

September Hymns

by Catholic All Year

Christ, the Fair Glory of the Holy Angels

Words: Rabanus Maurus
Tune: COELITES PLAUDANT
Arr: Grace Elaine Brown



This triumphant hymn was written by Saint Rabanus Maurus (776-856 A.D.). He was a schoolmaster, abbot, archbishop, and a lifelong scholar of Scripture. Another hymn by him, "Come, Creator Spirit," occasioned life-changing moments for Saints Clare and Teresa of Avila among others. As Archbishop, he was a powerful warrior for the Church Militant--condemning local heresy and penning this hymn asking the archangels and Our Lady for protection. An excellent choice for Michaelmas!

VERSE 1

Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels,
Thou who hast made us, Thou who o'er us rulest,
grant of thy mercy, unto us thy servants,
steps up to heaven.

VERSE 2

Send Thy archangel, Michael, to our succour;
peacemaker blessed, may he banish from us
striving and hatred, so that for the peaceful
all things may prosper.

VERSE 3

Send Thine archangel, Gabriel, the mighty;
herald of heaven, may he from us mortals,
spurn the old serpent, watching o'er the temples
where thou art worshiped.

VERSE 4

Send Thy archangel, Raphael, the restorer,
of the misguided ways of those who wander,
who at Thy bidding strengthens soul and body
with Thine anointing.

VERSE 5

May the blest Mother of our God and Saviour,
may the assembly of the saints in glory,
may the celestial companies of angels
ever assist us.

VERSE 6

Father almighty, Son and Holy Spirit,
God ever blessed, be Thou our preserver;
Thine is the glory which the angels worship
veiling their faces.