

# St. Michael the Archangel

100 Oak Drive South  
Lake Jackson, Texas 77566  
979-297-3041  
www.smlj.org

Dear Parish Family,

Today, October 7, the Catholic Church all over the world celebrates the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The feast used to be called Our Lady of Victory. Allow me to share a little background on this important feast we celebrate today. Christianity was saved on this day at the Battle of Lepanto due to the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary. In the 16th century, a massive Muslim force was sweeping Europe and was poised to conquer all places on its path. But the real purpose of the conquests was to destroy Christianity. It was the year 1571. The Christian forces were vastly outnumbered and faced a strong, well trained and seasoned enemy. Before the battle happened, Pope Pius V asked Christians all over Europe to pray the rosary, asking the intercession of the Blessed Mother together with Her Son Jesus for a Christian victory. All the faithful prayed with one purpose -- to save Christianity. It is also recorded that on the eve of the battle, every Christian soldier prayed the rosary and received Holy Communion. By the grace of God, Christianity was saved on that day in one of the most famous naval battles in history.

Pope Pius V added the feast day to the church calendar and Our Lady of Victory is celebrated every October 7 in honor of our Blessed Mother Mary. As I mentioned, the name changed over the years and now is known as Our Lady of the Holy Rosary.

Many times in history and in during many difficult situations of life, Our Blessed Mother Mary has been asked for her intercession and it is her joy to help her children in time of need. In praying the Rosary, let us pray for peace in the world and an end to this pandemic!

To Jesus through Mary!

*Fr. Dwight*

P.S. Please remember the drive thru Food Drive supporting our St. Vincent de Paul Society tomorrow, Thursday October 8. Drop off your non-perishable items at the parking lot side of the Family Life Center from 4 - 6pm.