

The Sower

THE ROSARY

Tradition holds that St. Dominic (d. 1221) received the Rosary during an apparition of our Blessed Mother, and preached the use of the Rosary in his missionary work as a remedy to heresy. In 1569, Pope Saint Pius V officially approved the Rosary in the form we know it today: vocal prayers in a decade of Hail Mary's introduced by the Our Father and concluded with the Glory Be and arranged in sets of five decades of Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries that meditate on the life of Christ and Mary. The Rosary remained this way for over four centuries until October 2002 when Pope Saint John Paul II introduced a new set of mysteries, the "Luminous Mysteries." Also known as the "Mysteries of Light," it makes a transition from the fifth Joyful Mystery, Jesus at twelve years old found by Mary and Joseph in the temple, to the first Sorrowful Mystery where Jesus is a 33-year-old man about to crucified on Calvary, and gives us the contemplations on the significant moments of His public ministry.



The "Feast of the Holy Rosary" that we celebrate October 7th was established in 1571, also by Pope Saint Pius V, to acknowledge the effectiveness of praying the Rosary when the Christians won an unexpected triumph against a Muslim invasion at the great sea Battle of Lepanto on October 7th. And the last bit of history is on the word rosary itself. It comes from the Latin *rosarius*, which means "garland" or "bouquet of flowers." It is a fitting word for this bouquet of prayers offered to God.

WHY PRAY THE ROSARY

From Our Lady of Fatima, "*Continue praying the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, in order to obtain peace for the world and an end of the war, because only She can help you.*"

St. Louis de Montfort, "*When the Holy Rosary is said well, it gives Jesus and Mary more glory and is more meritorious than any other prayer.*"

St. Padre Pio, "*Love the Madonna and pray the Rosary, for her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother.*"

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, "*Do you ever tire of hearing someone you love say 'I love you'?" It is doubtful that Mary and Jesus do either... Pray the Rosary daily! You will discover that Mary, our spiritual Mother, is alive! You will unite your life more closely to Jesus. You will also experience a change in your life that is rich in grace and mercy.*"

Saint Patrick's Church
Victor, NY 14564
September 2021

Authentic faith,
Welcoming,
Engaging



WE PRAY, WE BELIEVE.

- Oct 1 - St. Therese of Lisieux
- Oct 2 - Guardian Angels
- Oct 4 - St. Francis
- Oct 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary
- Oct 15 - St. Teresa of Avila
- Oct 18 - St. Luke the Evangelist
- Oct 19 - Sts. John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, Martyrs

THE DOMESTIC CHURCH AND THE ROSARY

There is something about prayers that we Catholics have learned to say by heart - the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, the Glory Be and others like the Apostles' Creed and Hail Holy Queen. That we often said and relied on these prayers both in personal and communal settings, they seemed to have embedded themselves deeply in our consciousness. Have you said any of these prayers out loud for loved ones having Dementia or Alzheimer's Disease? Did you find yourself surprised that they joined you in prayer because they remembered these prayers?



If you seek to introduce the Blessed Mother and the Rosary to your family, begin with the building blocks of the Catholic Prayers. Learn one prayer at a time. Repeat. As family members are getting familiar, introduce another prayer until you have the basic three prayers. Then, tackle a decade—beginning with a Lord's Prayer, then ten Hail Mary's, and ending with a Glory Be. Get family members to lead the prayer they just learned. Keep building, using your prayer blocks. With patience and trust in God, one day, you will find your family praying the entire Rosary.

...the piety of the people is a storehouse of values that offers answers of Christian wisdom to the great questions of life.

- Catechism, 1676

CATHOLIC PRAYERS:

THE MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

POINTER TO HEAVEN: STATIONS OF THE CROSS

"The religious sense of the Christian people has always found expression in various forms of piety surrounding the Church's sacramental life, such as the veneration of relics, visits to sanctuaries, pilgrimages, processions, the stations of the cross, religious dances, the rosary, medals, etc." - Catechism 1674



The core of the Gospel is the Paschal Mystery - the saving action of God through the passion, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus. It is not surprising that from the early centuries of Christianity, the faithful found it meaningful to make pilgrimage to the Holy Land, visiting sacred sites related to Jesus, including the Via Dolorosa (the Way of Sorrow, the Way of the Cross). By the 15th century, artistic depictions of the stations found their way in churches so that for those who could not travel to the Holy Land could follow Jesus and His way in their local churches.

The Way of the Cross powerfully confronts and challenges the way of the world. For the world, to suffer and to die is to fail. For God, He so powerful that He overcomes suffering and death. For the faithful who remain on the Way of the Paschal Mystery, there is new and eternal life.

Walk the Way of the Cross. Go through life's challenges led and accompanied by Jesus. On the way, encounter Mary. Invite her to walk with you. Let Mary inspire you. Let Jesus lead you to the light of His resurrection.