

## The Basics

The Rosary is a beautiful contemplative prayer (or really a bunch of prayers) that can help us to get to know the Virgin Mary better by meditating on some of the events of her life.

### **How is this going to work?**

The purpose of this Rosary is to add some prayerful time in our lives, so after a very brief introduction we will begin, and I will end the meeting after we finish. Unfortunately, because we will be using Zoom, everyone else will be muted while I say the prayers so that the lag doesn't get in the way. This may change in the future as I learn how to use Zoom better and if someone wants to be the designated responder for that particular meeting. But even while muted I encourage you to say the responses or even say the whole thing along with me.

Everyone prays the Rosary a little differently, so this is just the way that I personally do but feel free to pray it however you feel is best.

### **How I'll be praying the Rosary**

- Holding the crucifix, make the sign of the Cross and say the Apostles' Creed.
- Holding the first bead, say the Our Father (this is where I will mention my intention, and please feel free to mention your own).
- On each of the next three small beads, say a Hail Mary. Then say the Glory Be.
- On the next large bead, announce the first Mystery (I will also read a couple verses from scripture at this point), and say the Our Father.
- On each of the next ten small beads, say a Hail Mary. On the last small bead, we add a Glory Be.
- We do that on all the beads until we get to the medal, when we say the Hail Holy Queen, and then the ending prayers. Finish with the Sign of the Cross.

### **Intentions**

I am praying this Rosary for an end to the violence against and hatred of LGBTQ+ people. I am praying for the lives of my lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex, asexual, and all other friends: that we may find peace, reconciliation, and joy in the church and know that we are the beloved children of the God who made us. I invite you to pray for this intention along with me, but please feel free to add your own intentions.

## The Prayers

### **Sign of the Cross**

*“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”* (Or just cross yourself, that works too.)

### **Apostles’ 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; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right of the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*R. 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.*

*R. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.*

*R. 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.*

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

(Some people add the Fatima Prayer *“Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy. Amen.”* I will not be saying it in this rosary because not everyone is comfortable with it, but feel free to include it or not as you see fit in your own practice.)

### **Hail Holy Queen**

*“Hail, holy Queen,*

*R. 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 vale of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us;*

*and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. I clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.”*

## The Mysteries

### Joyful Mysteries

#### I. The Annunciation

*“Therefore, the Holy One will give you a sign: [The virgin] will become pregnant and will give birth. You will name the child Immanu-El. Mary said, ‘I am the servant of God. Let it be done to me as you say.’ With that, the angel left her.” Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:38*

#### II. The Visitation

*“In a loud voice [Elizabeth] exclaimed, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!’ Mary said: ‘My soul proclaims your greatness, O God.’” Luke 1:42, 46*

#### III. The Nativity

*“For a child is born to us, upon whose shoulders dominion will rest. This One shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Strength of God, Eternal [Father], [Prince] of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6*

#### IV. The Presentation of Jesus at the Temple

*“Now, O God, you can dismiss your servant in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the people to see—a light of revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.” Luke 2:29-32*

#### V. The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

*“On the third day, they came upon Jesus in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. All who heard Jesus were amazed at his understanding and his answers. Jesus said to them, ‘Why were you looking for me? Did you not know I had to be in my Abba’s house?’” Luke 2:46-47, 49*

### The Sorrowful Mysteries

#### I. The Agony in the Garden

*“Then Jesus withdrew about a stone’s throw from them, knelt down and prayed, ‘Abba, if it’s your will, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done.’ An angel then appeared to Jesus from heaven to strengthen him.” Luke 22:41-43*

## **II. The Scouring at the Pillar**

*“Yet you bore our illnesses and carried our suffering. We thought you were being punished, struck down by God, and brought low—but it was for our offenses that you were pierced, for our sins that you were crushed; upon you lies a chastening that brings us wholeness, and through your wounds we are healed.” Isaiah 53:4-5*

## **III. The Crowning with Thorns**

*“Then the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. They went up to him repeatedly and said, ‘All hail the King of the Jews!’ And they struck him in the face. So Jesus came out wearing the purple robe and the crown of thorns, and Pilate said, ‘Look upon the one you accuse!’” John 19:2-3, 5*

## **IV. The Carrying of the Cross**

*“As they led Jesus away, they seized Simon—a Cyrenean who was just coming in from the fields—and forced him to carry the cross behind Jesus. A large crowd was following, many of them women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. At one point, Jesus turned to these women and said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t weep for me! Weep rather for yourselves and for your children!’” Luke 23:26-28*

## **V. The Crucifixion**

*“When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing there, he said to his mother, ‘Here is your son.’ Then he said to his disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ From that moment, the disciple took her into his household. After this, Jesus knew that all was completed, and to fulfil scripture perfectly, he said, ‘I am thirsty.’ Jesus took the wine and said, ‘It is finished.’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” John 19:26-28, 30*

## **Glorious Mysteries**

### **I. The Resurrection**

*“While they were still at a loss over what to think of this, two figures in dazzling garments stood beside them. Terrified, the women bowed to the ground. The two said to them, ‘Why do you search for the Living One among the dead? Jesus is not here; Christ has risen.’” Luke 24:4-6*

### **II. The Ascension**

*“Having said this, Jesus was lifted up in a cloud before their eyes and taken from their sight. They were still gazing up into the heavens when two messengers dressed in*

*white stood beside them. 'You Galileans—why are you standing here looking up at the skies?' They asked. 'Jesus, who has been taken from you—this same Jesus will return, in the same way you watched him go into heaven.'” Acts 1:9-11*

### **III. The Descent of the Holy Spirit**

*“Suddenly they heard what sounded like a violent, rushing wind from heaven; the noise filled the entire house in which they were sitting. Something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; they separated and came to rest on the head of each one. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as she enabled them.” Acts 2:2-4*

### **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin**

*“Because you won’t abandon me to the Grave; you won’t let your loved one see decay. He is calling me: ‘Come, sweetheart, my pretty one, come out! Winter is over, the rains are gone.’” Psalm 16:11; Canticle 2:10-11*

### **The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin**

*“Then a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, with twelve stars on her head for a crown. When they came to her house, they blessed her in one voice, saying, ‘You are the glory of Jerusalem! You are the pride of Israel! You are the most esteemed of our people!’” Revelation 12:1; Judith 15:9*

## **At the End**

*“Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.*

*R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.”*

### **Doxology**

*“Let us pray.*

*R. O God, whose only begotten Son, through his Life, Death, and Resurrection, has claimed 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.”*

## **References**

- The Pride Rosary (Fr. Don Greene, Dignity San Diego)
- The Prymer (Fr. Michael Shirk, the ICCC)
- The Inclusive Bible (Priests for Equality)