



SANTO: SAINT MICHAEL

In Roman Catholicism, Saint Michael has four roles:

1. He is the enemy of Satan (he cast the devil out of heaven)
2. He is the Christian Angel of death (at the hour of death, St. Michael descends and gives each soul the chance to redeem itself).
3. He is the “weigher of souls” as he compares the “good deeds” against the “bad deeds.”
4. He is the Guardian of the Church.

Overall, Saint Michael symbolizes the victory of good over evil. He “weighs” the good deeds of each soul against the “bad” deeds committed in a lifetime, and offers every soul a final chance to overcome sins through good deeds. He is extremely important in the iconography in the church. There are more images and representations of Saint Michael in New Mexico than of any other male saint.