



The Rosary

The rosary mystically transports us to Mary's side as she is busy watching over the human growth of Christ in the home of Nazareth. This enables her to train us and to mold us with the same care, until Christ is "fully formed" in us. (Gal 4:19) This role of Mary, totally grounded in that of Christ and radically subordinated to it, "in no way obscures or diminishes the unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power." Mary lives only in Christ and for Christ!" (Rosarium Virginis Mariae, 15)

The word rosary means 'crown of roses', a spiritual bouquet given to the Blessed Mother. The rosary has been called the prayer of contemplation and the prayer of the saints, because while praying, the mind meditates on the mysteries given for each decade. One who prays the rosary uses the mind and imagination to consider a truth and uses the will to love it and form resolutions to live it.

Fifteen Promises of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Christians who Faithfully Pray the Rosary

1. Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal graces.
2. I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary.
3. The rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
4. It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the heart of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
5. The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the rosary shall not perish.
6. Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred mysteries, shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise Him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unprovided death; if he be just he shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life.
7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite the rosary shall have, during their life and at their death, the light of God and the plenitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.
9. I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary.
10. The faithful children of the rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
11. You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the rosary.
12. All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
14. All who recite the rosary are my sons, and brothers of my only Son Jesus Christ.
15. Recitation of the rosary is a sign of great predestination.

HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

1. Make the sign of the cross and say the "Apostles' Creed"
2. Say the "Our Father"
3. Say three "Hail Mary's"
4. Say the "Glory be to the Father"
5. Announce the first Mystery; then say the "Our Father"
6. Say ten "Hail Mary's" while meditating on the Mystery
7. Say the "Glory be to the Father"
8. Announce the second Mystery; then say the "Our Father". Repeat 6 and 7 and continue with third, fourth and fifth mysteries in the same way.

After each decade say the following prayer requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: "O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy."

At the end of the rosary:

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 vale 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!

V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. 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.

MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

Joyful Mysteries

To be prayed on Mondays and Saturdays

- The Annunciation
Luke 1:26-38
- The Visitation
Luke 1:39-45
- The Birth of Christ
Matthew 1:18-25
- Presentation in the Temple
Luke 2:22-38
- Finding in the Temple
Luke 2:41-52

Sorrowful Mysteries

To be prayed on Tuesdays and Fridays

- Agony in the Garden
Mark 14:32-42
- Scourging at the Pillar
John 19:1, Isaiah 53
- Crowning with Thorns
Matthew 27:27-31
- Carrying of the Cross
Matthew 27:32, Luke 23:26-32
- Crucifixion and Death of Jesus
Luke 23:33-43, John 19:16-30

Luminous Mysteries

To be prayed on Thursdays

- Baptism of Jesus
Matthew 3:16-17
- Wedding Feast of Cana
John 2:1-12
- Proclamation of the Kingdom and Call to Conversion
Mark 1:14-15
- The Transfiguration
Luke 9:28-36
- Institution of the Holy Eucharist
Luke 22:14-20

Glorious Mysteries

To be prayed on Sundays and Wednesdays

- The Resurrection
Matthew 28:1-10
- The Ascension
Luke 24:50-53
- Descent of the Holy Spirit
Acts 2:1-13
- Assumption of Mary
Luke 1:48, Revelation 12:14
- Coronation of Mary as Queen
Judith 15:9, Revelation 12:1