

Praying the Holy Rosary

The Glorious Mysteries

1. While holding the crucifix in your right hand:
 - a. Make the sign of the cross – Father, Son, & Holy Spirit.
 - b. Kiss the crucifix
 - c. Recite the Apostle’s Creed:
 - i. 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 the life everlasting. Amen**
2. While holding the 1st bead next to the crucifix pray the Our Father:
 - a. 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.**
3. Finger the next three beads and pray three Hail Marys:
 - a. 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.**
4. On the chain/cord following the 3 beads pray the Doxology:
 - a. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
5. While holding the next single bead name the mysteries you are going to pray (**Joyful**, Luminous, Sorrowful, or Glorious) and then announce the first of those mysteries (The *first Glorious Mystery* – *The Resurrection*).
 - a. *Mediation* – Jesus, in union with the Father in the Spirit, is the author of Easter Sunday, of a day that destroys darkness and undoes doubt. The chains of bondage linking sin-death-senselessness-despair are broken. In their place is a new bond that does not restrict us, but draws us forward toward abundant, unending life. It is a freely formed bond of witnesses, of brothers and sisters who, being presented with reasons for believing, choose to live as persons of hope. And the Gospel truth that propels us, that impresses the virtue of hope in us, is the fact that Christ lives for ever, never more to die. Christ is raised on the third day. He grants to be made visible to some, and something in us stirs, awakens. We are meant for more than the terminus prescribed by the world. For us, the only good is life in Christ.
 - b. *Concluding Prayer* – Jesus appearing to Mary, you rise to a new and resurrected life that is the pledge of our own future glory, and assure your mother and the disciples that death holds no power over those who believe in the Incarnate Son of God. Help us to live in the grace of the resurrection, and to look forward to the day when we shall behold God face to face.
 - c. *Brief silence.*
 - d. *Pray the Lord’s Prayer* - 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.**
6. On the next 10 beads (called a decade) pray ten Hail Marys while meditating on the announced mystery:
 - a. 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.**

7. *On the chain/cord pray the Doxology:*
- a. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
 - b. O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. **Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.**
8. While holding the next single bead name *the 2nd Glorious Mystery – The Ascension.*
- a. Meditation – In rising from the dead, Christ’s will to offer a perfect sacrifice of praise to the Father who conceals from the wise and the reveals to the childlike is not yet perfectly consummated. Jesus allows himself to be exalted, ascending to glory and eternal gratitude. He fulfills the Father’s intention that they commune in a perfect exchange of glory. We celebrate and contemplate the paternal reception reserved for Christ alone. Our admiration is of the type we share when someone we know, love, and cherish manifests his excellence and receives the recognition due him. For Jesus, being glorious, beloved, beautiful is not an acquired art. Jesus, the face of the Father, bears completeness and integrity of life. Faith penetrates the clouds to glimpse Jesus where he is supposed to be; at the center of all heaven, where need or absence is no longer known. Cosmic proportion and order are restored. The Son truly radiates as Son when he is in the orbit of his Father. Where the Son is, there is the Father. And where we hope to be; in one embrace with the Father and Son, who is over all, and in all.
 - b. Concluding Prayer – Jesus departing from Mary, you have passed out of our earthly sight in order to prepare a place for those who without seeing you believe in you. Help us to sustain a lively charity, a firm hope, and a true faith so that we who remain on earth can even now begin to taste the fruits of the world to come.
 - c. Brief silence.
 - d. Pray the Lord’s Prayer - 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.**
9. On the next decade pray ten Hail Marys while meditating on the announced mystery:
- a. 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.**
10. On the chain/cord pray the Doxology:
- a. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
 - b. O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. **Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.**
11. While holding the next single bead name *the 3rd Glorious Mystery – The Descent of the Holy Spirit.*
- a. Mediation – Our God in a burning fire, inviting, inflaming, bestowing the charismatic countenance of the Spirit upon each of the Church’s embered members. The Spirit is the force of the “ecclesia,” calling people out of themselves through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist to live united in faith, hope, and love. The Spirit frees us for self-giving. We share ourselves in the manner of the Trinity, reciprocally, giving and receiving in such manner that no one is diminished or dominated. We cling, but do not crush. We console, encourage, and challenge one another to deeper conversion; we do not overwhelm, alienate, or subjugate. The Spirit bestows a new identity upon us: we are adopted sons and daughters in Christ. The Spirit consecrates us, conferring upon us a new form of self-possession. The Spirit deals death to the parts of the soul that would suffocate itself. The Spirit inspires us to step beyond pretense and disintegration, and unswervingly to dedicate ourselves to God in the face of the distractions and dead-ends the world poses to us. The Spirit’s impulse is seen in those features that are eminently personal. The Spirit does not diminish our uniqueness but raises individual responsibility in relief.

- b. Concluding prayer – Jesus enlightening Mary, you fulfilled the promise that you had made to the disciples when the Holy Spirit came upon them in the form of tongues of fire. Help us to live the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit so that, in every thought, desire, word, and action, our lives may witness to the power of God active in the world.
 - c. Brief silence.
 - d. Pray the Lord’s Prayer - 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.**
12. On the next decade pray ten Hail Marys while meditating on the announced mystery:
- a. 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.**
13. On the chain/cord pray the Doxology:
- a. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
 - b. O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. **Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.**
14. While holding the next single bead name **the 4th Glorious Mystery – The Assumption.**
- a. Meditation – Mary’s lithe, liberating passage from this world reminds us that God’s graceful love is at work and available to us in the hour of our death, if we live in a manner that reflects our total dependency on God. Each of us has an anointed destiny with Christ. God lifts Mary up, along with all who give witness that belief in God and in the power of God’s love does not entitle us to hasten death, but to see it for what it is: a threshold of transformation given to us by God. We dare not eject ourselves from this most significant act in the drama of our lives. The mystery of Mary’s final pilgrimage is an occasion for us to find hope in all the preceding expressions of our lowliness. As we ask her to “pray for us now and at the hour of our death,” she is the channel of grace enabling us to trust that her Son remains well disposed toward us. Mary gives us unqualified assurance that her Son’s love is always present, powerful, drawing us forward. In her mortal life, she unflinchingly assumed divine love to be active on her behalf, up until the moment that she was actively assumed into this love.
 - b. Concluding Prayer – Jesus awaiting Mary, you brought your mother to share before all others in the full fruits of your resurrection by joining her body and soul to the company of the saints, and in heaven made her “all-powerful by grace.” Help us to display that purity of heart that is found in those who rejoice in the maternal mediation of the woman whom we address lovingly as Mother and Queen.
 - c. Brief silence.
 - d. Pray the Lord’s Prayer - 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.**
15. On the next decade pray ten Hail Marys while meditating on the announced mystery:
- a. 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.**
16. On the chain/cord pray the Doxology:
- a. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
 - b. O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. **Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.**
17. While holding the next single bead name **the 5th Glorious Mystery – The Coronation.**

- a. Meditation – Mary is Queen of the Heaven because she first heard the Word of God and took him to heart. The trials accompanying this Word are all too familiar to her. Mary most identified with her Son when he was crowned with thorns as King over all suffering, ignominy, and indifference. She is arrayed in gold in rightful recognition that she was allied with her Son when the excruciating pain of rejection radiated from his face. Mary’s present gaze is even more comprehensive. Mary is fully cognizant of our subject status and of the vale of tears that envelops us. She knows that “all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now” (Rom 8:22). The golden Queen is for ever alloyed with her Son in the precious metal of her mediation for all humanity. We find peace in the promise that one day we will be lifted by grace to the place where all is one, where communion with the Son is a glorious wedding feast. Present at this feast is a breathtaking beauty who is certain to prevail against the beast that longs to snatch us away. Mary secures our confidence that though Christ does not eradicate weakness and vulnerability, his grace is sufficient for us. As it was for Mary. As it is for all who rely upon her maternal care, and promote her reign of peace among us.
 - b. Concluding Prayer – Jesus honoring Mary, you established your mother as the woman who enjoys spiritual dominion over angels and men. Help us to rejoice in the queenship of Mary and to recognize the universal extension of her intercession and advocacy for every creature on earth and in the heavens.
 - c. Brief silence.
 - d. Pray the Lord’s Prayer - 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.**
18. On the next decade pray ten Hail Marys while meditating on the announced mystery:
- a. 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.**
19. On the chain/cord pray the Doxology:
- a. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
 - b. O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. **Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.**
20. Holding the connecting medallion (or cord) pray the Hail Holy Queen and closing prayers:
- a. 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 worthy of the promises of Christ.**
 - b. Closing prayers – 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 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.
V. May the divine assistance remain always with us.
R. **May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**