigh his lies on your scales!  
Weigh his lies and hold my heart!  
Holy Michael, Archangel and Saint  
hear now this call for intercession!”*

Allow the candle to burn down and place the remnants of the powder and candle in a red cloth bag. Take the bag in to the courthouse with you but leave it somewhere discreet. When you enter the courtroom say the prayer again.



## MICHAEL BATH FOR BREAKING CURSES

This bath is used to uncross a person and is quite simple to perform. You will need:

- 3 tea lights
- A sealable jar
- A vase
- Florida water
- Holy water
- Salt
- Uncrossing oil
- Van-Van oil
- White rose
- White vinegar

Take a small vase and fill it with the Holy Water, a splash of the Florida water, a splash of the white vinegar a pinch of salt and a few drops of the Van-Van oil. Stir all these ingredients and place the single white rose in the vase. Anoint the three tea light candles with the uncrossing oil and set them around the vase as you light each one say:

*“In the name of the Father  
In the name of the Son  
and the Holy Spirit”*

When the tea lights have burnt out, run a bath, to which you should add the contents of the vase, and the petals from the rose. Soak in the bath for as long as you wish. Once you’ve finished, take a cup of the bath water containing all the petals and seal them in a jar along with a few pinches of salt. Dispose at a crossroads.

## FOR STRENGTH AND COURAGE

This mixture is used to rub down the body. It gives the wearer strength, courage and vitality.

- 1 bottle Eau de Cologne
- 2 cinnamon sticks – *Cinnamomum zeylanicum*
- 3 bay leaves – *Laurus Nobilis*
- 3 carnation flowers
- A copy of Psalm 141 (see the Prayers and Devotions section)
- Angelica root – *Angelica archangelica*
- Beth Root (if you are a woman) – *Trillium pendulum*
- High John the Conqueror (if you are a man) – *Ipomoea Jalapa*

Take a bottle of Eau de Cologne, which can be purchased cheaply from a pharmacist or Afro-Caribbean hair shop, and add to it the 2 cinnamon sticks, 3 red carnations, pinch of Angelica and 3 bay leaves. If you are female, then add a Beth root and if you are male then use a High John root. Next, write a copy of Psalm 141 on a sheet of paper (see the Prayers and Devotions section), roll it up and put it in the bottle. Allow this mixture to sit for a week each day shake it and saying:

*“Those in danger, those that are meek, those who are frighten,  
downtrodden and weak.  
Those without courage, those without flame,  
are made strong and good in St. Michael’s name.”*

After a week of doing this, strain the mix and keep it in an airtight bottle. This cologne can be added to baths or applied directly to the skin to receive its benefits.

# Prayers and Devotions

## CHAPLET FOR SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael is an angel who has had frequent discourse with the devout, he has manifested to many people in various ways, from performing miracles to revealing divine truths. A woman by the name of Antonia d'Astonac received instruction from the Archangel himself as to how he wished to be praised, and as such the chaplet of Saint Michael was created. His promises were thus:

*“Whosoever would practice this devotion in his honour would have, when approaching the Holy Table, an escort of nine angels chosen from each one of the nine choirs. In addition, for the daily recital of these nine salutations he promised his continual assistance and that of all the holy angels during life, and after death deliverance from purgatory for themselves and their relations.”*

Chaplets are readily available online and from catholic supply stores and are made from a variety of materials ranging from simple wooden beads to metal filigree and semi-precious stones.

### METHOD OF RECITING THE CHAPLET

Begin the chaplet by holding the medal and saying the following invocation:

*“O God, come to my assistance.*

*O Lord, make haste to help me.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.”*

Next, begin on bead “1”, speak the following invocation to the choir of angels, followed by one Our Father and three Hail Mary’s.

1. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Seraphim, may the Lord make us worthy to burn with the fire of perfect charity. Amen.

Do the same as above for bead 2, and so on until you reach bead 9.

2. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Cherubim, may the Lord vouchsafe to grant us grace to leave the ways of wickedness to run in the paths of Christian perfection. Amen.

3. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Thrones, may the Lord infuse into our hearts a true and sincere spirit of humility. Amen.

4. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Dominions, may the Lord give us grace to govern our senses and subdue our unruly passions. Amen.

5. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Powers, may the Lord vouchsafe to protect our souls against the snares and temptations of the devil. Amen.

6. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Virtues may the Lord preserve us from evil and suffer us not to fall into temptation. Amen.

7. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Principalities, may God fill our souls with a true spirit of obedience. Amen.

8. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Archangels, may the Lord give us perseverance in faith and in all good works, in order that we gain the glory of Paradise. Amen.

9. By the intercession of St. Michael and the celestial Choir of Angels, may the Lord grant us to be protected by them in this mortal life and conducted hereafter to eternal glory. Amen.

10. Say one Our Father in the name of St. Michael

11. Say one Our Father in the name St. Gabriel

12. Say one Our Father in the name St. Raphael

13. Say one Our Father in the name of Our Guardian Angel

With all the beads being completed, you must say the following set of prayers:

*O glorious Prince St. Michael, chief and commander of the heavenly hosts, guardian of souls, vanquisher of rebel spirits, servant in the house of the Divine King, and our admirable conductor; thou who dost shine with excellence and superhuman virtue, vouch safe to deliver us from all evil, who turn to thee with confidence, and enable us by thy gracious protection to serve God more and more faithfully every day.*

*Pray for us, O glorious St. Michael, Prince of the Church of Jesus Christ.*

*That we may be made worthy of His promises.*

*Almighty and Everlasting God, who by a prodigy of goodness and merciful desire for the salvation of all men, hast appointed the most glorious Archangel, St. Michael, Prince of Thy Church, make us worthy, we beseech Thee, to be delivered from all our enemies that none of them may harass us at the hour of death, but that we may be conducted by him into the august presence of Thy Divine Majesty. This we beg through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

# Leonine prayer to Saint Michael

This is one of the most popular prayers to the archangel Michael; it was added to the low mass in 1886 by Pope Leo XIII, and was removed some years later. This said, it is still a recognised prayer within the church, and is frequently found on prayer cards and devotional items for St. Michael. It is said to have been written after Pope Leo XIII overheard a conversation between Satan and God, in which the former declared that one day he would destroy the church. This prayer was written as a result and is still in use today.

## ENGLISH

*“Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray: and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.”*

## LATIN

*“Sancte Michael Archangele, defende nos in proelio; contra nequitiam et insidias diaboli esto praesidium. Imperet illi Deus, supplices deprecamur: tuque, Princeps militiae Caelestis, satanam aliosque spiritus malignos, qui ad perditionem animarum pervagantur in mundo, divina virtute in infernum detrude. Amen.”*

# **Psalm 141 – for use in the cologne for strength and courage**

A PSALM OF DAVID.

- <sup>1</sup> I call to you, LORD, come quickly to me;  
hear me when I call to you.
- <sup>2</sup> May my prayer be set before you like incense;  
may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.
- <sup>3</sup> Set a guard over my mouth, LORD;  
keep watch over the door of my lips.
- <sup>4</sup> Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil  
so that I take part in wicked deeds  
along with those who are evildoers;  
do not let me eat their delicacies.
- <sup>5</sup> Let a righteous man strike me—that is a kindness;  
let him rebuke me—that is oil on my head.  
My head will not refuse it,  
for my prayer will still be against the deeds of evildoers.
- <sup>6</sup> Their rulers will be thrown down from the cliffs,  
and the wicked will learn that my words were well spoken.
- <sup>7</sup> They will say, “As one plows and breaks up the earth,  
so our bones have been scattered at the mouth of the grave.”
- <sup>8</sup> But my eyes are fixed on you, Sovereign LORD;  
in you I take refuge—do not give me over to death.
- <sup>9</sup> Keep me safe from the traps set by evildoers,  
from the snares they have laid for me.
- <sup>10</sup> Let the wicked fall into their own nets,  
while I pass by in safety.”

# **The Our Father and The Hail Mary**

These prayers are a staple of Catholic religious practice, and are the precursory utterances of many hoodoo magical endeavours. Before undertaking any of the magical procedures in this pamphlet, you may wish to repeat them, in order to get yourself into the “spiritual mindset”. The Blessed Virgin Mary is also considered to be queen of all the angels, which would include St. Michael the Archangel, so appealing to her through the Hail Mary would potentially improve your chances of working successfully with St. Michael.

## THE OUR FATHER

### ENGLISH

*Our Father, Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

### LATIN

*Pater noster qui es in coelis,  
sanctificetur nomen tuum;  
adveniat regnum tuum,  
fiat voluntas tua,  
sicut in coelo et in terra.  
Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie,  
et dimitte nobis debita nostra,  
sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris.  
et ne nos inducas in tentationem  
sed libera nos a malo. Amen.*



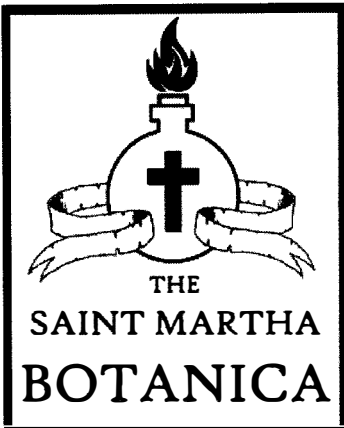
# THE HAIL MARY

## ENGLISH

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.*

## LATIN

*Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc,  
et in hora mortis nostrae.  
Amen.*



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