

THE MIRACLE OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL

Miraculous occurrences play a major role in our Faith. Countless tales of Divine Intervention have been documented among those who fervently prayed to our Lord, the Theotokos or one of God's saints for their assistance in time of need.

One such miracle is attributed to the Archangel Michael. In the town of Colossae in Asia Minor, a great church dedicated to this angelic warrior was built by the faithful on the site of a popular well, whose waters were said to have healing powers. The Church of the Archangel Michael and its well became known throughout the Empire. Faithful from remote regions moved to Colossae just to be close to this sacred site. Archippos, a young boy from Hieropolis was attracted to this holy place, serving as acolyte and custodian of the Church of the Archangel Michael for over 80 years!

At the time when his life was nearing its end, Archippos learned of a diabolical plan devised by pagan detractors to divert the flow of the nearby Chryssos river, so that its rushing waters would destroy the famous church and its well. Archippos went to the church and prayed to the Archangel Michael to intercede. According to Holy tradition, St. Michael descended from heaven and plunged his fiery sword into the river separating it into two parts. Instead of engulfing the church and its well, the river literally formed a protective moat around the site!