



# *Apostles for Today*

*Reflections and prayers - December 2009*

---

## **God the Infinite Love of St. Vincent Pallotti**

3 meditation

### **How the Angels in the first Hierarchy minister to our souls**

#### **Prayer**

My God, Infinite Love,  
give me the strength to await the Spirit of Love as it comes upon me  
and gives me with its coming wisdom and love  
and with the gift of love the ability to speak to every heart.

Oh immense light of my God,  
come to help me,  
teach me to speak,  
help me to be silent,  
guide me on my journey,  
check me in order that I stay close to You,  
so that each word spoken or silenced,  
each step taken or refused,  
all will be according to the perfect will of God.  
Oh divine light may all Your warm rays  
give me the serenity of the Saints.

#### **Reflection**

### **How the Angels in the first Hierarchy minister to our souls.**

St. Vincent Pallotti wishes - in this third meditation of the book entitled "God, the Infinite Love" – to have us reflect on the value and indeed on the ministry that the Angels exercise on our spiritual

journey. They are the very ones who lead and accompany us to an awareness of Infinite Love.

God, Infinite Love and Mercy, wishes that our souls, while living on this earth, have within them, a reign, the reign of His holy love. This is why our Lord Jesus Christ affirmed “The Kingdom of God is among you.” (Lk. 17, 21). This love transmits to the soul God himself, in fact, St. John often repeats to us: “Deus caritas est: God is love, anyone who lives in love lives in God and God lives in him” (1Jn 4,16). Therefore our souls do not possess an earthly kingdom, but possess God himself, who is infinitely greater than any existing or possible kingdoms. And it is thus that the soul possesses God through sanctifying grace and possesses him for all eternity in the glory of heaven.

For as soon as a soul performs an act of love of God it deserves heaven; this soul which lives in the love of God and in His grace, is able to have as many paradises as there are thoughts, words or good deeds done at any moment and for the love of God. Furthermore, the soul can acquire as many paradises as there are good intentions which it makes, works for, and desires, even in the most trifling things as long as everything, except sin, is done with the love of God.

All this happens because in heaven there are as many degrees of glory as there are good aims which one has in thinking, speaking, and working out of the love of God. In order to reach such an infinite, immense, incomprehensible richness God has given us a help which are the blessed Spirits which form the choir of Seraphim. At each moment they move us with impulses or darts of love in our souls. In order that the reign of the holy Love of God, once possessed, will not be lost, the Choir of Cherubim communicates to us those gifts, revelations, and graces which make us realize that only God can give Infinite love to us.

The choir of Thrones communicates to us all the graces, gifts and divine illuminations to prepare our souls to be temples of the Holy Spirit and tabernacles of the most Holy Trinity. Oh, one cannot

imagine so many inventions created by God for the salvation of our souls. And one cannot understand the happiness of a soul which achieves possession of the kingdom of Infinite Love and enamoured with the infinite loveableness of God never stops loving God and thus becomes the throne of His Divinity.

It is marvellous to believe that there is nothing more beautiful, more profound or more perfect than the Love of God.

Nothing more beautiful: this is a certainty that leads me to discover the beauty of the persons who are near to me, a beauty that consists of having encountered them in God; it is based precisely, in the power of the encounter. Thus there is nothing more profound than to discover the truth about ourselves.

St. Vincent used to say “and who am I before God ... nothingness and sin!” A growing awareness of who I am leads me to have need of this supernatural strength which guides me along the road to perfection.

Let us reflect on all these inventions created by God, Infinite Love!

Let us try to achieve true happiness;

Let us make the effort to possess the kingdom of Infinite love!

God loves us with Infinite Love

Let us thank Him for the gift of the Angels.

### **‘The Angels, our protectors’**

The Bible says that the Lord has placed his angels to guard the footsteps of persons so that their feet may not stumble, “He will put you in his angels’ charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.” (Mt. 4,6). And he recommended us to love these beings of light and to ask their help in necessities because they can give us a hand in every sense since they reflect the will to love of the Heavenly Father and are our brothers and faithful intermediaries. All the sacred texts affirm this, and in every age there has been evidence of their loving protection and of their special intervention. The city of St. Raphael in France bears this name because the archangel Raphael, loved and prayed to by

the population, miraculously protected it from the plague and from other calamities. These citizens had unshakable trust in their guardian angel who give concrete responses to the requests of the persons he protected.

**Ask yourself:**

What is your relationship with the angels?

How much do you esteem your personal Guardian Angel?

Do you know that St. Vincent and so many other saints used the angels to call persons in order to fill the Church?

**Let us pray with St. Vincent Pallotti:**

“My God,  
my infinitely lovable Father,  
eternal Sovereign of my soul,  
in Your infinite love and moved by your infinite mercy  
through the Seraphim you are always working to give me the graces  
to love You;  
through the Cherubim the enlightenment to know You as worthy of  
infinite love;  
through the Thrones You communicate to me other graces so that  
my soul may become forever Your throne.  
Yet, instead of loving You, I have loved creatures,  
I have turned my eyes toward them  
and I have allowed them to captivate my mind and heart.  
Oh my God, I am sorry;  
may You help me to be sorry always,  
and in Your infinite mercy,  
and through the infinite merits of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
through the merits and intercession of Mary,  
and of all the Angels and Saints of paradise,  
grant me at the very least to remember Your Infinite Love,  
and Your Infinite Mercy  
in order to achieve the holiness that You desire.”

(cf. *God, the Infinite Love*, med. III)