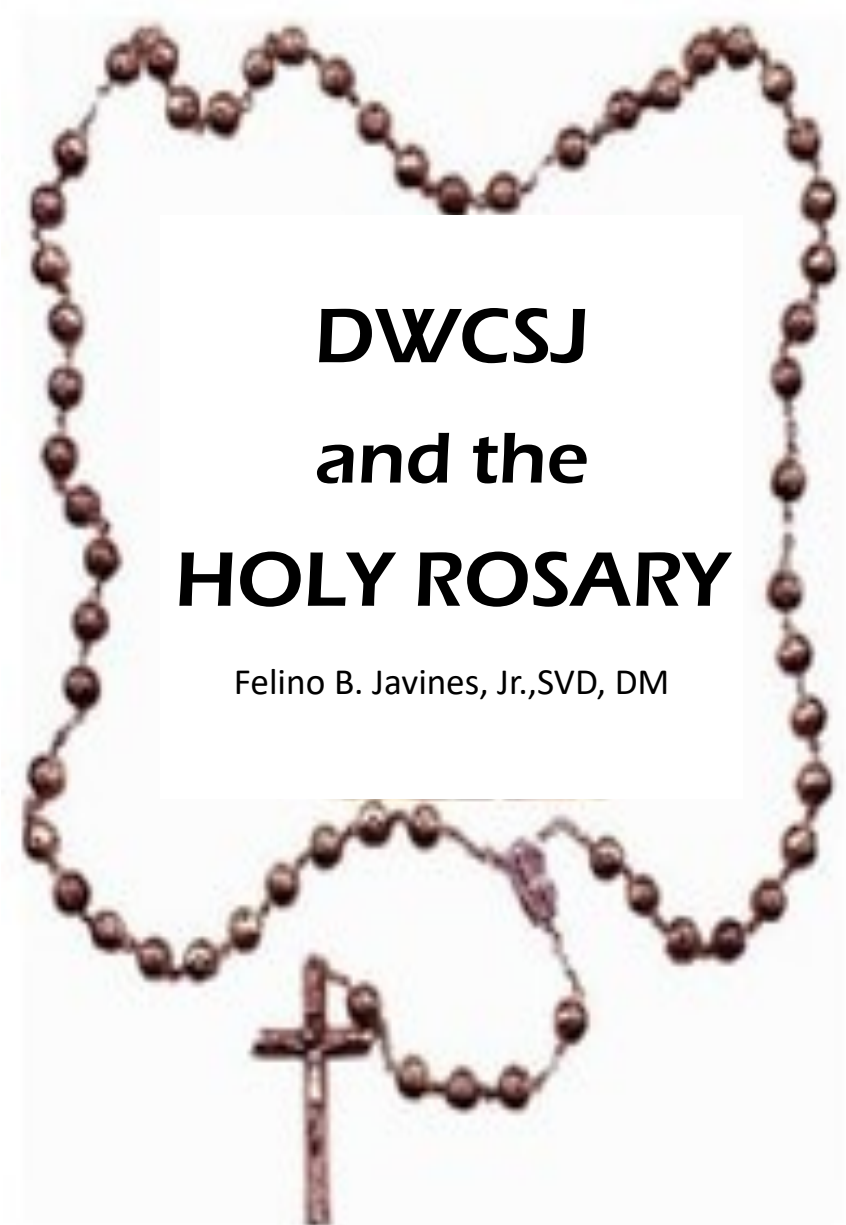




**DIVINE WORD COLLEGE  
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**DWCSJ  
and the  
HOLY ROSARY**

Felino B. Javines, Jr.,SVD, DM



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## **DWCSJ and the Holy Rosary**

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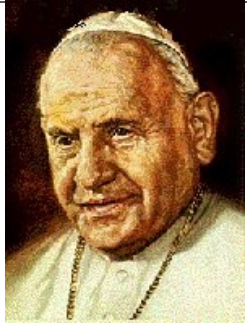
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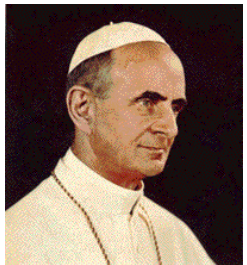
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## **PREFACE**



**Pope John XXIII**

Grata Recordatio  
[On the Rosary]  
(September 26, 1959)



**Pope Paul VI**

Christi Matri  
[On Praying the Rosary During the  
Month of October]  
(September 15, 1966)

Marialis Cultus  
[Apostolic Exhortation For The Right  
Ordering And Development Of Devotion  
To The Blessed Virgin Mary]



**Pope John Paul II**

Redemptoris Mater  
[On The Blessed Virgin Mary In The  
Life Of The Pilgrim Church]  
(March 25, 1987)

Apostolic Letter  
Rosarium Virginis Mariae  
[On the Most Holy Rosary]  
(October 16, 2002)

Divine Word College of San Jose is the premiere Catholic Institution in Occidental Mindoro, rooted in the Holy Triune God is dedicated to the holistic development of the person. Primary to the mission of DWCSJ is to provide Christian quality education that promotes cultural sensitivity and global competence. It banners the core values of Competence, Integrity and Service.

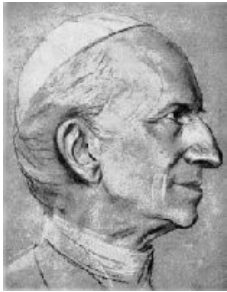
The month of October is highlighted by Catholic schools because it is called the month of the Holy Rosary. This document is an attempt by the VP for Academic Affairs of- fice (VPAA) in collaboration with the Campus Ministry Of- fice (CMO) to disseminate an extended narrative and cate- chesis about the Holy Rosary. It is likewise a school com- munity wide information drive with the simple objective of instilling in the mind and heart of every Divinian that the Holy Rosary is not a compartmentalized mode of devotion and prayer by every baptized Catholic but rather it is an invitation to daily and consistently pray the Holy Rosary and develop a spiritual bond with the Blessed Virgin Mary who said "Do whatever He tells you" (cf John 2:5) paving the way to the heart of her Son, Jesus Christ. Through the meditations of the complete Rosary one recalls and has impressed on his mind, the Popes tell us, "the chief myster- ies of the Christian religion," "the mysteries of our Redemp- tion," "the great mysteries of Jesus and His Mother united

in joys, sorrows, and triumphs." The twenty mysteries are divided into four equal groups, known as "The Joyful," "The Sorrowful," "The Glorious," and "The Luminous Mysteries. [https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/10\\_1.cfm](https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/10_1.cfm)(Ad Jesus Per Mariam ( To Jesus through Mary).

**INTRODUCTION**

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Ac-

 <p><b>Pope Benedict XV</b></p>	<p>Fausto Appetente Die [On St. Dominic] (June 29, 1921)</p>
 <p><b>Pope Pius XI</b></p>	<p>Ingravescentibus Malis [On the Rosary] (September 29, 1937)</p>
 <p><b>Pope Pius XII</b></p>	<p>Ingruentium Malorum [On Reciting the Rosary] (September 15, 1951)</p>



**Pope Leo XIII**

Vi E Ben Noto  
[On the Rosary and Public Life]  
(September 20, 1887)

Quamquam Pluries  
[On Devotion to St. Joseph]  
(August 15, 1889)

Octobri Mense  
[On the Rosary]  
(September 22, 1891)

Magnae Dei Matris  
[On the Rosary]  
(September 8, 1892)

Laetittiae Sanctae  
[Commending Devotion to the Rosary]  
(September 8, 1893)

Iucunda Semper Expectatione  
[On the Rosary]  
(September 8, 1894)

Adiutricem Populi  
[On the Rosary]  
(September 5, 1895)

Fidentem Piumque Animum  
[On the Rosary]  
(September 20, 1896)

Augustissimae Virginis Mariae  
[On The Confraternity Of The Holy Rosary]  
(September 12, 1897)

Diuturni Temporis  
[On The Rosary]  
(September 5, 1898)

According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

"Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven.

"If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value. Many are the favors granted to private individuals through its devout recitation: there are few devoted users of the Rosary who cannot testify to experiencing its power in their own lives. If we turn to history, we see many great triumphs of the Rosary. Early tradition attributes the defeat of the Albigensians at the Battle of Muret in 1213 to the Rosary. But even those who do not accept this tradition will admit that St. Pius V attributed the great defeat of the Turkish fleet on the first Sunday of October, 1571, to the fact that at the same time the Rosary confraternities at Rome and elsewhere were holding their processions. Accordingly, he ordered a commemoration of the Rosary to be made on

that day. Two years later, Gregory XIII allowed the celebration of a feast of the Rosary in churches having an altar dedicated to the Rosary. In 1671, Clement X extended the feast to all Spain. A second great victory over the Turks, who once, like the Russians, threatened the ruin of Christian civilization, occurred on August 5, 1716, when Prince Eugene defeated them at Peterwardein in Hungary. Thereupon Clement XI extended the feast of the Rosary to the whole Church.


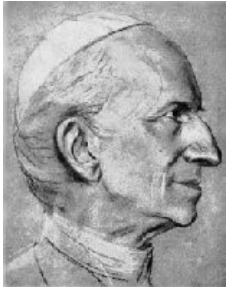
"Today, when dangers far greater than those of the ancient Turks threaten not only Christianity but all civilization, we are urged by our Blessed Mother to turn again to the Rosary for help. If men in sufficient numbers do this, and at the same time carry out the other conditions that she has laid down, we have the greater reason for confidence that we will be delivered from our dangers." --

(Source: Mary in our Life by Fr. William G. Most - [https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/10\\_1.cfm](https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/10_1.cfm))

**The Rosary and the Liturgical Year**

The Rosary had its origin in the liturgical mentality of former ages. Even at the present time it is called "Mary's Psalter." There still are Catholics who consider the 150 Hail Marys a substitute for the 150 psalms for those persons who neither have the time, the education, nor the opportunity to pray the Hours of the Divine Office. Thus "Mary's Psalter" is a shortened, simplified "breviary" —

A number of popes have written encyclicals on the rosary and its meaning to Catholics and the world at large. These are the major encyclicals I've been able to find the full text of and an abbreviated version of *Consueverunt Romani*, an encyclical of Pope Saint Pius V written 17 September 1569. Also included Pope John Paul II's Apostolic Letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* because of its profound effect on the saying of the Rosary.

 <p><b>Pope Saint Pius V</b></p>	<p>Consueverunt Romani [On the Rosary] (September 17, 1569)</p>
 <p><b>Pope Leo XIII</b></p>	<p>Supremi Apostolatus Officio [On Devotion of the Rosary] (September 1, 1883)</p> <p>Superiore Anno [On the Recitation of Rosary] (August 30, 1884)</p> <p>Quod Auctoritate [Proclaiming An Extraordinary Jubilee] (December 22, 1885)</p>

Question	Answer
<p><b>Can you explain to me why October is the month of the Rosary? Why not May or another month?</b></p>	<p>The dedicating of October as the month of the Rosary can be traced to 1571. At that time, the Catholic Church enjoyed the victory of the Catholic League (an alliance of Spain, Venice, the Papal States, Genoa, Savoy, and Malta) over the forces of the Ottoman Empire who were seeking to take over Italy in an effort to move into the heart of Europe. On October 7, 1571, the great battle was fought and the Catholic League overcame the Ottoman forces. History tells us that prior to sailing off by ship towards the battle, Pope Pius V prayed the rosary, asking for Our Lady's intercession towards a victory. Every person aboard the ship carried a rosary. For this reason, as soon as the men returned from the battle, the good pope declared a feast day to Our Lady of Victory. A rosary procession was offered in St. Peter's square after the victory and in time the whole month became associated with the rosary, rather than just one day.</p> <p>It was not until 1884 that Pope Leo XIII officially established October as the Month of the Rosary. That year, he published the encyclical "Superiore Anno" which focused on the recitation of the holy rosary. In the encyclical, he called for the entire Church to dedicate the entire month of October to the rosary and to pray it daily.</p>

## Encyclicals

alongside the common Hour-prayer of the Church. — The Church's Year of Grace, Dr. Pius Parsch

The Rosary is Christocentric setting forth the entire life of Jesus Christ, the passion, death, resurrection and glory. Of course, the Rosary honors and contemplates Mary too, and rightly so, for the same reason that the Liturgical Year does likewise: "Because of the mission she received from God, her life is most closely linked with the mysteries of Jesus Christ, and there is no one who has followed in the footsteps of the Incarnate Word more closely and with more merit than she"<sup>142</sup> (Mediator Dei). Meditation on this cycle of Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries makes the Rosary not only "a breviary or summary of the Gospel and of Christian life,"(Ingravescentibus malis) but also a compendium of the Liturgical Year. Therewith the Rosary stands revealed as a dynamic teacher and nurturer of Christian faith, morality, and spiritual perfection, fostering in various ways faith, hope, charity, and the other virtues, and mediating special graces, all to the end that we may become more and more like unto Christ. — (Source: Mariology, Juniper B. Carol, O.F.M.)

### The Rosary and the Popes

No form of extra-liturgical devotion to Mary is more widely practiced among the faithful or found by them to be more satisfyingly complete than the Rosary, which has come to be regarded as the very badge of Catholic piety. No form of ex-

tra-liturgical devotion to Mary has been recommended more warmly or frequently by the Popes. With perhaps two exceptions, all the Sovereign Pontiffs from Sixtus IV in 1478 down to John XXIII, especially Leo XIII (in 23 documents, ten of them encyclicals entirely on the Rosary) and his successors, have extolled this form of prayer, which has been the favorite, moreover, of such saints as Teresa of Avila, Francis de Sales, Louis de Montfort, Alphonsus Liguori, Don Bosco, Bernadette, and many more. The authentic Rosary is a happy combination of vocal and mental prayer, each of which is essential to the devotion. It is incorrect to say that meditation is "the very essence of the Rosary devotion," for vocal recitation of the prayers is also of the essence. Meditation is, of course, the nobler element, the "soul," while vocal prayer is the "body" of the devotion. The Rosary, Pope Leo XIII declared, "is composed of two parts, distinct but inseparable — the meditation on the mysteries and the recitation of the prayers. It is thus a kind of prayer that requires not only some raising of the soul to God, but also a particular and explicit attention" (*Incunda semper*). Hence, as Pope Pius XI stated, they err "who consider this devotion merely a boresome formula repeated with monotonous and singsong intonation" (*Ingravescentibus malis*). Moreover, as Pius XI put it, "both piety and love, although always breathing forth the same words, do not, however, repeat the same thing, but they fervently express something ever new which the lov-

Question	Answer
	<p><b>T• Rosary Bracelet:</b> This is a one decade rosary meant to be worn on the wrist.</p> <p><b>• Rosary Ring:</b> It is a small, mini one decade rosary that can be tucked into a wallet or purse, or on a key ring. It has a crucifix, followed by ten little bumps or beads for the decade.</p> <p><b>• Wedding Rosary:</b> The wedding rosary, also called a lasso, or lazo, rosary is an over-sized rosary formed of two rosaries joined together at the center. The lasso rosary will share a crucifix, the first five beads, and the rosary center, with two, rather than one, loops of 5 decades each. The lasso rosary is part of a wedding ceremony, especially in Hispanic culture, where the loops of the rosary are put over the head of the bride and groom by the priest. This is symbolic of the joining of the two in God; their prayer lives will now be joined as well. Since the rosary is to be placed over the heads of both the bride and groom, the beads are typically oversized with larger spaces between beads in order to make the rosary long enough. While the use of the lasso rosary is largely figurative, it can also be used after the wedding for the husband and wife to pray the rosary together. (source: <a href="http://aquinasandmore.com">aquinasandmore.com</a>]</p>

Question	Answer
	<p>The Franciscan Rosary can also refer to a fifteen-decade rosary. Prior to 2002, when Pope John Paul II instituted the addition of the 5 luminous mysteries, the three sets of the mysteries of the rosary (glorious, sorrowful, and joyful) added up to a total of 15 mysteries. When one would pray a fifteen decade rosary, all fifteen mysteries were meditated upon. One could simply use a standard size rosary and continue around the loop to pray the full fifteen, or now twenty, decades, but a strand of rosary beads consisting of 15 decades of beads was common as well. Franciscan rosary is also a term that may be used to describe a standard five decade rosary with a Franciscan Tau cross in place of the crucifix many are accustomed to seeing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Decade Rosary: The one decade rosary is, as it sounds, a rosary consisting of only one decade. The idea behind the one decade rosary is that it is easy to carry around and use for prayer.</li> <li>• Servite Chaplet or Rosary: Though it can be prayed by anyone, the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Mary is especially connected to the Servite Order (also called Servants of Mary) and so this unique chaplet is commonly referred to as the Servite Rosary. Rather than decades, it consists of seven sets of seven beads; the sets of seven beads are called 'weeks.' Where the Franciscan Crown is focused on the seven joys of Mary, the Servite chaplet is focused specifically on the <b>seven sorrows, or dolours, of Mary.</b></li> </ul>

ing heart always sends forth." And finally, in the words of Pius XII, "the recitation of identical formulas, repeated so many times, rather than rendering the prayer sterile and boring, has on the contrary the admirable quality of infusing confidence in him who prays, and brings to bear a gentle compulsion on the motherly heart of Mary (Ingravescentibus malis). — Mariology, Juniper B. Carol, O.F.M.

Pope Benedict XVI in an address at the Basilica of St. Mary Major where he prayed the rosary with the faithful said:

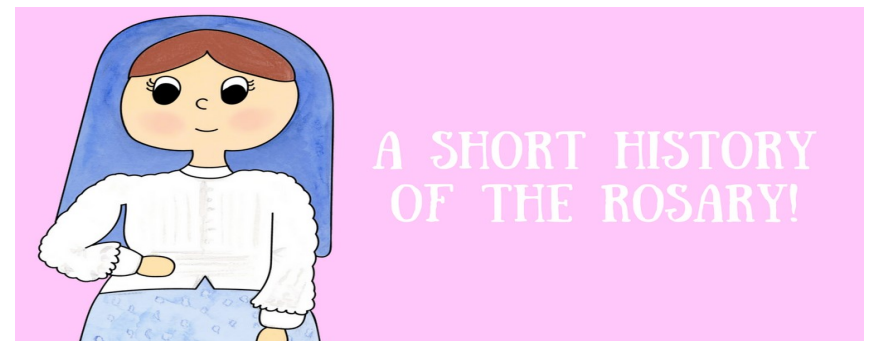
Today, together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new Springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourish for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the centre, as the Virgin did, who meditated within all that was said about her Son, and also what he did and said. When reciting the Rosary, the important and meaningful moments of salvation history are relived. The various steps of Christ's mission are traced. With Mary the heart is oriented toward the mystery of Jesus. Christ is put at the centre of our life,

of our time, of our city, through the contemplation and meditation of his holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow and glory. May Mary help us to welcome within ourselves the grace emanating from these mysteries, so that through us we can "water" society, beginning with our daily relationships, and purifying them from so many negative forces, thus opening them to the newness of God. The Rosary, when it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanical and superficial but profoundly, it brings, in fact, peace and reconciliation. It contains within itself the healing power of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, invoked with faith and love at the centre of each "Hail Mary". (Source: [https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/10\\_1.cfm](https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/10_1.cfm))

Question	Answer
	<p>• <b>Five Decades Rosary:</b> The five decade rosary is the one most people picture when they hear the word rosary. It consists of a crucifix, then a short set of 5 beads, for praying the Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, and a Glory Be, and then a rosary center, followed by a loop of 5 decades (sets of ten beads) to count the Hail Marys prayed as one meditates on the mysteries of the rosary, with a bead for praying the Our Father between each decade. This traditional rosary (both the physical strand of beads and the prayer) is also known as the Dominican Rosary, due to St. Dominic's role in encouraging and spreading devotion to the holy rosary at the request of the Blessed Mother.</p> <p>Franciscan Rosary: The Franciscan Rosary can refer to two different rosaries associated with the Franciscan order. One is the Franciscan Crown, sometimes called a seven decade rosary. As the name suggests, it consists of 7 decades, rather than 5, plus two additional Hail Mary beads, for a total of 72 Hail Mary beads. When praying the Franciscan Crown rosary, one is to meditate on the seven joys of Mary, one joy per each decade. The seven joys are the Annunciation, the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, the Nativity of Jesus, Epiphany, the presentation of Jesus in the temple, the Resurrection of Jesus, and the Assumption &amp; coronation of Mary.</p>

Question	Answer
	<p>“If you say the Rosary faithfully until death, I do assure you that, in spite of the gravity of your sins, `you shall recieve a never fading crown of glory’ [1 Peter 5:4]. Even if you are on the brink of damnation, even if you have one foot in hell, even if you have sold your soul to the devil as sorcerers do who practice black magic, and even if you are a heretic as obstinate as a devil, sooner or later you will be converted and will amend your life and save your soul, if — and mark well what I say — if you say the Holy Rosary devoutly every day until death for the purpose of knowing the truth and obtaining contrition and pardon for your sins.” (2)  <b>St. Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort (1673 -1716)</b></p>
<p><b>How many kind of Rosaries is there in the catholic Church?</b></p>	<p><b>In the Catholic Church, there is a number of different kinds of Rosaries. The following are some of them:</b></p> <p><b>Chaplet:</b> The word chaplet simply comes from the French word for Rosary, which is chapelet, but the term has now come to be associated with specific sets of prayers, intended to ask the help of Mary, Jesus, or the saints. The standard five decade rosary is in fact a chaplet, but chaplets can vary in size, in pattern or grouping of beads, and in the prayers said on each bead. Typically, the basic prayers, such as the Hail Mary and Our Father are still recited, but chaplets commonly also include prayers to a specific image of Christ or Mary, a particular saint or angel, or a litany. Often, a chaplet is based on a certain intention, and so prayers to the patron saint of that intention or subject will be included.</p>

## A Short History of the Holy Rosary



### The Month of the Rosary

October is a busy month. However, in the Catholic calendar, October is the month of the Rosary. More specifical-

ly, October 7 is the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. And few years ago we celebrated on October 13th 100 year anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima and the miracle of the Sun. However – what do October and Our Lady of the Rosary have to do with each other and how did the Rosary originate?

### **Origins of the Rosary**

The history of the Rosary mostly consists of legend and tradition. There is evidence that beads were used to count Our Fathers and Hail Marys in the Middle Ages. Fittingly, bead is derived from the Old English word for prayer.

Between the twelfth and fifteenth centuries, the structure of the Rosary included praying fifty Hail Marys together with the Psalms. Our word Rosary derives its meaning from the word rosarium, or rose garden. Saint Louis de Montfort wrote in his book, *The Secret of the Rosary*,

**One day, through the Rosary...Our Lady will save the world.”**

Saint Dominic’s words have proven themselves true countless times. The Rosary has been a sign of hope and a

Question	Answer
<b>What is the Rosary?</b>	The Holy Rosary is a devotion in which many prayers are recited or chanted in a particular order. The term “Rosary” also refers to the beads which Roman Catholics use to count and keep track of their Rosary prayers.
<b>Why should we pray the Rosary?</b>	<p>The Rosary is a great weapon against evil — be it evil from without, or evil from within our own hearts. Bishop Hugh Boyle famously remarked, “No one can live continually in sin and continue to say the Rosary. Either he will give up the sin or he will give up the Rosary”.</p> <p>In his book <i>The Secret of the Rosary</i>, <b><u>St. Louis De Montfort</u></b> (1673-1716) reveals that those who commit to praying the Rosary every day gain extraordinary power from God to change their lives and perform mighty works of faith. Of this “secret”, De Montfort writes:</p> <p>When the Holy Spirit has revealed this secret to a priest and director of souls, how blessed is that priest! For the vast majority of people fail to know this secret or else only know it superficially. If such a priest really understands this secret he will say the Rosary every day and will encourage others to say it. God and His Blessed Mother will pour abundant grace into his soul, so that he may become God’s instrument for His glory; and his word, though simple, will do more good in one month than that of other preachers in several years.”</p>

source of many graces. There is a tradition that in 1214, Our Lady appeared to Saint Dominic and gave him the Rosary as we know it today. She offered it as a way to convert hardened sinners. (Source: <https://mycatholickids.com/short-history-of-the-rosary/>)

## **The Rosary, a Weapon for These Times!**

Monique Sammut



“The rosary is the weapon for these times.”

These words spoken by Saint Padre Pio ring true in every age. The Rosary is a powerful weapon in our times just as it was in his. The simplicity and repetitiveness of the Rosary do not take away the power it contains.

When Our Lady of Fatima appeared to the three shepherd children on May 13, 1917, her message was clear, “Pray the Rosary every day in order to obtain peace for the world.” Her message reaches into our times as well, and serves as a valuable reminder.

The Rosary begins with the Apostles’ Creed, followed by an Our Father, three Hail Marys (offered for an increase in Faith, Hope, and Charity), and a Glory Be.

## **The Mysteries of the Rosary**

There are four mysteries in the Rosary:

**The Joyful,**

**The Sorrowful,**

**The Luminous, and**

**The Glorious Mysteries.**

Through praying the Rosary, we contemplate the mysteries and events in the lives of Jesus and Mary and unite ourselves more closely to them.

The **Joyful Mysteries** are usually prayed on **Mondays,**

## 9. 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 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. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

At the end of the Rosary, pray:

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 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.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE HOLY ROSARY”

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst 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. 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.

5. Announce the First Mystery

Then say the Our Father (2).

6. On the Ten Small Beads of Each Decade

Say ten Hail Marys (3), while meditating on the Mystery.

7. Glory be to the Father

After each decade say the following prayer 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 in most need of Thy mercy."

8. Announce the Second Mystery

Then say the Our Father (2). Repeat 6 and 7 and continue with the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Mysteries in the same manner.

**Wednesdays, and during Advent – on Sundays.**

1<sup>st</sup> Mystery - The Annunciation,

2<sup>nd</sup> Mystery - The Visitation,

3<sup>rd</sup> Mystery - The Nativity,

4<sup>th</sup> Mystery - The Presentation, and the

5<sup>th</sup> Mystery - Finding of Jesus in the Temple.

The **Sorrowful Mysteries** are usually prayed on **Tuesdays, Fridays, and during Lent – Sundays.**

1<sup>st</sup> Mystery - The Agony in the Garden,

2<sup>nd</sup> Mystery - The Scourging at the Pillar,

3<sup>rd</sup> Mystery - The Crowning with Thorns,

4<sup>th</sup> Mystery - The Carrying of the Cross, and the

5<sup>th</sup> Mystery – The Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord.

The **Glorious Mysteries** are usually prayed on **Wednesdays and Sundays** (except during Lent or Advent).

1<sup>st</sup> Mystery - The Resurrection,

2<sup>nd</sup> Mystery - The Ascension,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mystery - The Decent of the Holy Spirit,  
4<sup>th</sup> Mystery - The Assumption of Mary, and  
5<sup>th</sup> Mystery - The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven  
and Earth.

The **Luminous Mysteries** were instituted in 2002 by  
Pope Saint John Paul II and are usually prayed on **Thurs-**  
**days.**

1<sup>st</sup> Mystery - The Baptism of Jesus,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mystery - The Wedding Feast at Cana,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mystery - Jesus' Proclamation of the Kingdom of God,  
4<sup>th</sup> -Mystery - The Transfiguration, and  
5<sup>th</sup> Mystery - The Institution of the Eucharist.

After praying the five decades, say the Hail, Holy Queen,  
and end with the following:

Leader: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

Response: 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,

1a. Make the Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy  
Spirit. Amen.

1b. The Apostle's 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 Ghost, 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,  
sitteth 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 resurrec-  
tion of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

2. 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 tres-  
passes as we forgive those who trespass against us; and  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

3. Say 3 Hail Marys

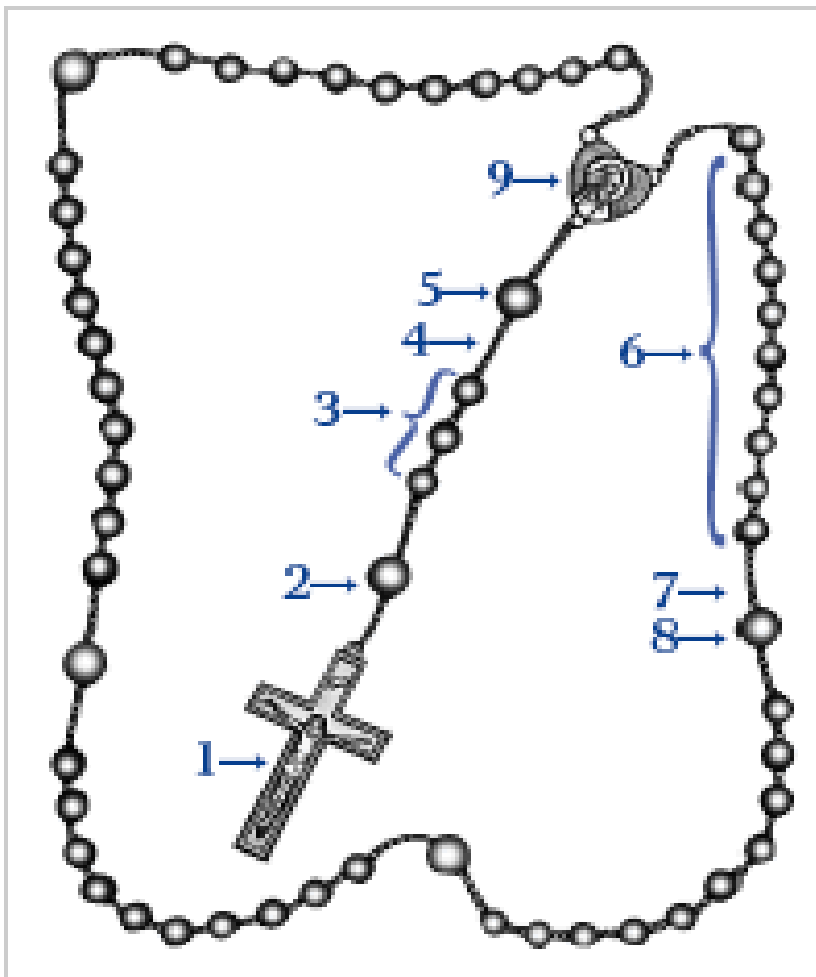
the end and I wonder what I just said. However, one thing I have come to realize, is that the Rosary is a source of great comfort. When the world seems to be falling apart, the Rosary is a source of consistency and unity, “an ever-present help in distress” (Psalm 46:1).

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.

## **The Family that Prays Together, Stays**

### **Together**

Monique Sammut



The family that  
*Pray together!*  
*Stays together!*

The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together

Praying the Rosary as a family is a highly encouraged practice. When children are young, there is a prayer parents can pray for their children after each decade: With this Rosary I bind my children to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for her guidance and protection.

Children can learn to pray the Rosary at an early age, due to the simplicity and repetition of the prayers. They can

begin by simple listening then move to responding, and eventually to leading one of the decades. The process can take time, but will eventually prove fruitful. One can only imagine what the power of the Rosary and children's prayers can accomplish. They may not understand what they are saying at first, but understanding will come with time. Reading small passages from a children's Bible and explaining the significance of the Rosary and the meaning and power of the prayers, may help children understand the true power and value of the Rosary.

In my family, the Rosary has become an integral part of every day. When I was little, my parents used to let me play while they prayed the Rosary together. Eventually, they decided if I could talk, I could pray. I would sit and listen, join in when I could, and when I was school-age, I began leading. My siblings eventually joined the ranks as well. As babies, they would hold jumbo-rosaries and suck on the large plastic beads. After years of listening, with mastery came the responsibility of leading a decade. Each of us leads a decade. We usually pray before or

after dinner and it is a quiet time to calm down from business of the day.

### **"If at First You Don't Succeed – Try, Try Again."**

There were (and still are) many failed attempts and many distractions to overcome. The advice from Thomas Palmer's famous poem has been put into practice numerous times – "if at first you don't succeed...." Praying the Rosary takes patience and perseverance, even after years of routine. With time, however, children come around to expecting the Rosary as part of the daily routine. There are days some of us fall asleep or are busy calculating how much time will be left to play or study afterwards, or are busy making faces at whoever is in front of us, but over the years I have become grateful for this prayer time. It brings us together for half-an-hour to calm down and thank God for His goodness.

It is a respite from the craziness of the day. There are many days I wish I had half-an-hour extra of study-time and my mind is elsewhere. There are somedays we arrive at