THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

"Let the children come to me, do not hinder them," (Mk 10:14)

A Season of Saints!

This is the story of a U.S. Marine wounded in the Korean War in 1950. Writing to his mother, he explained what happened. Father Walter Muldy, a U.S. Navy chaplain who spoke to the young Marine and his mother as well as to the outfit commander, always claimed the accuracy of this narrative. The lesson that we can learn from this story is this: no matter what dangers we face, we don't have to be afraid because our glorious KING JESUS will send the mighty Saint Michael to aid and defend us when we call upon the Archangel for help. The letter begins like this: Dear Mom, I am writing to you from a hospital bed. Don't worry, Mom, I am okay. I was wounded, but the doctor says that I will be up in no time. Something happened to me that I don't dare tell anyone else for fear of their disbelief. But I have to tell you, the one person I can confide in. You remember the prayer to Saint Michael that you taught me to pray when I was little. Before I left for Korea, you urged me to pray this prayer before any confrontation with the enemy. But you didn't have to remind me, Mom. I have always prayed it. When I got to Korea, I found myself praying it multiple times a day. Well, one day, our unit was told to move forward and scout for communist soldiers. As I walked along, I noticed another fellow walking right beside me. He was big, a Marine about 6'4" and built proportionally. Funny, but I didn't know him, and I thought I knew everyone in my unit. "I have never seen you before," I said. "No," he agreed, "I have just joined. The name is Michael." "That's mine, too," I said. "I know," he answered. He continued by repeating the same Saint Michael prayer you had taught me! Then he said, "There's going to be trouble ahead." The next thing that I can remember is suddenly there was a band of enemy soldiers right before us, with their guns aimed to shoot!

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Saint Michael the Archangel

And that's all I remember. When I came to, the rest of the guys were there with me along with the sergeant. "How did you do it, son?" he asked me. "How did I do what, sir?" I asked. "There wasn't a single bullet fired from your rifle. How did you do it?" he repeated. "I don't understand," I said. "Son, there were enemy soldiers strewn all around you, each one killed by a sword-stroke." And, Mom, nobody knew of another Michael. I'm not sure what to think, but there is one thing I am sure about: it happened. Love, Michael

"Michael, Michael of the morning,
Fresh chord of Heaven adorning,
Keep me safe today,
And in time of temptation
Drive the devil away. Amen."