

# THE ROSARY

## A Very Powerful Prayer



*"Say the Rosary everyday to  
obtain peace for the world."*

Our Lady of Fatima

## **What “Rosary” means**

It means a “*Crown of Roses*”. Our Lady has revealed that each time we say a Hail Mary, we are giving Her a beautiful rose and that each complete rosary makes Her a crown of roses. As the rose is the queen of flowers, and so the Rosary is the rose of all devotions.

### **Every “Hail Mary” is like a blow on Satan’s head!**

Father Gabriel Amorth, Chief Exorcist of the Vatican writes:

*One day a colleague of mine heard the devil say during an exorcism: “Every Hail Mary is like a blow on my head. If Christians knew how powerful the Rosary was, it would be my end!”*

Why is the Rosary such a powerful prayer?

### **The Rosary is the prayer of our Blessed Mother, whom together with Jesus, God has made the enemies of Satan**

*(God said to the serpent:) I will put enmity between you and the Woman, and between your offspring and Hers; He will crush your head, and you will strike His heel.” (Genesis 3:15)*

In making Mary the enemy of Satan, God gave great power to Mary to destroy the power of evil.

### **Mary’s great and unequalled power of intercession for us before God is greater than that of the whole heavenly court of saints and angels (St. Louis de Monfort, True Devotion to Mary)**

Mary is our spiritual Mother whom Jesus gave to us before He died on the Cross. As our Mother, She is unceasingly and untiringly interceding for us, Her children. Jesus does not refuse the request of His beloved Mother.

### **The Rosary is a beautiful, Scriptural prayer**

The first part of the Hail Mary called the Angelic Salutation is taken straight out of Scripture.

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with You. (Luke 1:28).*

*Blessed are You amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of Your womb (Luke 1:42).*

## **The Rosary is a prayerful meditation of the key events in the life of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

In the rosary lies the awesome story of our salvation. Through our prayerful meditation, we share and participate in the joy, suffering and glory of Jesus through the pure heart of Mary. Our insight into God's personal love for each of us is deepened, and we grow in faith, hope and charity. Our virtues are strengthened, vices discouraged.

### **The Rosary is a channel of graces**

Through our Blessed Mother, the Mediatrix of All Graces, treasures of grace are released as we recall the mysteries of our redemption. Our rosary said with humble, childlike hearts is the receptacle through which we can gather the precious graces needed for help in our daily life and sanctification. **“You strengthen the outpouring of My grace with every Hail Mary.” (Mary said to a Saint).**

### **The Rosary is given to us by God as a special, powerful weapon to defeat evil**

St. Dominic was the instrument of God to promote the rosary in its present day form to the faithful. In the 13<sup>th</sup> century (AD 1208) St. Dominic, a Spanish priest was travelling through southern France, when he noticed large areas were taken over by Albigensian heretics. Their evil acts included robbing churches of their treasures, murdering priests, tearing open the tabernacles and desecrating the Blessed Sacrament.

Seeing the grave situation, St. Dominic prayed unceasing, while weeping and performing harsh penances to appease God's anger and to beg for divine intervention. Finally his prayers were heard in a miraculous way. Then, so the legend tells us, the glorious Queen of heaven appeared to him, spoke words of encouragement, and taught him how to pray the Rosary, assuring him that this would be the right weapon to conquer error and sin. As a result, St. Dominic ardently and zealously promoted the Rosary and used it to great, miraculous effects.

*Thus, divine wisdom and infinite power of God make use of humble things to effect great achievements.*

## **The Rosary is recommended by the Popes and saints**

St. Pope John Paul II has called the Rosary his “favorite prayer,” after the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours.

*“Among all the devotions approved by the Church none has been so favored by so many miracles as the devotion of the Most Holy Rosary.”* (Blessed Pope Pius IX).

*“The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary.”* (St. Pope Pius X).

*“The Rosary is the compendium of the entire Gospel”* (Blessed Pope Paul VI quoting Pope Pius XII).

*“Never will anyone who says his Rosary every day be led astray. This is a statement that I would gladly sign with my blood.”*(St. Louis de Montfort).

*“Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world.”* (Blessed Pope Pius IX).

## **Mary’s Apparition at Fatima, Portugal**

**Sr. Lucia, one of the three children Mary appeared to at Fatima, stated in a 1957 interview...**

“The Most Holy Virgin, in these last times in which we live, has given new efficacy in the recitation of the Holy Rosary.

She has given this efficacy to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in families, of the families in the world, or of the religious communities, or even of the life of peoples and nations, that cannot be solved by the Rosary.

There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot solve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary. With the Holy Rosary we will save ourselves. We will sanctify ourselves. We will console Our Lord and obtain the salvation of many souls.”

## **The Fifteen Promises of Mary to Christians Who Recite 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 son, and brothers of My only Son Jesus Christ.

15. Devotion of My Rosary is a great sign of predestination.

*(Given by Mary to St. Dominic and Blessed Alan)*

*Imprimatur: Patrick J. Hayes, D.D., Archbishop of New York)*

### **Many Military Victories Won through the Rosary**

Many military battles in the history of Christianity were won, attributed to the power of Mary released through the praying of Her holy Rosary. Below is a list of some of the first military battles won.

1213 - Victory of Muret, France

1627 - La Rochelle, France

1571 - The Battle of Lepanto - the most famous and important of the military victories through the Rosary

1683 - The Battle of Vienna, Austria

1716 - Peterwardein, Hungary

1815 - The Battle of New Orleans, America

1945 - Hiroshima, Japan

1955 - Austria - overcoming the threat of Communism

1966 - Brazil, and

1975 - Portugal - were spared Communist rule through the power of the rosary.

## How to Pray the Rosary

(See the back page for the chart)

*The Holy Rosary was given to St. Dominic and Blessed Alan de la Roche by our Blessed Mother, among the promises to those who pray the Rosary, Our Blessed Mother said that the Rosary shall be a powerful armour against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.*

- Pray with a childlike heart filled with love for and confidence in our Blessed Saviour and our Blessed Mother.
- Meditate on the mysteries of our salvation story.
- If possible, for efficacious effect: recitation (aloud) and in group.

There are four Mysteries of the Rosary to be meditated upon while praying the Rosary. The Mysteries centre on the Life of Jesus from His Conception to His Death and Resurrection. Traditionally, when we pray the Rosary, we meditate on the mystery of the day as stipulated below. However, as Our Lady at Fatima exhorted us to pray at least three Rosaries daily, we are then encouraged to meditate on different mysteries to complete the Life cycle of Our Lord as we pray the three Rosaries. The Mysteries of Light or the Luminous Mysteries was added by St. Pope John Paul II in October 2002.

### Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary

Monday & Saturday

#### **I. The Annunciation of the Lord to Mary**

*“You shall conceive in Your womb and bear a Son, and You shall call His Name Jesus.” (Luke 1:31)*

#### **II. The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth**

*In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country of Judah, and She entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. (Luke 1:39-40)*

#### **III. The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ**

*For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His Name shall be called “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace”. (Isaiah 9:6)*

**IV. The Presentation of our Lord**

*When the time came according to their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord. (Luke 2:22)*

**V. Finding Jesus in the Temple at age 12**

*After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Luke 2:46)*

**Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary**

Tuesday & Friday

**I. The Agony of Jesus in the Garden**

*“Father, if Thou art willing, remove this cup from Me.”  
(Luke 22:42)*

**II. The Scouring at the Pillar**

*Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. (John 19:1)*

**III. Jesus is Crowned with Thorns**

*And plating a crown of thorns they put it on His Head.  
(Matthew 27:29)*

**IV. Jesus Carried the Cross**

*They took Jesus, and He went out, bearing His own Cross.  
(John 19:17)*

**V. The Crucifixion of our Lord**

*When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him. (Luke 23:33)*

**Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary**

Wednesday & Sunday

**I. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ**

*Behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel and...said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.” (Luke 24:5)*

**II. The Ascension of Jesus to Heaven**

*And lifting up His Hands He blessed them. While He blessed them, He parted from them and was taken up into heaven.  
(Luke 24:50-51)*



**III. The Descent of the Holy Ghost**

*And there appeared tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:3-4)*

**IV. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven**

*“When I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.”  
(John 14:3)*

**V. Mary is Crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth**

*A great portent appeared in the heaven, a Woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under Her Feet. And on Her Head a crown of twelve stars. (Revelation 12:1)*

**Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary**

Thursday

**I. The Baptism in the Jordan**

*When Jesus was baptized, He went up immediately from the water. And behold, the heavens were opened. (Matthew 3:16)*

**II. The Wedding at Cana**

*He said, “Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast.” So they took it. The steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it had come from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew).  
(John 2:8-9)*

**III. The Proclamation of the Kingdom**

*“Repent, and believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15)*

**IV. The Transfiguration**

*And He was transfigured before them, and His Face shone like the sun, and His garments became white as light.  
(Matthew 17:2)*

**V. The Institution of the Eucharist**

*And He took bread, and when He had given thanks He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My Body which is given for you.” (Luke 22:19)*

**Using the Rosary beads, start with:**

The Apostles' Creed ("I believe") on the crucifix followed by one Our Father, three Hail Mary's and one "Glory Be".

**On each of the five decades of rosary beads, pray:**

Our Father

10 Hail Mary's

Glory Be

Fatima Prayer: *"O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Your mercy."*

**Conclude with:**

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!

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 by meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Prayers used in the Holy Rosary**

### **The Apostles' Creed (I Believe)**

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; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right Hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will 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 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 You. Blessed are You among women, and blessed is the Fruit of Your 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.

### **The Fatima Prayer (O My Jesus)**

O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Your 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!

**“Come, Holy Spirit, come by means of the powerful intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Your well-beloved Spouse.”**

