Q1. (Faith) In the resurrection story of Jesus, we are told that the guards securing the tomb of Jesus were offered money to say of Jesus’ body, “His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.” What do you see in this episode with St. Peter that might lead you to believe the sleeping on guard story may not have been a wise way to discredit the truth of the Resurrection?

Acts 12:18-19

18 At daybreak there was no small commotion among the soldiers   
over what had become of Peter.

19 Herod, after instituting a search but not finding him,   
ordered the guards tried and executed.

Matthew 28:12-13

12 They assembled with the elders and took counsel;   
then they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

1. telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.'

Q2. (Hope) The Church teaches of the existence of guardian angels and their interaction in the lives of the faithful. What do you see in the rescue of St. Peter from the guards of Herod that supports the teachings of the Church and what hope does it give you in your life??

Acts 12:14-15

14 She was so overjoyed when she recognized Peter’s voice that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate.

15 They told her, “You are out of your mind,” but she insisted that it was so. But they kept saying, “It is his angel.”

CCC334

334 In the meantime, the whole life of the Church benefits from the mysterious and powerful help of angels.

CCC336

From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life." Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united in God.

Matthew 18:10

10 "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.

Q3. (Love) When St. Peter arrived at the house of the Mother of Mark, why might his decision not to stay with them have been a great act of charity?

He motioned to them with his hand to be quiet and explained [to them] how the Lord had led him out of the prison, and said, “Report this to James and the brothers.” Then he left and went to another place. V.17

A1. (Faith) In the resurrection story of Jesus, we are told that the guards securing the tomb of Jesus were offered money to say of Jesus’ body, “His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.” What do you see in this episode with St. Peter that might lead you to believe the sleeping on guard story may not have been a wise way to discredit the truth of the Resurrection?

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13 telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came by night   
and stole him while we were asleep.'

Sleeping on guard duty was punishable by death both among the Jews and the Romans. It would take a lot of money to risk one’s life to admit to a capital offence knowing that it was not true.

A2. (Hope) The Church teaches of the existence of guardian angels and their interaction in the lives of the faithful. What do you see in the rescue of St. Peter from the guards of Herod that supports the teachings of the Church and what hope does it give you in your life??

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The angel that rescued St. Peter from prison was clearly a guardian and protector who intervened to save him from certain death at the hands of Herod. Although not as worthy as St Peter in the building of the Church and spreading the Gospel, Our Lord tells even the “little ones” in the faith have a guardian angel that “always look[s] upon the face of my heavenly Father.” I believe the Word of the Lord and I believe that even my sinful soul is of great value to God.

The words of Our Lord, the events of St. Peter’s miraculous rescue, and the teachings of the Church affirm the existence of angels and the role of a specific angel “his angel” acting as a Guardian Angel.

I have come to believe explicitly the teachings of the Church as a matter of will and of obedience. I believe because of the testimony of faith witnesses from ancient times and in my life in the Church. I also believe because I have had personal experiences which have led me this firm belief. Michelle Giannetti, illustrator of my book being assigned to my table just when needed. My son’s friend asking me about the status of my book and the subsequent “voice of the Lord.”

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We are told that when St. Peter was found to be missing that, “Herod, after instituting a search but not finding him, ordered the guards tried and executed.” V.19 it would be likely that the search would include the known associates of St. Peter. It is likely that had he been discovered hiding in the house of the mother of Mark, everyone in the house would have been executed. By, not hiding in a place of some comfort, St. Peter spared the people in the house of the mother of mark from certain death.