

# Origin of the Prayer to St. Michael

<https://www.simplycatholic.com/st-michael-prayer/>

# History

- On Oct. 1, 1884, Pope Leo XIII had a deeply disturbing mystical experience at Mass.
- He explained that he had heard two voices in the vicinity of the tabernacle. He believed they were the voices of Our Lord and of Satan. Pope Leo heard Satan boast that he could destroy the Church in 75 or 100 years, if given the opportunity. Then he heard Our Lord give Satan permission to try.
- The prayer which Pope Leo XIII composed was 10 times the length of the version we use today.

# History

- Use of the prayer was discontinued in 1964.
- Thirty years later, in his Regina Coeli address, Pope John Paul II revived use of the prayer.
- Pope John Paul II said, "Although the prayer is no longer recited at the end of Mass, I ask everyone not to forget it and to recite it to obtain help in the battle against the forces of darkness and against the spirit of the world." The pope clearly intended that we should offer this prayer in our homes as well.

# Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
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.