

Closing Prayer

O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Rosary Beads

Repetitive prayer helps us relax and communicate with our inner, spiritual presence of God.

The idea behind Rosary beads is minimize the need to count prayers, a left-brain function, and move into the more spiritual right-brain where one is more likely to be moved and inspired.

Recognize that we have all experienced this phenomenon. Surely you remember a time when you were praying the Our Father, not paying attention to the words, and finding yourself being spiritually moved, or maybe thinking of something else.

Say the Rosary using your beads.

Dwell on the Mystery of that decade, not the words you are saying.

Communicate with your inner presence of God.

Let your spirit of Service be inspired.

The Rosary

The Rosary begins with the Apostles Creed, followed by one Our Father, three Hail Marys (traditionally offered for an increase in faith, hope, and charity for those praying the Rosary), a Glory Be, and, if desired, the Fatima Prayer. Next come five mysteries, each consisting of one Our Father, ten Hail Marys, a Glory Be, and, if desired, the Fatima Prayer. Conclude with the Hail Holy Queen.

Six Prayers for Saying the Rosary

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified; died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. *Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.*

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.*

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, *as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.*

Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us of our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls into heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy.

Hail Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

Pray for us O Holy Mother of God, *That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.*

The Mysteries of the Rosary

The Joyful Mysteries (Mon/Sat)

1. The Annunciation to Mary

The Messenger of God Announces to Mary that she is to be the Mother of God. *Humility*--30 *Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father; 33 and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."*- Luke 1:30-33

2. The Visitation of Mary

Mary visits and helps her cousin Elizabeth. *Love of Neighbor*--41 *When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, 42 cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."*- Luke 1:41-42

3. The Nativity of Our Lord

Mary gives birth to Jesus in a stable in Bethlehem. *Spirit of Poverty*--10 *The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For today, in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord"*- Luke 2:10-11

4. The Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple

Jesus is presented in the Temple. *Obedience to God's Will*--29 *"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."*- Luke 2:29-32

5. The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple

Jesus is found in the Temple. *Fidelity to Vocation, Joy in finding Jesus*--48 *When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." 49 And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not understand what he said to them. 51 He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus advanced [in] wisdom and age and favor before God and man."*- Luke 2:48-52

The Sorrowful Mysteries (Tues/Fri)

1. The Agony in the Garden

Jesus undergoes his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. *Spirit of Prayer, Sorrow for Sin*--38 *Then he said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me." 39 He advanced a little and fell prostrate in prayer, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will."*- Matthew 26:38-39

2. The Scourging at the Pillar

Jesus is scourged at the pillar. *Modesty and Purity*--1 *Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged.*- John 19:1

3. The Crowning with Thorns

Jesus is crowned with thorns. *Courage*--16 *The soldiers led him away inside the palace, that is, the praetorium, and assembled the whole cohort. 17 They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him.*- Mark 15:16-17

4. The Carrying of the Cross

Jesus carries the cross to Calvary. *Patience in Suffering*--17 *[A]nd carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha.*- John 19:17

5. The Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord on the Cross

Jesus dies on the cross for our sins. *Self-denial, Perseverance*--28 *After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I thirst." 29 There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. 30 When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished." And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.*- John 19:28-30

The Glorious Mysteries (Wed/Sun)

1. The Resurrection of Our Lord

Jesus rises from the dead. *Faith*--6 *He said to them, "Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold, the place where they laid him. 7 But go and tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.'"*- Mark 16:6-7

2. The Ascension of Our Lord

Jesus ascends into heaven. *Hope*--10 *While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood*

beside them. 11 They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."- Acts 1:10-11

3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles

The Holy Spirit comes to the apostles and the Blessed Mother. *Wisdom, Love of God, Zeal, Fortitude*--1 *When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. 2 And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. 3 Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them.*- Acts 2:1-3

4. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven

The Mother of Jesus is taken into heaven. *Eternal Happiness, Grace of a Happy Death*--3 *As an apple tree among the trees of the woods, so is my lover among men. 4 I delight to rest in his shadow, and his fruit is sweet to my mouth. 4 He brings me into the banquet hall and his emblem over me is love. 5 Strengthen me with raisin cakes, refresh me with apples, for I am faint with love. 6 His left hand is under my head and his right arm embraces me.*- Song of Songs 2:3-6

5. The Coronation of Our Lady as Queen of Heaven and Earth

Mary is crowned queen of heaven and earth. *Devotion to Mary and Final Perseverance, Trust in Mary's Intercession*--46 *And Mary said, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; 47 my spirit rejoices in God my savior. 48 For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed."*- Luke 1:46-48

The Luminous Mysteries (Thurs)

1. The Baptism in the Jordan

Jesus is baptized in the river Jordan by John the Baptist. *Openness to the Holy Spirit*--13 *Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 14 John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" 15 Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. 16 After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened [for him], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him. 17 And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."*- Matthew 3:13-17

2. The Self-Manifestation of Our Lord at the wedding of Cana

Jesus changes water into wine and opens the hearts of the disciples to faith. *To Jesus through Mary*--1 *On the third day there as a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." 4 [And] Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. 7 Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim. 8 Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it. 9 And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." 11 Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.*- John 2:1-11

3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God, with the Call to Conversion

Jesus preaches about the Kingdom of God and calls for conversion. *Repentance and Trust in God*--14 *After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: 15 "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*- Mark 1:14-15

4. The Transfiguration

Jesus is transfigured before the disciples. *Desire for Holiness*--29 *While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.*- Luke 9:29

5. The Institution of the Eucharist

Christ offers his body and blood as food under the signs of bread and wine. *Adoration*--19 *Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me." 20 And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you."*- Luke 22:19-20

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