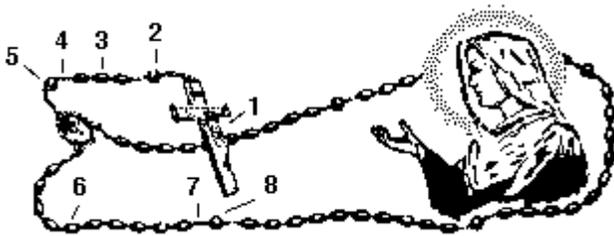


The Scriptural Rosary

Introduction

The Rosary is a spiritual exercise for the soul, mind and heart. It is a scriptural meditation upon the mysteries of our salvation, by reflecting upon and praying over the central events and actions in the life of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. The Rosary is divided into five decades (ten beads). Each decade represents a mystery or event in the life of Jesus. There are four sets of "Mysteries of the Rosary" (*Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious*). These four "Mysteries of the Rosary" therefore contain a total of twenty mysteries. The Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries are then said on specific days of the week (*see each set of mysteries below*). During private recitation of the Rosary, each decade requires devout meditation on a specific mystery. Public recitation of the Rosary (*two or more people*), requires a leader to announce each of the mysteries before the decade, and start each prayer (*see "The Family Rosary" below*).

The Apostle's Creed is said on the Crucifix; the Our Father is said on each of the Large Beads; the Hail Mary is said on each of the Small Beads; the Glory Be after the three Hail Mary's at the beginning of the Rosary, and after each decade of Small Beads.



1. Make the **Sign of the Cross** and say the "[Apostles' Creed.](#)"
2. Say the "[Our Father.](#)"
3. Say three "[Hail Marys.](#)"
4. Say the "[Glory be to the Father.](#)"
5. Announce the First Mystery; then say the "[Our Father.](#)"
6. Say ten "[Hail Marys.](#)" 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 manner.

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, and 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 life everlasting. Amen.

Our Father: (1x per mystery)

Leader: Our father, who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

All: *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: (10x per mystery)

Leader: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

All: *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

Glory be to the Father: (1x per mystery)

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All: *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen*

After each mystery say the following prayer requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima:

All: "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 conclusion 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 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 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.

The **Joyful** mysteries are said on Monday and Saturday, the **Luminous** on Thursday, the **Sorrowful** on Tuesday and Friday, and the **Glorious** on Wednesday and Sunday (with this exception: Sundays of Christmas season - The Joyful; Sundays of Lent - Sorrowful)

The Joyful Mysteries

(Said on Mondays, Saturdays, and Sundays of Advent)

First Joyful Mystery - The Annunciation of Gabriel to Mary

I Desire the Love Of Humility

Think of...

The humility of the Blessed Virgin when the Angel Gabriel greeted her with these words: "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with thee." Not knowing fully what the message of the angel meant for her life, Mary responded with faith & trust: "Let it done until me according to thy will." *Luke 1:26*

Mary, we ask you to pray for us and with us to your Son, that we may have this humility, trust & faith in responding to God's call to our lives – even though we do not know our own futures.

Second Joyful Mystery - The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth

I Desire Charity Toward My Neighbor

Think of...

Mary's charity in visiting her cousin Elizabeth and remaining with her for three months before the birth of John the Baptist.

Luke 1:39

Mary's cousin Elizabeth conceives a son, after many struggles, in her old age. Mary visits Elizabeth, though the journey to Elizabeth's home is about eighty miles requiring four or five days travel. At Mary's salutation, John the Baptist is sanctified in his mother's womb. Elizabeth exclaims, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Mary replies, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit finds joy in God my Savior."

Mary, we ask they we may have the same sense of charity & love of others throughout our lives. Pray to your Son for us and with us, that no matter how important & busy our lives, may we be willing to carry the presence of Jesus to others.

Third Joyful Mystery - The Birth of Jesus

I Desire the Love of God

Think of...

The poverty, so lovingly accepted by Mary when she placed the Infant Jesus, our God and Redeemer, in a manger in the stable of Bethlehem. *Luke 2:1*

Joseph and Mary go to Bethlehem to comply with the decree of Caesar Augustus. The hour for Mary to give birth draws near, but there is no room in the inn. She gives birth in a manger in the stable of Bethlehem. Jesus is born into poverty. "Today there is born in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." The angels proclaim, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

Mary, pray with us and for us to your Son, that we may grow in wonder & awe before the reality of the birth of Jesus in our world, into our humanity, into our lives. May we grow in love with Jesus, your Son, and our Lord & Savior.

Fourth Joyful Mystery - The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

I Desire a Spirit of Sacrifice

Think of...

Mary's obedience to the law of God in presenting the Child Jesus in the Temple. *Luke 2:22*

They take Jesus to the temple to present Him to the Lord in accordance with the Law, which states the firstborn male child of every family should be consecrated to the Lord. Jesus is not subject to the Law of Moses, yet to teach obedience, submits to it. Mary is not subject to the law of purification, yet in humility, she submits to it.

Mary, pray for us and with us, that we might have a sacrificial love of God as we stand before His laws & decrees, His commandments & teachings presented to us in His Word & Church. May we have the courage & will to bow before the reality that God also fulfills His plans for our salvation by giving us His law to draw us closer to Him, to one another, and to our eternal destiny in Heaven.

Fifth Joyful Mystery - Finding Jesus in the Temple

I Desire Zeal For The Glory Of God

Think of...

The deep sorrow with which Mary sought the Child Jesus for three days, and the joy with which she found Him in the midst of the Teachers of the Temple. *Luke 2:41*

When Jesus is twelve years old, He goes with His parents to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. As Mary and Joseph are returning to Nazareth they discover that Jesus is missing. They searched for three days, suffering great anxiety. They found Jesus in the Temple among Rabbis, who were astonished at His wisdom. Jesus replies to their concerns, "Why did you search for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" Mary treasured all of these things in her heart.

Mary, pray for us and with us, that we might always search with great zeal for the presence of God in His Church, in the world, indeed, in the lives of all we meet and all the places we find ourselves. May this zeal and desire to find Him, always lead us and others in finding Him and help us to better understand our purpose and place in this world and the next world of Heaven.

The Luminous Mysteries

(Said on Thursdays throughout the year)

First Luminous Mystery - The Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan

I Desire Help In Living Out My Baptismal Vocation

Think of...

And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17

Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" Jesus humbled himself to be baptized by John "to fulfill all righteousness." Then the heavens opened up and the Spirit of God descended on Him. God was well pleased.

Mary, pray for us, that we might discover in newer and deeper ways, the manner in which God is calling us to live out the dignity of our own baptismal identity. Help us to better know our vocation in this world, and to have the courage and strength to follow your Son, wherever He leads us.

The Second Luminous Mystery - The Wedding at Cana, Christ Manifested

I Desire A Greater Appreciation for the Vocation of Marriage

Think of...

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 2:11

Jesus, His Mother and disciples were invited to a wedding in Cana. When the wine ran out, Mary said to the waiters, "Do whatever he tells you." Jesus bids the waiters to fill the jars with water, which is later found to be great wine when it is drawn out. At Mary's request, Jesus worked his first miracle.

Mary, you were the earthly teacher of your son, Jesus Christ. You raised him in the ways of the faith of God's people, Israel. You modeled for him the goodness of married love and importance of the place of a mother and father in the life of the human family. Pray for us, that we might grow in a deeper appreciation of the gift of family life and married life. Not matter our vocation, pray that we always offer support, encouragement, defend and love the Sacrament of Marriage and its role in imparting grace in our lives.

The Third Luminous Mystery - The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

I Desire The Gift and Mission of Spreading Your Gospel Message To The World

Think of...

Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the good news."

Mark 1:15

After John is arrested, Jesus comes to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. He tells that the kingdom of God is at hand, and is not of this world.

Mary, pray for us, that we may spread the good news of our salvation, given to us as a gift from your Son, to all those people we know and love, acquaintances and strangers, friends and enemies. Pray we have the words and actions to manifest Christ to other people.]

The Fourth Luminous Mystery - The Transfiguration of Jesus

I Desire To Be Transfigured By God's Grace

Think of...

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

Matthew 17:2

Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain to pray. As they are praying, Jesus is transfigured before them. "His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white." Moses and Elijah appear to talk with him. A voice comes from a cloud, saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

Mary, we pray that we might see your Son more clearly and love Him more dearly. Help us to live our lives in virtue and holiness, so that we may be open to seeing Jesus as He really is, the Son of God, our King and Savior, and the way to salvation for all eternity in Heaven. Through the Holy Spirit, may Christ transfigure and transform us more and more into His image and as His instruments in this world.

The Fifth Luminous Mystery - The Last Supper, the Holy Eucharist

I Desire A Deeper Love For Christ, present in the Eucharist.

Think of...

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins. *Matthew 26:26*

Mary, you held the life of the Son of God in your womb, His body & blood, soul and divinity was intermingled with your own blood and bones, soul and heart. Pray for us, that every time we take Christ, present in the Eucharist, into the tabernacle of our own bodies, we might love and cherish Him and carry Him to the world as you did.

The Sorrowful Mysteries

(Said on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays of Lent)

First Sorrowful Mystery - Agony of Jesus in the Garden

I Desire True Repentance for My Sins

Think of...

Our Lord Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane, suffering a bitter agony for our sins.

Matthew 26:36

Jesus came with his disciples to Gethsemane, where he began to suffer great sorrow and distress. He separated from the group to pray, and fell, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not My will, but Yours be done." He tells the disciples, "Behold, the hour is at hand when the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners."

Second Sorrowful Mystery - Jesus is Scourged at the Pillar

I Desire a Spirit of Mortification

Think of...

The cruel scourging at the pillar that our Lord suffered; the heavy blows that tore His flesh.

Matthew 27:26

The Jewish leaders take Jesus before Pilate, for only he can impose the death penalty. Though Pilate can "find no cause in Him," he finds that Barabbas is preferred to Jesus and turns him over to be scourged. He is bound to a pillar and cruelly scourged until His whole body is covered with deep wounds. Father, by the merits of Jesus in this painful scourging, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Third Sorrowful Mystery - Jesus is Crowned With Thorns

I Desire Moral Courage.

Think of...

The crown of sharp thorns that was forced upon our Lord's Head and the patience with which He endured the pain for our sins.

Matthew 27:27

The soldiers stripped off his clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about him. They forced a crown of thorns upon His head and a reed in his hand. They mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat upon him and beat him with the reed before stripping him and sending him to be crucified.

Fourth Sorrowful Mystery - Jesus Carries His Cross

I Desire the Virtue of Patience

Think of...

The heavy Cross, so willingly carried by our Lord, and ask Him to help you to carry your crosses without complaint.

Matthew 27:32

Jesus carries his cross to the place of execution. Weak and exhausted from loss of blood, lack of food and rest, Jesus falls three times under the cross. The soldiers force Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross behind Jesus, as they are afraid that He will die along the way.

Fifth Sorrowful Mystery - The Crucifixion of Jesus

I Desire the Grace of Final Perseverance

Think of..

The love which filled Christ's Sacred Heart during His three hours' agony on the Cross, and ask Him to be with you at the hour of death.

Matthew 27:33

Jesus was crucified at Golgotha, with a written charge against him written over his head: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." People mocked and abused him on the cross, but Jesus was silent. At around three o'clock Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some ran to give him drink, while others waited to see if Elijah would save him. But Jesus cried out again and gave up his spirit.

The Glorious Mysteries

(Said on Wednesdays and Sundays throughout the year)

First Glorious Mystery - The Resurrection of Jesus

I Desire a Strong Faith

Think of..

Christ's glorious triumph when, on the third day after His death, He arose from the tomb and for forty days appeared to His Blessed Mother and to His disciples.

John 20:1

Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early in the morning on the third day after Jesus was crucified. She found the tomb empty, and ran to get Peter and another disciple. When they came to the tomb they found the burial clothes, but the body was gone. The Lord then appeared to Mary of Magdalene and the disciples for days to come.

Second Glorious Mystery - The Ascension of Jesus

I Desire the Virtue of Hope

Think of..

The Ascension of Jesus Christ, forty days after His glorious Resurrection, in the presence of Mary and His disciples.

Luke 24:36

Jesus appeared to the disciples in Jerusalem saying, "Peace be with you." They thought he was a ghost, and were terrified. He stayed with them for forty days, opening their minds to understanding the scriptures. He told them, "I am sending the promise of my Father upon you." Then he led them to Bethany, blessed them, and was taken up to heaven.

Third Glorious Mystery - The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

I Desire Zeal for the Glory of God

Think of..

The descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary and the Apostles, under the form of tongues of fire, in fulfillment of Christ's promise.

Acts 2:1

As Mary and the Apostles were together a great wind began to blow. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages. There were Jews from every nation in Jerusalem at this time. Many gathered, but were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were all astounded and bewildered at this power.

Fourth Glorious Mystery - The Assumption of Mary into Heaven

I Desire the Grace of a Holy Death

Think of..

The glorious Assumption of Mary into Heaven, when she was united with her Divine Son.

Fifth Glorious Mystery - The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth

I Desire a Greater Love for the Blessed Virgin Mary

Think of..

The glorious crowning of Mary as Queen of Heaven by her Divine Son, to the great joy of all the Saints.