

# The Holy Rosary

For centuries, the Holy Rosary has been a treasured devotion in the Catholic Church. A deeply contemplative prayer, the Rosary contains a summary of the Christian faith in language and prayers inspired by the Holy Scriptures. When praying the Rosary, Catholics recall the most important events in the lives of Jesus and His Blessed Mother Mary. These events are called "Mysteries" and are divided into four groups of five decades: the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries. Each decade consists of one "Our Father", ten "Hail Mary's", and one "Glory be to the Father".

## How to Say the Rosary

1. Begin on the Crucifix and say the "Apostle's Creed".
2. On the first bead, say one "Our Father".
3. Say one "Hail Mary" on each of the next three beads.
4. Say one "Glory Be to the Father".
5. At the beginning of each decade, announce the Mystery to be contemplated. For example, the first Joyful Mystery is "The Annunciation". After a short pause for reflection, say one "Our Father" on the large bead.
6. Recite ten "Hail Mary's" on the ten smaller beads, followed by one "Glory be to the Father". An invocation may be added after each decade.
7. Announce the second Mystery and continue in the same manner until each of the five Mysteries of the selected group is said.
8. Conclude by saying the "Hail Holy Queen". At the end of the Rosary, the "Prayer to St. Michael" or some other Marian prayer is recited.



## The 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; the third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come 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 to the Father

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.

## Fatima Prayer

This prayer is an example of an invocation that may be said after each decade and was requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: "O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy".

4th  
Mystery

## 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!

V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

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

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 upon 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.

3rd  
Mystery

2nd  
Mystery

## Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen..