



Prayer for the Feast of St. Angela

January 27, 2024

Today we celebrate the feast of St. Angela Merici, the “*Madre*,” as those who knew her called her. Angela encourages us to come together from time to time...to meet and encourage one another. United across the miles, we pray together at the “feet of Jesus Christ.”

In these especially turbulent and challenging times, we call upon Angela, peacemaker and reconciler, to rekindle in us the fire of her vision. May we follow in her legacy of love of God and the call to unity that permeated her life.

Let us begin with song:



“In the Name of Love”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HYfPkg-gPI>

First Reading

From the Prologue to Angela’s *Counsels*:

May the strength and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all so that you can maintain and carry out the call you have received. Remain faithful and be full of concern for all God’s people.

How earnestly, then, you must beg God to enlighten you and direct you and teach you what you have to do for love of God. Do not lose heart if you do not know how or what to do. Have hope and firm faith in God, for God will help you in everything. Pray to God, humble yourselves under God’s mighty power because, without any doubt, since God has entrusted this call to you, God will give you the strength necessary to accomplish it providing there is nothing lacking on your part.


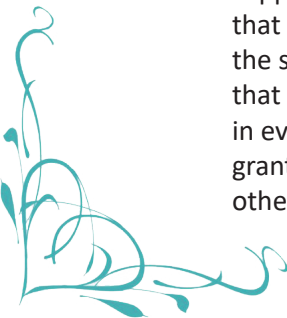
Act, bestir yourselves, have faith, make efforts, have hope, cry aloud to God with all your heart, then, without any doubt, you will see marvels.

Pause for Reflection

Second Reading

From the *Last Counsel* of Angela:

Cling together with bonds of charity, esteeming one another, helping one another, supporting one another in Christ Jesus. If you really try to live like this, there is no doubt that God will be in your midst. You will enjoy the favor of Our Lady, of the apostles, of the saints and angels, of all heaven and the entire created universe. God has designed that those who commit themselves to do good in God’s name will experience fulfillment in every way...I assure you that every grace you ask of God will most certainly be granted, and I shall always be among you, praying with you. Therefore, encourage each other to persevere in the work you have begun and to be happy together.





Quiet Reflection

*How is your heart moved?
How does Angela inspire you?*

Sharing

Litany of Angela

(Barbara Becnel, OSU, adapted)

Angela, Mother of our company . . . **hear our prayer.**
Angela, friend of those in need, . . .
Angela, comforter of those who mourn, . . .
Angela, peacemaker and reconciler of broken relationships . . .
Angela, pilgrim traveler through life, . . .

Woman of prayer, . . . **empower us.**
Woman of the Church, . . .
Woman of vision, . . .
Woman of daring, . . .
Woman of optimism and joy, . . .
Woman filled with the wisdom of age, . . .

One who found her refuge at the feet of Jesus, . . . **strengthen us.**
One who delighted in the unexpected, . . .
One who drew strength from the Passion of Jesus, . . .
One who waited on the guidance of the Spirit, . . .

For harmony and well-being, . . . **intercede for us.**
For unity of heart and will, . . .
For discernment when to support and when to challenge, . . .
For perseverance to follow the Spirit, . . .
For assurance that we have God and all creation on our side, . . .
For courage to change with the times, . . .



Closing Prayer

Loving God, creator of light in the darkness, you set Angela afire with love for you and empowered her with courage and perseverance to fulfill the vision you placed in her heart. May your Spirit spark the embers within us that we too may respond to your interventions in our lives and bring peace to our world. Amen.

“How Can I Keep From Singing”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Li2hddmy63U>