

# The Power of the Rosary

*Our Lady of the Rosary—Feast Day: October 7*

*"The Rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the rosary is beyond description." (Blessed Fulton Sheen)*

The Rosary is perhaps one of the most recognized Catholic prayers. With similarities to many early Church prayer traditions, the Rosary in its earliest form began to spread as a devotion through St. Dominic in the early 13th century. It has remained a core devotion of the faithful over the centuries. As St. John Paul II reminds us, this devotional prayer has one main purpose: to contemplate the face of Jesus alongside His mother.

## THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

### THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

*Mondays and Saturdays  
Sundays of Advent & Christmas*

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity
4. The Presentation
5. The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

### THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

*Tuesdays and Fridays  
Sundays of Lent*

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion

### THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

*Wednesdays and Sundays*

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption
5. The Coronation

### THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

*Thursdays*

1. The Baptism in the Jordan
2. The Wedding at Cana
3. Proclamation of the Kingdom
4. The Transfiguration
5. Institution of the Eucharist

## HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

Begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Holding the Crucifix, pray the **Apostles' Creed**.

On the first (usually larger) bead, pray an **Our Father** for the intentions of the Holy Father

Pray one **Hail Mary** on each of the next three beads for Faith, Hope, and Charity

Pray the **Glory Be**

For each of the five decades, announce the **Mystery** (*perhaps followed by a brief reading from Scripture as relates to the Mystery*) then pray the **Our Father** on the large bead.

Next pray ten **Hail Marys** (*a decade*), advancing through the smaller beads, while meditating on the **Mystery**.

Finish the decade by praying a **Glory Be** followed by the **Fatima Prayer**.

After praying the five decades, pray the **Hail, Holy Queen**, followed by this dialogue and prayer:

*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 while meditating on 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.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY

**THE APOSTLES' CREED:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again 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 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 among 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 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.

**THE FÁTIMA PRAYER:** O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy.

**SALVE REGINA/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 us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.