

How to Pray the Rosary

The Prayers of the Rosary

The rosary begins by making the Sign of the Cross and reciting the Apostle's Creed on the crucifix, followed by one Our Father, three Hail Marys and a Glory Be. Then we contemplate significant events in the lives of Jesus and Mary as we pray each of the five decades. Each decade consists of one Our Father, ten Hail Marys and one Glory Be. The Rosary is concluded by praying the Hail, Holy Queen.

The Five Prayers of the Rosary

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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 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.

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! Pray for us, O Holy other of God that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

Schedule for Praying the Rosary

The Joyful Mysteries - Monday and Saturday

The Sorrowful Mysteries - Tuesday and Friday

The Glorious Mysteries - Wednesday and Sunday*

The Luminous Mysteries - Thursday

*Sundays during Lent are Sorrowful Mystery days. Sundays during Advent are Joyful Mystery Days.

The Joyful Mysteries

The Annunciation

"And coming to her, he said, 'Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you...Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God'." Luke 1:28, 30b

The Visitation

"...and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, 'Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb'." Luke 1:41b-42

The Nativity

"and she gave birth to her firstborn Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7

The Presentation in the Temple

"When the days were completed or their purification according to the law of Moses, they took Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord." Luke 2:22

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

"After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions." Luke 2:46

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The Sorrowful Mysteries

The Agony in the Garden

"...His sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground. When He rose from prayer and returned to His disciples,
He found them sleeping from grief." Luke 22: 44b-45

The Scourging at the Pillar

"Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him scourged. (John 19:1) "...He was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins...by
His stripes we were healed." Isiah 53:5

The Crowning with Thorns

"They stripped off His clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about Him. Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on His head, and a reed in His right hand...they mocked Him..." Matthew 27: 28-29a

The Carrying of the Cross

"...and carrying the cross Himself, He went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha." John 19:17

The Crucifixion

"Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit'; and when He had said this He breathed His last." Luke 23:46

The Glorious Mysteries

The Resurrection

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for He has been raised up just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay." Matthew 28: 5b-6

The Ascension

"So then the Lord Jesus, after He spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took His seat at the right hand of God."

Mark 16:19

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

"And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind...And they were filled with the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 2:2a and 4a

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The Assumption of Mary

"A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." Revelations 12:1

The Coronation of Mary

"You are the glory of Jerusalem...you are the splendid boast of our people. With your own hand you have done all this...May you be blessed by the Lord Almighty forever and ever!" Judith 15:9b-10a

The Luminous Mysteries (The Mysteries of Light)

The Baptism in the Jordan

"After Jesus was baptized, He came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove coming upon Him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased'." Matthew 3:16-17

The Wedding at Cana

"Jesus told them, 'Fill the jars with water.' So, they filled them to the brim. Then He told them, 'Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.' So, they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine...the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him 'Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now'." John 2:7-10

The Proclamation of the Kingdom

"He said to the paralytic, 'I say to you, rise, pick up your mat at, and go home.' He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God..." Mark 2:11-12a

The Transfiguration

"And He was transfigured before them; His face shone like the sun and His clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with Him." Matthew 17:2-3

The Institution of the Eucharist

"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'." Matthew 26:26