

# Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich

1774-1824

*The life* of Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich is full of supernatural interventions, among which are some visions of Angels. Her existence is marked by a profound union with Christ. She participates so intimately in the Lord's sufferings, that we can say that she lives, suffers and dies with Christ.

An exterior sign of her union with God is the stigmata that she carries on her body. On the evening of September 29, 1820, feast of the Archangels, she has a vision in which the protagonist is Michael the Archangel who takes Blessed Anne Emmerich on a marvelous voyage through the length and breadth of creation. After

The prayers of their charges make their Angels even more fervent in their love for God.

The evil spirits manifest themselves in an entirely different way from that of the Angels. The evil spirits reflect a murky light. They are lazy, bored, dreamy, gloomy, irascible, barbaric, rigid and passive, or slightly mobile and passionate. I have noticed that



visiting the places dear to the Archangel (Mont St. Michele and San Michele sul Gargano), Anne Catherine is led to see a mysterious mill, where some souls who had ruled the earth were paying for their faults.

The presence of the Archangel is a source of comfort to Blessed Anne Catherine: "In that place were to be found the souls of rulers and illustrious personages of all times and places, who were paying for their sins."

The experience of Blessed Catherine continues with the vision of the good and bad Angels and of their activity among men. "I saw how the Guardian Angels exercise their office: they chase away the evil spirits from people, stirring up good thoughts in them. In this way, people could entertain peaceful images in their minds. The Guardian Angels aspire only to serve and carry out God's commands.

these spirits display the same colors that suffuse men and women during those painful sensations that stem from situations of extreme pain and anguish of soul. They are the same colors that suffused the martyrs during the transfiguration of the glory of martyrdom. The faces of the evil spirits are sharp-edged, violent, and penetrating. They insinuate themselves into the human spirit like insects attracted to plants or bodies by certain smells. These spirits penetrate into souls arousing all sorts of passions and earthly thoughts in them. Their purpose is to separate people from the divine influence and to cast them into spiritual darkness. In this way, people are prepared to receive the devil, who impresses on them the final seal of their separation from God. I also saw how mortifications and fasts can greatly weaken the power of these spirits and how this power can be decisively repelled, especially through the reception of the Holy Sacraments."