

THE ILLUSTRATED
Rosary

Catholic[™]
CLASSICS

Edited by
Victor Hoagland, C.P.


Regina
Press

The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

“To recite the rosary is nothing other than to contemplate the face of Christ with Mary.”

Pope John Paul II

In his letter “Rosarium Virginis Mariae” of October 16, 2002, Pope John Paul II expressed his esteem for a method of praying that has nourished the faith of generations of Christians. The pope called on Catholics – and other Christians as well – to pray the rosary and enter “the school of Mary,” who knew Jesus Christ so well as His mother and who was His closest disciple.

Though it is not mandatory, the pope also suggested that five mysteries be added to the traditional fifteen. He called them “Luminous Mysteries,” or the Mysteries of Light, which include the mysteries of Christ’s public ministry between His Baptism and His Passion. While leaving the use of these mysteries “to the freedom of individuals and communities,” Pope John Paul suggested that they could help make the prayer more deeply centered in the life of Christ.



6.

Meditate on 3rd Mystery, saying the "Our Father," ten "Hail Marys" and the "Glory Be."

7.

Meditate on 4th Mystery, saying the "Our Father," ten "Hail Marys" and the "Glory Be."

5.

Meditate on 2nd Mystery, saying the "Our Father," ten "Hail Marys" and the "Glory Be."

8.

Meditate on 5th Mystery, saying the "Our Father," ten "Hail Marys" and the "Glory Be."

4.

Meditate on 1st Mystery, saying the "Our Father," ten "Hail Marys" and the "Glory Be."

3.

Say three "Hail Marys" and the "Glory Be."

2.

Say the "Our Father."

1.

Make the Sign of the Cross; say the Apostles' Creed.

9.

Concluding prayer, "Hail Holy Queen"



FIRST JOYFUL MYSTERY

The Annunciation

“Then the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.’”

Luke 1:30-31

Meditation

Nor was Mary afraid to do God’s will. The angel left her, but she was not afraid, even as she faced Joseph’s initial doubt, even though she did not fully understand it all. She trusted even through the birth in a poor stable, through the silent years at Nazareth, the mysterious years of Jesus’ ministry and the darkest hours of His passion and death.

Mary believed God’s purpose for her, even though she did not always understand.

One Our Father, ten Hail Marys and one Glory Be to the Father.

FIRST LUMINOUS MYSTERY

The Baptism of Jesus

“At the time, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.”

Mark 1:9

Meditation

Usually the story of Jesus begins with His birth in Bethlehem, but New Testament sources such as the Gospel of Mark begin His story with His Baptism. After that, Jesus “went around doing good and healing all those who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.” (Acts 10:38)

From the heavens, God says, “You are my beloved Son; in you I am well pleased.” (Mark 1:11) Jesus is God’s only Son. But in Baptism His followers become children of God too. With no claim of our own, we are invited by Him into God’s family and we go in His name to bring goodness and healing to the world in which we live.

One Our Father, ten Hail Marys and one Glory Be to the Father.

FIRST GLORIOUS MYSTERY

The Resurrection of Jesus

“The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he promised he would be. Come and see the place where he lay.’”

Matthew 28:5-6

Meditation

On Easter Sunday, the women coming to anoint the body of Jesus were sent away from the tomb, the place of death. “He is not here,” the angel said. “He is risen.”

Then Jesus appeared to His disciples, sometimes to one and other times to many. Soon even the most doubtful, like Thomas, were convinced. No, it was not a ghost or their imagination. They could touch His wounds with their hands. Jesus was risen from the dead.

One Our Father, ten Hail Marys and one Glory Be to the Father.