

### **“Hidden” Teaching (10 min)**

This teaching can be found on pages 54 to 55.

### **The Archangels (20 min)**

Break the youth into age specific small groups. The 6th graders reflect on St. Gabriel, the 7th graders reflect on St. Raphael, and the 8th graders reflect on St. Michael. Give a brief introduction to all three of the archangels before sending the youth off to their groups. Use the following as an example:

*Scripture has revealed only three names of angels, all of whom are archangels. These archangels are Gabriel, Raphael, and Michael. The name Michael means “Who is as God?” and he is the great warrior angel who fought against Satan and his demons. St. Michael also fights against all the enemies of God and His people. Gabriel means “Man of God” or “Strength of God” and all of his missions were closely tied with announcing the coming of the Messiah – particularly when He announced to Mary that she would be the Mother of God. The name Raphael means “God heals” or “Divine healer” and his mission is that of healing both physical and spiritual illnesses. These three angels, like all angels, are constantly at work to do the will of God. (Read more about this here “Proper Name of the Angels” by Pascal P. Parente, ewtn.com)*

#### (6th Grade) St. Gabriel:

Read Luke 1:26-38. Give each youth a Bible to follow along and use the following questions for discussion:

- When you think of angels, what do you imagine? What do you think angels do?
- Angels are messengers of God. What was the task of the archangel Gabriel?
- Why was his job so important?
- If you were Mary, how do you think you would react to seeing an angel?
- What other invisible reality is at work in Mary’s life at this time? (The Holy Spirit)
- Mary’s “yes” to becoming the Mother of God changed the world forever. How does her “yes” to the angel affect your daily life?

As a group, draw a picture of this scene in scripture using a large sheet of butcher paper and markers.

#### (7th Grade) St. Raphael:

Read Tobit 12:11-21. Give each youth a Bible to follow along use the following questions for discussion:

- When you think of angels, what do you imagine? What do you think angels do?
- Angels are messengers of God. What was the task of the archangel Raphael?

- What good works did the people do in this Scripture verse? What did the angel do?
- Where do you see it written that God sent the angel to do his will? What does this reveal about the work of angels?
- The angel says that it is “glorious to reveal the works of God.” How can you do this in your daily life?

As a group, draw a picture of this scene in scripture using a large sheet of butcher paper and markers.

### (8th Grade) St. Michael:

Read Revelation 12:7-10. Give each youth a Bible to follow along and use the following questions for discussion:

- When you think of angels, what do you imagine? What do you think angels do?
- Angels are messengers of God. What was the task of the archangel Michael?
- We learned in the talk about the fallen angels, the angels that St. Michael was fighting. Why were they fighting?
- What does this story reveal about St. Michael?
- Is he the type of angel you would want at your side? Why or why not?
- How do you think St. Michael can help you in your daily life?

As a group draw a picture of this scene in scripture using a large sheet of butcher paper and markers.

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### **Archangel Sharing (10 min)**

Allow each group time to briefly share their picture and explain how it represents the archangel and his mission.

### **Deliver Us From Evil (10 min)**

Project the Our Father prayer and put the words “deliver us from evil” in bold font. Use the following as an example of an introduction to this time of prayer:

*In the great prayer that Jesus gave us, the Our Father, we pray and ask for God to “**deliver us from evil.**” This is not something abstract, rather we are literally asking for God’s protection from Satan, the evil one. We know, though, that through God and through Christ’s victory on the cross, we have no need to fear evil for “if God is for us, who is against us!” We are not only praying for our own deliverance from the evil and sin in the world, but also for the whole human family. When we pray we are praying that everyone may come to know the peace, freedom, and joy by entrusting their lives to God and turning from evil and sin. (CCC 2850-2854, Romans 8:31)*

As a group pray together the Our Father and the Prayer to St. Michael for the specific intention of the protection of the whole human family from the snares of the devil.

## TEACHING GUIDE

To cover the basic information follow along and craft the talk based off of the bullet points. If you youth are ready to take it deeper, start incorporating a few of the Going Deeper call out boxes (like the one below) by picking the ones your youth would relate to the most.

### GOING DEEPER

Check inside these boxes for tips and ideas on how to take your youth a little deeper with the Proclaim.

- In the Apostles' Creed we hear the words "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth" and in the Nicene Creed we say the words "We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen." (CCC 325)
- *Go back and reemphasize some of the things the youth brainstormed that are real even though we cannot see them.*
- It is a truth of our faith that God created a whole spiritual realm that we cannot see. This spiritual realm is made up of the heavens, where the angels and saints dwell in full communion with God in eternal happiness and fulfillment - this is the state that the world is destined for. (CCC 326-327)

### GOING DEEPER

Briefly explain the process of canonization and share a story of your favorite saint.

- Angels are messengers of God; they are constantly at work to do the will of God and to bring about His plans of salvation for the world. (CCC 329)
- Like us, the angels have an intellect and will and are personal and immortal. Unlike us, they have no physical component to their being. Angels are pure spirit. Angels are a unique creature and creation of God; people do not become angels when they die. (CCC 330)
- *Project an image of the Annunciation.*
- Angels have been present throughout history, since creation, and scripture is full of stories of angels announcing salvation and the plans of God. We see angels present through the entire life of Jesus Christ, particularly during the announcement of His birth, through His passion and death, and they will accompany Him when He comes again at the end of time. (CCC 332-333)



### GOING DEEPER

Read through a few specific accounts from Scripture of the presence of angels - Genesis 3:24, Exodus 23:20-23, Luke 1:26-38, Luke 22:39-46.

- *Project an image of a Guardian Angel.*
- The angels are ever present in the life of the Church and we all benefit from their mysterious and powerful help. Angels are always present to us during the Mass and “beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life.” (CCC 334-336)



### THE DARK ANGELS

- Angels have intellect and will which means they can choose to follow God or not. At one point in time a certain group of angels willingly chose to turn away and reject God and His reign. Because of the nature of the angels, this choice could never be taken back. (CCC 392-393)
- *Project an image of St. Michael the Archangel.*
- The leader of this group of fallen angels is Satan or the devil. Satan and all the demons were naturally created good but “they became evil by their own doing” by making the radical choice to turn completely from God. (CCC 391)
- Satan is the father of lies and scripture reveals his disastrous influence, the worst of which was leading Adam and Eve to sin causing the fall of the human race. The devil even tries to divert Jesus from His mission, but he fails because “the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the work of the devil.” (1 John 3:8, John 8:44, CCC 394)
- Satan is real and his entire mission is to lead humanity astray and away from God. He does have power due to his spiritual nature, but he is still just a creature. His power is not infinite. God is still far greater and far more powerful than any work of the devil. (CCC 395)

### GOING DEEPER



If you are also subscribed to Life Teen play the video “Armor of God” from the Media Suggestions.

- We should not be afraid of the devil, but we also cannot pretend like he doesn't exist. He may try to lead us astray, and it is important to be on guard by praying, avoiding sin, going to the sacraments, and using our freewill to do good things. But we have to always remember that God is far greater than the devil and that Jesus Christ has already defeated him by His Death and Resurrection.



### GOING DEEPER

Incorporate the follow passage in your talk, “For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)

- *Challenge the youth to pray the prayer to their Guardian Angel everyday this week and end the talk by projecting the Prayer to Guardian Angels and praying it together as a group.*

