



Lakota Victory Christ

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Few forms of prayer have more beauty or deeper biblical roots than the Rosary. These three wonderful Rosary Booklets are a great gift to Catholic Native American life, and a valuable tool for reflecting on and deepening our faith. It's a pleasure to warmly endorse them. Read them, use them, pray with them and share them with others. Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Denver; Potawatomi Tribe

Using the images of the continent's original peoples in icons is a way of celebrating the spiritual gifts they have given the world. That the Native Americans were caretakers rather than exploiters of the land is wonderfully consonant with the best of Christian thought and tradition. Fr. John Giuliani

I believe that Christianity and modern civilization are opposed and irreconcilable, and that the spirit of Christianity and of our ancient religion is essentially the same. Ohiyesa

The Rosary is a gift from our spiritual mother, a prayer for all native peoples, for all of God's people. These booklets introduce one to this prayer, to Mother Mary, and to the teachings of her Son. Our Native Peoples are loved by God. God wishes to speak to them, respecting but building upon their ancient traditions and beliefs, toward a fullness of truth. Mother Mary is the bridge. She is the Mother of Unity for all of God's people. We are all her children. She will mend our broken hearts and unite us to the Lord of all Hearts, her Son Jesus. We can only be one as a holy people when we are one in the truth. Listening to her and her Son, we will all walk the trail of a true human being. The Author

Booklet Credits/Abbreviations:

Biblical citations quoted are taken from the NAB, except where noted.

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The Rosary

A Prayer For All Native Peoples



Traditional Edition

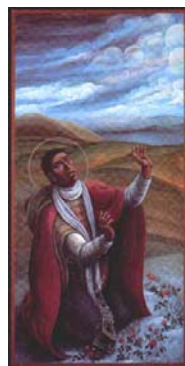
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God Visits the Native Peoples through His Mother

“I will suffer with you!”

The Story of Guadalupe

In Mexico, during 1531, Mary, the mother of Jesus, appeared as a beautiful Aztec woman four times to the Aztec Juan Diego. She revealed herself as *“the perfect and perpetual Virgin Mary, the Mother of the one true God for whom everything lives, the Lord of all things who is Master of heaven and earth.”* It was a message of a mother’s heart: *“Hear and put this into your heart. Let nothing*



discourage you. Let nothing depress you. Let neither your face or your heart be worried. Do not fear any illness, affliction, anxiety, or pain. Am I not here, I who am your mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not your fountain of life, the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the folding of my arms? Is there anything else that you need? She recognized the suffering of the native peoples. *“I am your merciful Mother. I will suffer with you, I will be an instrument and balm for your wounds, I will hear your weeping and your sorrows, I will alleviate your sufferings, necessities, and misfortunes, I will be a mother of compassion, your mother of mercy.”*



She then left Juan a beautiful image of herself on his tilma (cloak), made of cactus fiber, as a sign, which has remained in perfect condition to this very day. But she also asked Juan to go to the bishop and ask that a church be built so her Son Jesus could be honored and worshipped. Many native peoples today travel to Guadalupe, in Mexico, to visit this holy ground, and to go to Mass at the church.

Mary, is the Mother of Jesus, who is the Son of God, the Word of God made flesh. Because Mary is the Mother of Jesus, she is the spiritual Mother of *all* peoples; she is our universal Mother! And so she comes -- and she has continued to come ever since: to Lourdes (France), Fatima (Portugal) and many other places and peoples, whenever her children are in need, whenever we have strayed from the teachings of her Son, Jesus. And when Mary appeared to Juan, she appeared to him with child, which symbolically reveals that Christ is to be born among the peoples of the Americas. And so -- the message of the image at Guadalupe is just as relevant today as during the lifetime of Juan Diego, 500 years ago. Pope John Paul II declared Juan Diego a saint of the Catholic Church: *“Blessed Juan Diego, is a good, Christian Indian, whom the native peoples have always considered a saint.”* And so, as we learn the Rosary, the prayer of Jesus’ mother, let us pray to Juan for his help.

“Oh Great Spirit, help me always to speak the truth quietly, to listen with an open mind when others speak, and to remember the peace that may be found in silence.” (Cherokee)



Let us ask the spirit of Kateri Tekakwitha for her prayers that we may overcome all our hardships and draw closer to God

Kateri, declared blessed by the Catholic Church, was the daughter of a great Mohawk warrior. She was born in the Mohawk fortress of Ossernenon (in New York state). At age 4, when smallpox swept through the area, it left her orphaned, with ugly scars and impaired eyesight. After the fort was burned down, Tekakwitha was adopted by her uncle, who was the chief of the Turtle-clan. While living here, Tekakwitha turned to Christ and was baptized, taking the name Kateri (Mohawk for Catherine). Her Mother was a devout Catholic. Her extraordinary sanctity impressed her people. Her mortifications were extreme, and attained the most perfect union with God in prayer. Her life was dedicated to prayer, penitential practices, and care for the sick and aged. She took a vow of chastity and practiced her religion with great courage in the face of much opposition and persecution. She died at the age of 24. About 15 minutes after death, her disfigured face suddenly changed and became beautiful with no scars! She has been called the Lily of the Mohawks. Her spirit lives among our peoples.

We honor our ancestors with her:

Blessed Kateri, who loved God above all things, pray for us. Be close to us in time of need, in our daily sorrows and cares. Keep our hearts free from hatred and the evils that surround us and tempt us. May we follow your example in the care for the sick and aged. Help us to follow the wisdom of our people, but foremost the teachings of God’s Son, Jesus, and the Church that He founded. Help us to respect the earth and lands of our ancestors, but forgive all who have taken these lands from our peoples – for if we can forgive those who have injured us, then we know our merciful God will forgive all our transgressions. We ask this in Christ’s name. Amen.



Concluding Prayer:

Almighty God, you have sent your only Son to be nailed to a cross to free us from our sins. Forgive now all who have persecuted our people out of greed and selfishness, hatred and bigotry, and those who in the name of religion, have violated your true teachings of love and compassion. May all of our people and creation now live in harmony and peace. Through the power of the Rosary, may people of all faiths and religions recognize Mary, your Mother, as our true spiritual mother, trust in her intercession, and respond to her call to conversion. Amen.

Prayers and Devotions

Let us honor the Mother of God, the Mother of Jesus, Our Spiritual Mother in Heaven

God Takes His Mother to Heaven

If you were God, what would you do for your mother? If you had the possibility to have your mother bodily assumed, wouldn't you do it? Yes! No one obeys the 4th commandment better than Jesus! It is fitting and right we give great honor to our Mother! It is the logic of love. Death and corruption of the body is a consequence of sin (Gn 3:19). Yet because Mary was the sinless and immaculate one, it is right that she does not have to suffer the corruption of the grave. As with Jesus, God will "not allow [His] faithful servant see the pit" (Ps. 16:10). She was preserved from the sin of Adam, because of who she was to be - the Mother of God; and there is no sin around God. Holy is the Temple of God. Holy is the Ark of the Covenant. Holy is the womb of Mary!

The Assumption of Mary into Heaven gives us hope and confidence that some day we, too, will attain our eternal destiny. On the last day, our bodies, too, will also be united to our soul!

Mary is Our Spiritual Mother



God spoke: "Let there be light!" God spoke and the world came into existence! We receive our earthly food from "mother earth;" God created the earth, and all the life that comes forth from it. But our *spiritual food* is the Word of God, Jesus, the Word of God made flesh. Mary is the Mother of Jesus, and so the spiritual mother of all whom Christ died to redeem, all who receive spiritual life through Jesus. So by giving birth to Jesus physically, she also gives birth to all of God's children spiritually. She truly is our Mother, and Mother of God's Church.

All native peoples are members of this spiritual family, God's covenant, and with a spiritual parenthood: God as our Father, and His Son Jesus. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ. What kind of family would it be without a mother?

So just as our earth is mother for our earthly goods, Mary is our Mother for our spiritual food! She is a true mother, bringing us forth to a life of grace -- a river of God's grace -- which is God's life within us.

So let us respond to her call. Let us resolve to have recourse to our Mother in Heaven, for her help, spiritual influence, her guidance and wisdom. Let

her instill into our receptive souls the love of God and our brotherhood with all creation. Let us allow her to nourish us with the fruits of God's redemptive graces, to lead us to her Son.



What is the Rosary?

The Rosary is a story

Our people tell stories. Jesus, too, told stories (parables) to help us know the truth. Contained within the Rosary is the story of Jesus Christ, the Son of God the Father, and His message of salvation — recalling the major events in His life—His birth, His childhood, His dying for all peoples, His rising from the dead, and His glorification by Our Father in Heaven.

The Rosary is a way of life

... so we can walk the trail of a true human being. It is a model to follow, because the Rosary is a living meditation on the life of our shepherd, Lord Jesus. As we pray it daily, we begin to live his Gospel message that it portrays, to live the life of Jesus Christ.

The Rosary is a weapon

... because the Rosary is a meditation on the Word of God. With this weapon we can be great warriors in defense of the truth because the Word of God is the "Sword of the Spirit" (Eph 6:17).

Why this booklet?

"While the Christian faith began in a specific time and place, all peoples can nevertheless claim ownership of it ... a single mystery can be approached through diverse cultures" (Fr. Giuliani). The Rosary is a prayer that can unify all peoples and bring us all closer to God. As we meditate on the life of Jesus, we can see the face of Christ, through the loving eyes of his mother.

Why the beads, why the "mysteries?"

As our ancestors have practiced in song, ritual and prayer, in line with authentic Christian spirituality, we are body-soul creatures. So, it's right and true that we pray and worship with the body and soul, with mind and spirit. The body expresses the whole person, but is disposed to the soul for our self-mastery. So, the beads are there for the body, the body is there for the soul, and the soul is there for the mystery we are meditating on, and *the mystery is there to make us holy!* Mysteries? Not all revealed by God can be explained by reason alone; we must rely on our faith in God's Word. For this reason they are called "mysteries."

Why the Virgin Mary?

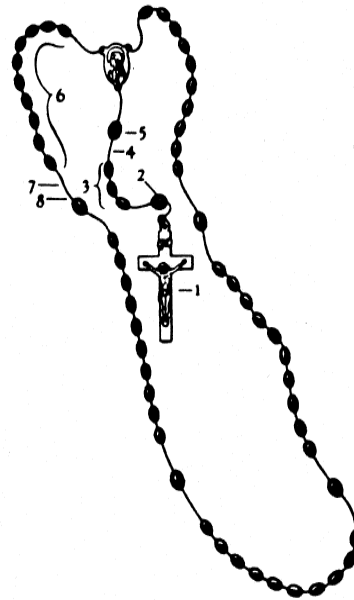
Mary is the Mother of Jesus and therefore our spiritual Mother. Her prayers are most powerful. She is the Seat of Wisdom, for: "... the honor of a woman's house is in her hands ... we can never overcome the woman, for in her lap lies the child" (Ohiyesa). *Blessed are you daughter, by the Most High God, above all the women on earth ... You are the glory of Jerusalem! You are the surpassing joy of Israel! You are the splendid boast of our people!* (Judith 13:18, 15:9).

The Origin of the Rosary

The Rosary had its primitive origins in the ninth century A.D., traced to a group of Irish monks who, as part of their prayer life, practiced or recited often the 150 Psalms of David. It was difficult for the lay people to share in this devotion and so, encouraged by the monks, they instead substituted 150 Lord's Prayers in place of the psalms. The angelic salutation: *Hail Mary, full of grace ...* (Lk 1:28) was added, and by the thirteenth century, the practice of attaching a particular meditation to each prayer (and later, to a series of prayers) began to appear. It wasn't until the fourteenth century that the prayer began to mature into its present form. The Carthusians, a group of Austrian monks, were probably most responsible for this development, grouping the angelic salutations into decades (ten each) with a Lord's Prayer in between the groups. St. Dominic also played an important role in the spread of this devotion.

How to Pray the Rosary

1. Make the Sign of the Cross. Pray the Apostles Creed.
2. Pray the Our Father prayer.
3. Pray three Hail Marys while meditating on the virtues of faith, hope and charity.
4. Pray the Glory Be to the Father.
5. Select which set of mysteries are to be meditated (example: Joyful). Read the first Mystery meditation. Then, on this bead, pray the "Our Father."
6. Pray ten Hail Marys while continuing to meditate on the first Mystery meditation. For a scriptural Rosary, read the short biblical verse before each Hail Mary.
7. Pray the Glory Be to the Father.
8. Begin the second Mystery.
9. Read the meditation for this Mystery.
10. Again pray the Our Father, 10 Hail Marys (with biblical verse) and the Glory Be on these next set of beads.
11. Continue with the third, fourth, and fifth Mysteries in the same way.
12. After all five Mysteries are done, pray a closing prayer on the joining point of the beads. Then end with the Sign of the Cross.



The Magnificat

A Hymn of Thanksgiving to God

(Based on Luke 1:46-55)

I. Mary's gratitude for God's singular gifts and graces:

My soul magnifies the Lord,
And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid;
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;
For He who is mighty has done great things for me,
And holy is His name;

II. The many benefits God has bestowed on the people of Israel:

His mercy is on those who fear Him,
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with His arm;
He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their hearts;
He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
and has exalted the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich He has sent away empty.

III. The promise made of old to the Fathers - the mystery of the Incarnation:

He has helped Israel, His servant,
Mindful of His mercy,
As has He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his posterity for ever."

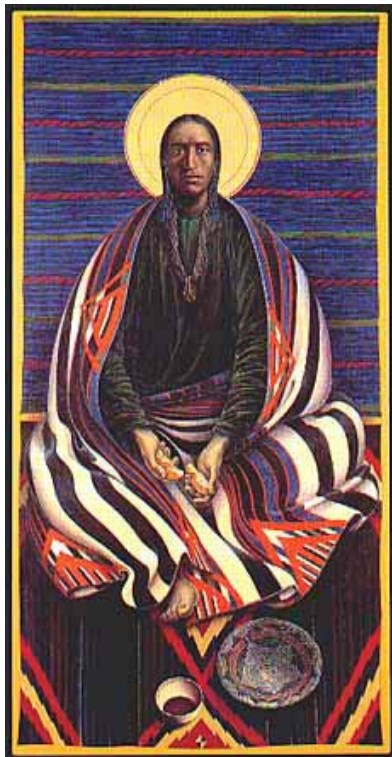
The Fifth Luminous Mystery

The Last Supper and Institution of the Eucharist

Fruit of the Mystery: Thanksgiving

While at supper, Jesus took bread, and blessed and broke the bread, and gave it to His disciples and said, “Take and eat ... This is my body, which is being given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”... He took the cup, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant, which his being shed for many unto the forgiveness of sins” (Mt 26:26-27; Lk 22:19-20). The earliest of Christians bore witness to the significance, efficacy and centrality of the Eucharist in the life of the Church. Just as the kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field (Mt 13:44), Christ is that treasure, the Bread of Angels, the Treasure of all treasures, present under the appearances of bread and wine, but truly present, His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity -- to console, teach, comfort, heal and refresh. We pray that all Christian native peoples, through the Eucharist, the “sacrament of unity,” will again be one and that we all will increase in our love and devotion to the Holy Eucharist in our spiritual life.

1. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover” (Lk 22:8).
2. And while they were at Supper, Jesus said, “This is my body which will be given for you” (Lk 22:19).
3. And taking a cup, He said, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant” (Mt 26:27).
4. Jesus said, “I am the bread of life ... the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever...” (Jn 6: 48, 51).
5. Jesus said, “the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world” (Jn 6:51).
6. The Jews quarreled saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” (Jn 6:53).
7. Jesus said, “Amen, Amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you” (Jn 6:54).
8. Jesus said, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink” (Jn 6:54-55).
9. Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening, said, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” From this time on, many of His disciples turned back and no longer accompanied Him (Jn 6: 60, 66).
10. Peter said, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life” (Jn 6:68).



The Prayers of the Rosary

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

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

In this ancient prayer, we recognize that the one true God, our Father in Heaven, also has a Son, Jesus, the Word of God made flesh, and a Holy Spirit that guides us, and guides the Church that Jesus founded. So while God is One, He has 3 Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit – the Eternal and Great Mystery. This is the Trinity. We prepare and present ourselves before God, in silence, love and reverence.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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 rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. He shall 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 life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed is a profession of faith summarizing the teachings of the first of Jesus' followers, the Apostles. It is prayed in most Christian churches today and affirms what our native peoples too have always believed – that there is but one God, a supreme power, who made all that surrounds and embraces us. It also recalls the events of 2000 years ago, when the Father sent His only Son to *all* peoples, to reveal God's plan, so we can do God's will, love and serve him in the fullness of truth. In the Hopi tradition we learn: *Truth does not happen, it just is.* There can be but one truth. Therefore, while we can learn great wisdom and truths from nature, only our Father in Heaven can reveal His inner life, His divine and sacred plan for us. This is why Jesus came. In this prayer, we affirm these revealed truths. And, in the prayers of the Rosary we shall learn yet more about God's plan for all of God's people.

THE LORD'S PRAYER -- PRAYER TO OUR FATHER

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come;
Your 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.*

This prayer was taught by Jesus Himself (Lk 11:2-4, Mt 6:9-13). The prayer is addressed to God the Father and contains seven petitions: three are concerned with God's glory and four with our daily needs both materially (food) and spiritually. It's the most universally accepted Christian prayer.

THE HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you (Lk 1:28).

Jesus had a Mother, the Virgin Mary, who God chose from all women to bring forth Jesus. But, she conceived her child through the power of the Holy Spirit, not by a man. Therefore, it is truly God's Son! This prayer is important then, because it recalls this great event, one which we are all called to meditate upon: the coming of Jesus! All the prophecies of the Old Testament Bible were then fulfilled. The Word of God was now made flesh (Jn 1:14), and dwells among us, to bring us the fullness of truth and wisdom, to save us from sin. God has truly visited His people!

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus (Lk 1:42).

Mary then visited her cousin Elizabeth, who is "filled with the Holy Spirit," and called Mary blessed among women: *Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord's would be fulfilled* (Lk 1:45). Because of Mary's faith, her obedience, her humility, God has honored Mary. Now, all ages will call her blessed (Lk 1:48). But, how infinitely more blessed was the "fruit of her womb," the source and cause of Mary's blessedness! Jesus is the "Way, the Truth and the Life," the Redeemer of the world, who came down from Heaven. He is the source of all holiness.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Mary is the Mother of God because she is the mother of Jesus, God's Son, who is a divine Person, both of human flesh and of a divine nature. We also know from our native beliefs that the soul is eternal, and so it is true and right to pray to our friends and family, those with disembodied spirits. The Bible, too, tells us that we are to pray for one another (Rm 15:30), and this includes those souls departed. Those that have died in Christ remain united to God and us, and their prayers are placed at God's feet (Rev. 5:8, 8:3). Our God is the God of the living, not the dead (Mt 22:32). Love is the binding force; we are never separated from Jesus, even in death! We continue in one communion, the Communion of Saints. And, who better to pray to for help than the Mother of Jesus! Will not the Son listen to the prayers of His Mother?

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 forever shall be, world without end. Amen.

This very old prayer, which concludes each decade of the Rosary, is in praise of the three Persons of the Trinity, similar to the sign of the Cross discussed above. It also expresses the truth that God is eternal.

5. "And He sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God" (Lk 9:2).
6. Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?" (Jn 18:33).
7. Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over" (Jn 18:36).
8. Pilate therefore said to Jesus: "Then you are a king?" (Jn 18: 37).
9. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into this world, to testify to the truth" (Jn 18:37).
10. On His cloak and on His thigh, he has a name inscribed, "King of kings and Lord of lords" (Rev 19:16).



The Fourth Luminous Mystery

The Transfiguration

Fruit of the Mystery: Hope in the Resurrection

The Transfiguration of Christ is the culminating point of Jesus' public life, as His Baptism was the starting point, and His ascension its end. On a high mountain, Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James and John's eyes. Elijah and Moses are there because the grace of the Gospel receives witness from both the Law and the Prophets. The Law is represented in Moses, the prophets in Elijah. Both the prophets and the Law speak to us, but *Christ is the voice of the law, the tongue of the prophets, the Word now made flesh and who dwells among us!* And -- as members of Christ's Church, we too can share in Christ's transfiguration. Our human nature is similarly transfigured by sanctifying grace, our souls now shining with brilliance and light before all humanity.

1. "Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves" (Mt 17:1).
2. Jesus was transfigured before them (Mt 17:2).
3. His face shone as the sun, and His clothes became white as light (Mt 17:2).
4. Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with Him (Mt 16:3).
5. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here" (Mt 16:4).
6. Peter said "If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" (Mt 17:4).
7. As Peter was speaking, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Mt 17:5).
8. "If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you" (Jn 15:20).
9. "Jesus came near and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone" (Mt 17:8).
10. Jesus said, "Don't tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead" (Mt 17:9).

7. “On coming up out of the water, [John] saw the heavens opened and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him” (Mk 1:10).
8. And there came a voice from the heavens, “You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased” (Mk 1:11).
9. And immediately the Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert (Mk 1:12).
10. “And he remained in the desert for forty days and forty nights, being tempted by Satan, and was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him” (Mk 1:13).

The Second Luminous Mystery

The Wedding at Cana

Fruit of the Mystery: Trust in Mary's intercession

Cana depicts the beginnings of Christ's messianic mission and His first recorded miracle, but also foreshadows His mother's mission. As with the wedding guests, she now intercedes for all of humanity as the woman of Genesis 3:15, the woman of John 19:26, given by Christ to the beloved disciple, to all whom Christ died to redeem. There is then a maternal dimension of Christianity. And we pray that, like John, we will take Mary into our spiritual home. We also ask for her intercession and follow Mary's advice: "Do whatever He tells you."

1. A wedding took place at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there (Jn 2:1).
2. And when the wine had run short, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine” (Jn 2:3).
3. And Jesus said to her, “Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come” (Jn 2:4).
4. His Mother said to the servers, “Do whatever he tells you” (Jn 2:5).
5. Now six stone water jars were placed there...each holding 20 – 30 gallons (Jn 2:6).
6. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” So they filled them to the brim (Jn 2:7).
7. And Jesus said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to head waiter” (Jn 2:8).
8. Now when the head waiter had tasted the water that had become wine ... [he] called the bridegroom (Jn 2:9).
9. The head waiter said, “Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, then an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now” (Jn 2:10).
10. “Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs” revealing His glory, and His disciples believed in Him (Jn 2:11).

The Third Luminous Mystery

The Proclamation of the Kingdom

Fruit of the Mystery: Repentance

Mark reminds us that the kingdom of God is at hand (Mk 1:15). Christ's coming fulfilled God's promise to His people; God has visited His people, and the kingdom of God is now! But, as Mark also reminds us, the coming of the kingdom also requires a response - to live the kingdom, to lead a moral life, to live the law of God, and to lead a life of conversion and repentance. It is for this, we pray.

1. The angel said to Mary, “Behold, you shall conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called Son of the Most High” (Lk 1:31).
2. "and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever (Lk 1:32).
3. “and of his kingdom, there will be no end” (Lk 1:33).
4. “The kingdom of God is at hand! Repent, and believe in the gospel!” (Mk 1:15).

CLOSING PRAYERS AFTER THE ROSARY

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us. And after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your 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.

This traditional Christian prayer honors Mary, the Mother of Jesus and recognizes that she will hear our prayers and offer them to her Son. It is an appeal for her aid and guidance. Through her help, we can draw closer to Jesus and reach our Father in Heaven. Just as we receive life from mother earth that God created, we receive spiritual life from our spiritual mother, because she gave us Jesus, the Word of God, that created all that surrounds us, the source of God's life-giving grace: our spiritual food, a grace that now passes through Mary's maternal hands. So God's life giving grace comes through the loving and nurturing care of a mother. And -- she gives us hope because we know her prayers are most powerful with her Son.

Other Closing Prayers

Traditional Christian prayer

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by His life, death and resurrection, has obtained for us the rewards of eternal life. Grant we ask of you, that while 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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lakota Prayer

Oh Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me. I am small and weak. I need your strength and wisdom. Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the things you have made and my ears sharp to hear your voice. Make me wise so I may see ever so clearly the ways you have to teach me. Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and cloud. I seek your strength, not to be greater than my brother, but to fight my greatest enemy ... myself. Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands, and straight eyes, so when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame. Amen. (Chief Yellow Lark)

Prayers for the Unity of God's People

O God, the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace, give us the courage to consider seriously the great dangers we, as Christians, are in by our many unfortunate divisions. Deliver us from all hatred and prejudice and whatever else may hinder us from union and concord. There is but one Body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all. So may we all be of one heart and one soul, united in the holy bonds of truth and peace, of faith and love. May we glorify You with one mind and one voice. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Eph 4:1-6, Rom 15:6) Liturgy of St. James



I hope the Great Heavenly Father, who will look down upon us, will give all the tribes His blessing, that we may go forth in peace, and live in peace all our days, and that he will look down upon our children and finally lift us far above this earth; and that our Heavenly Father will look upon our children as His children, that all the tribes may be His children, as we shake hands today upon this broad plain, we may forever live in peace.

Marpiya-Luta
Red Cloud
Oglala Sioux chief



Whenever the white man treats the Indian as they treat each other, then we will have no more wars. We shall all be alike -- brothers of one father and one mother, with one sky above us and one country around us, and one government for all.

Hinmaton Yalatkit
Joseph
Nez Perce chief

The Fifth Glorious Mystery

The Coronation of Mary Queen of Heaven

Fruit of the Mystery: Trust in the Communion of Saints

Scriptures speak of a woman with a crown of twelve stars (Rev. 12:1). The Hebrew kings had a Queen Mother or "Gebira" (Jer 29:2 and 13:18). The Queen Mother sat at the right hand of the king and interceded in matters of state, prefiguring Mary's role as the Mother of the King, Christ the King, whose kingdom includes His Mystical Body. We call Mary Queen because she mothered the divine Christ and so she shares in Christ's royal dignity and receives the royal right to dispose of the treasures of the Divine Redeemer's kingdom. From her union with Christ is derived the power of her maternal intercession before the Son. We ask our Queen to intercede for us.

1. "Who is this that comes forth like the dawn, as beautiful as the moon, resplendent as the sun?" (Song 6:10).
2. "Like the rainbow appearing in the cloudy sky ... like blossoms in the springtime" (Sirach 50:7-8).
3. "I am a flower of Sharon, I am a lily of the valley" (Song 2:1).
4. "In the highest heavens did I dwell, my throne on a pillar of cloud, and for eternity I shall remain" (Sirach 24:4).
5. "Come to me, all that yearn for me, and be filled with my fruits" (Sirach 24:18).
6. "You will remember me as sweeter than honey" (Sirach 24:19).
7. And now, my children, listen to me; listen to instructions and learn to be wise (Prov. 8:33).
8. "Happy the man who obeys me ... watching daily at my gates" (Prov. 8:33-34).
9. For he who finds me finds life, and wins favor from the Lord (Prov. 8:35).
10. Hail, Queen of Mercy, pray for us!

IV The Luminous Mysteries

The First Luminous Mystery

The Lord's Baptism

Fruit of the Mystery: Trust in Jesus

The baptism of Christ on the banks of the Jordan presents the solemn proclamation of Jesus as the Son of God. Jesus, the Lord's anointed, did not have to be baptized. Instead, it was a ritual act - that of being immersed in water, offered by the precursor, an outward sign of repentance for sins committed, and of the desire for spiritual renewal. Christ's baptism sanctified the waters, receiving from Him both fire and the Holy Spirit. Unless Christ is immersed in these waters, they will never be empowered to bring forth children to eternal life. At this moment, the Christian sacrament of Baptism is born, when we become adopted children of God. Let us come to the waters of Baptism, and be born again -- from above -- in fire and spirit!!!

1. The Word of God came to John, the son of Zachariah, in the desert. And he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Mt 3:1-3; Mk 1:4).
2. John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt about his waist, eating locusts and wild honey (Mk 1:6).
3. All of Judea went out to him... they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, acknowledging their sins (Mk 1:5).
4. John said to the people ... "Indeed I baptize you with water. But one mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire" (Jn 1:26-27; Mk 1:7-8).
5. It came to pass that "Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John" (Mk 1:9).
6. John said, "I need to be baptized by you." But Jesus said, "Allow it now... to fulfill all righteousness" (Mt 3:14-15).



The Fourth Glorious Mystery

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven

Fruit of the Mystery: Hope in the Resurrection

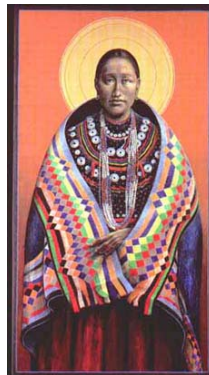
Apostolic Tradition inspired by the Holy Spirit was part of the early Church (2 Thes. 2:15, 2 Tim. 2:2) as it is today. Christ promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide us in all truth (Jn 14:15-18, Jn 16:13). Just as Jesus, after the Resurrection, continued to teach the disciples (Lk 24:45), so too did the Tradition inspired by the Holy Spirit in the early Church reveal, in time, the role and truths about the one so blessed by God, the Mother of Jesus.

Bodily assumption was reserved for those who were specially chosen and who had pleased God by faith (Heb 11:5, 2 Kg 2:1, 9-12). Eve was created immaculate and, with Adam, brought sin into the world, Mary with Jesus brought sinlessness back into the world. “I will put enmity between you (Satan) and the woman” (Gen. 3:15). There is no sin around God. Holy is the Temple of God, the Ark of the Covenant, the womb of Mary. Satan did not have a hand on the womb of Mary, she truly was “an enclosed garden ... a fountain sealed” (Song 4:12).

Death is a consequence of sin. It was fitting that Mary should not have to suffer the corruption of the grave and should share in Christ’s triumph over sin. As with Jesus, God will “not let [His] faithful servant see the pit” (Ps. 16:10). And so, Christ upheld the law to the fullest: “Honor (Hebrew: *Glorify*) your mother...” (Exod. 20:12). He exalted and glorified His mother in a way only God could achieve.

Understanding the truths about Mary is a gift of the Holy Spirit—we must search for these truths in our heart. The Assumption gives us hope and confidence that some day we too will attain our eternal destiny.

1. “Arise, my beloved, my delightful one, and come” (Song 2:10).
2. “For see, winter is past, the rains are over and gone” (Song 2:11).
3. “Let me see you, let me hear your voice, for you are lovely” (Song 2:14).
4. “God’s temple in heaven was opened. The Ark of his covenant could be seen” (Rev. 11:19).
5. “A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun ...” (Rev. 12:1).
6. “... with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars” (Rev. 12:1).
7. With jewels set in gold, and dressed brocades, the king’s daughter is led in to the king (Ps. 45:13-14).
8. “Blessed are you daughter, by the Most High God, above all the women on earth” (Judith 13:18).
9. “Your hope will never depart from the hearts of men, as they remember the power of God” (Judith 13:19, RSV).
10. “You are the glory of Jerusalem, the surpassing joy of Israel! You are the splendid boast of our people” (Judith 15:9).



Edward S. Curtis

***“There is one God looking down on us all;
we are all the children of one God.”***

Geronomo

The Rosary Meditations

The meditations (Mysteries) of the Rosary can be summarized as follows:

Joyful - Foundation of the Work of Our Salvation

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity
4. The Presentation
5. The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

Sorrowful - Accomplishment of the Work of Salvation

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion

Glorious - Perfection of the Work of Salvation

1. The Resurrection of Jesus
2. The Ascension of Jesus
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption of Mary
5. The Coronation of Mary as Queen

Luminous -- Key Moments in the Life of Jesus

1. The Baptism of Our Lord
2. The Wedding at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Last Supper

4. "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit" (Mt. 28:18, 19).
5. He also said, "Observe all that I have commanded you." And he said, "I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Mt. 28:20).
6. Jesus told them, "everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets, and psalms must be fulfilled" (Lk 24:44).
7. Then Jesus "opened up their minds to understand the scriptures" (Lk 24:45).
8. Jesus said to them: "Thus it is written that the Messiah would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day" (Lk 24:46).
9. After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was taken up into heaven and sat at the right hand of God (Mk 16:19).
10. The disciples "returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising God" (Lk 24:52, 53).

The Third Glorious Mystery

The Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles
Fruit of the Mystery: Charity

The Apostles prayed with the women and Mary in the upper room (Acts 1:13, 14). Tongues of fire descend from the heavens to summon all peoples to unity (Acts 2:3). Today, through the Holy Spirit, Christ lives on earth, but in His new body -- the Church. Pentecost was the Church's birthday. And the grace of Pentecost is still offered to many, but it bears fruit only in those whose hearts are open. We pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

1. "I will ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate -- to be with you always, the Spirit of truth" (Jn 14:16, 17).
2. The Holy Spirit, that the Father will send in My name "... will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you" (Jn 14:26).
3. Jesus said to "wait for the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak" ... John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit! (Acts 1:4, 5).
4. "... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, throughout all Judea ... and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).
5. When the day of Pentecost arrived, all the believers were gathered together in one place (Acts 2:1).
6. Suddenly, there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing (Acts 2:2).
7. Tongues as of fire appeared, which parted and came to rest on each of them (Acts 2:3).
8. All were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to express themselves in foreign tongues (Acts 2:4).
9. "Now there were devout Jews from every nation ... At this sound ... they were confused because each one heard them speaking his own language" (Acts 2:5, 6).
10. Many of them believed and were baptized; about three thousand people were added to the group that day (Acts 2:41).



III The Glorious Mysteries

The First Glorious Mystery

The Resurrection

Fruit of the Mystery: Faith



After the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and the mother of James brought spices to anoint the body of Jesus. But when approaching the tomb, our Lord's body is gone. "Do not be afraid! I know you seek Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised" (Mt 28:5). Upon returning to the apostles, they are met with disbelief. "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my hand into his side, I will not believe" (Jn 20:25). Do we believe without seeing? We pray for the gift of faith, as we wait to partake in the joy of the Resurrection!

1. "As the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and other Mary came to see the tomb" (Mt 28:1).
2. "An angel of the Lord ... rolled back the stone and sat upon it" (Mt 28:4).
3. The guards grew paralyzed with fear of the angel and fell down like dead men (Mt. 28:4).
4. Then the angel spoke ... "Do not be afraid. I know you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here. He has been raised, just as he said" (Mt 28:5, 6).
5. "Go and tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going before you to Galilee, there you will see him, just as he told you'" (Mk 16:7).
6. "Simon Peter ... went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there" (Jn 20:6).
7. "He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons" (Mk 16:9).
8. Last of all, Jesus appeared to the eleven disciples as they were eating. He rebuked them because they did not have faith and because they were too stubborn to believe those who had seen Him alive. (Mk 16:14).
9. Jesus told them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." (Mk 16:15).
10. Jesus also said, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned" (Mk 16:16).

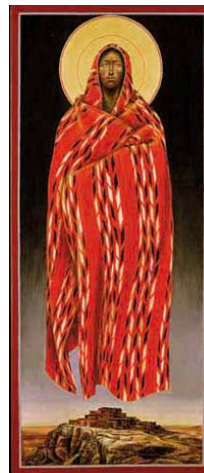
The Second Glorious Mystery

The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven

Fruit of the Mystery: Hope

The Apostles stood on Mt. Olivet, with their eyes turned upward -- Jesus has just vanished. He came to earth as a helpless child, and now ascends to His Father as the world's redeemer. But who will heal us now? Who will teach us? Now, the Holy Spirit, through the Church, will do the same thing that He did: touch us, heal us, and teach us.

1. Before His passion Jesus said to His apostles, "If you ask anything of me for anything in my name, I will do it" (Jn 14:14).
2. Peter professed to Jesus, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep" (Jn 21:17).
3. "The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them" (Mt. 28:16).



The Meditations

The meditations are the most important aspect of the Rosary. There are 15 meditations or "mysteries" contained in the most common form of the Rosary: The Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious, but the Luminous, which were added by Pope John Paul II, have been included in this booklet.

It is through these mysteries that we see the Rosary as a gospel prayer. It is through the meditations that we gain the most benefit. Virtues (fruits of the mystery) are attached to each mystery. Continual Rosary meditation on a daily basis will cause virtue and good works to flourish, withdraw our hearts from the love of the world and its vanities, and will help us to desire of things that are eternal.

To begin, select one set of five mysteries (Joyful, Sorrowful, etc.) and refer to the earlier section on how to pray the Rosary. As each decade of the Our Father, ten Hail Marys, and Glory Be is prayed, meditate on one of the five corresponding meditations for this mystery. In the more common form of the Rosary, one meditation or scriptural verse is read prior to each decade. In the scriptural Rosary, as presented here, a short scriptural verse is also read prior to each Hail Mary. In either case, throughout the recitation of each series of prayers, one continues to meditate on the mystery.

To benefit fully from the Rosary, one must meditate properly. As we read or contemplate the meditation, we should not simply read as though recalling an historical event, but instead, we should meditate in such a way as to experience it, to place ourselves into the scene. The passion and death of Jesus, for example, found in the Sorrowful mysteries, occurs here and now. We imprint into our hearts the disfigured face of Jesus, His torn knees and shoulders, His nailed scarred hands. We feel the pain and anguish Jesus felt in His hour of loneliness, of total abandonment, and scorn. We put ourselves also in His Mother Mary's place, and feel her anxiety, sorrow, and anguish as she watched her Son pass by. We imagine what she thought and felt while making her way through the angry mob in the streets of Jerusalem trying to reach and comfort her Son. Yet she spoke not one word of anger, hate or accusation. We learn from these scenes and then apply them to our daily lives.

Let us now begin our Rosary ...

I The Joyful Mysteries

The First Joyful Mystery

The Annunciation of the Archangel to Mary

Fruit of the Mystery: Humility

Eve said "No" to God, giving Adam the forbidden fruit leading to the downfall of humanity. Mary said "yes" to God, giving the New Adam, Christ, His humanity as the instrument of redemption. Mary believed. She does God's will: "May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38). We pray now so that we too will always follow the will of God.



1. "the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary" (Lk 1:26, 27).
2. The angel said to Mary, "Hail full of grace, the Lord is with you" (Lk 1:28; RSV).
3. "She was greatly troubled by what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be" (Lk 1:29).
4. The angel said to Mary, "Do be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God ... you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus" (Lk 1:30, 31).
5. And the angel said to her, "He will be great and he will be called Son of the Most High" (Lk 1:32).
6. The angel of the Lord appeared in a dream and said to Joseph, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife... for it is through the [Holy] Spirit that this child has been conceived in her" (Mt. 1:20).
7. "She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus because he will save his people from their sins" (Mt. 1:21).
8. The angel said to Mary, "The [Holy] Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God" (Lk 1:35).
9. The angel further said, "The Lord will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end" (Lk 1:32, 33).
10. Mary said: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38)

The Second Joyful Mystery

The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth

Fruit of the Mystery: Charity

When Mary visits Elizabeth, she performs an act of charity. We learn from this: we too must help our neighbors that are in need. When do we, like Mary, bring Christ to others. For this we pray.

1. The angel said to Mary, "Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age... for nothing is impossible for God" (Lk 1:36, 37).
2. Mary entered Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth (Lk 1:40).
3. "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb" ... and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit (Lk 1:41).
4. Elizabeth said, "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk 1:42)
5. Elizabeth said, "And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:43)
6. "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled" (Lk 1:45)
7. Then Mary said; "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord" (Lk 1:46).

5. "I looked for compassion, but there was none; for comforters, but found none" (Ps. 69:21).

6. They met a man named Simon, of Cyrene; they pressed him ... to help carry his cross (Mt. 27:32).

7. "two others, both criminals, were led away with him to be executed" (Lk 23:32).

8. He said to the holy women, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me. Weep instead for yourselves and for your children" (Lk 23:28).

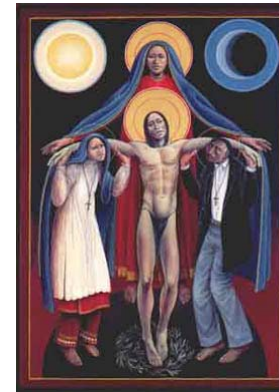
9. ...they brought Jesus to the site of Golgotha (which means Skull Place) (Mk 15:22).

10. And, as it was, that he humbled himself, obediently accepting even death, death on a cross (Phil. 2:8-9).

The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery

The Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Fruit of the Mystery: Love of Our Enemies



The hour of our redemption was at hand. The last words of Christ on the Cross had great meaning and significance: "Father, forgive them..." Jesus forgives the executioners -- and all of us. Then He said: "Into your hands I commend my spirit..." Jesus places each of us in His heart and commends us to His Heavenly Father; that the Father may see and love in us what He sees and loves in His only begotten Son. "Son, behold your mother..." Jesus gives us His last possession, His mother. In John, the beloved disciple, the mother of Jesus becomes the mother of all disciples, of all believers, of all Christians. We become her children and Jesus' brothers and sisters, forming a new spiritual family. From here on out, the beloved disciple took Mary into his home. Do we take Mary into our spiritual home? Do we allow her to fulfill her role as our God given spiritual Mother? For this we pray.

1. "Then they crucified him and divided his garments by casting lots for them" (Mk 15:24).

2. And they crucified two robbers with Him, "one on his right and one on his left" (Mk 15:27).

3. Jesus said, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mk 15:34).

4. The soldiers said to Jesus, "If you are King of the Jews, save yourself" (Lk 23:37).

5. Jesus said to the repentant thief, "Amen I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Lk 23:43).

6. Jesus addressed His Mother and John, "Woman, behold your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother" (Jn 19:26, 27).

7. Around midday darkness came over the whole land until mid afternoon (Lk 23:44).

8. "Jesus cried out with a loud voice and said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit,' and having said this, he breathed his last" (Lk 23:46).

9. "...one soldier thrust a lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out" (Jn 19:34).

10. "When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, 'Truly this man was the Son of God!'" (Mk 15:39).

7. Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?” They only shouted louder, “Crucify him” (Mk 15:14).
8. “Now on the occasion of the feast [Pilate] used to release one prisoner whom they requested” (Mk 15:6).
9. Meanwhile, the chief priests incited the crowd to have him release a thief, Barabbas, instead (Mk 15:11).
10. Pilate wished to satisfy the crowd, so he released Barabbas to them; “and, after he had Jesus scourged, he handed him over to be crucified” (Mk 15:15).

The Third Sorrowful Mystery

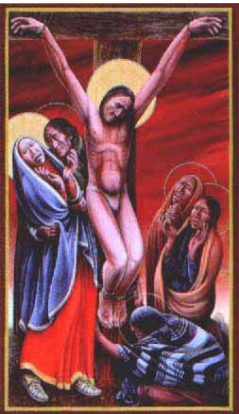
Jesus is Crowned with Thorns
Fruit of the Mystery: Humility

The soldiers were in no hurry to send Jesus to His death. They held a mock court, making Jesus a mock king, crowning Him with thorns, striking and spitting on Him. Jesus is truly a "lily among thorns." Yet, how often, when we sin, do we crown Jesus with thorns, strike or spit upon Him? We pray, never again!

1. The soldiers now led Jesus away in the hall known as the Praetorium (Mk 15:16).
2. They dressed Him in royal purple, then wove a crown of thorns and put it on Him (Mk 15:17).
3. They began to salute Him, “Hail! King of the Jews!” (Mk 15:18).
4. Continually striking Jesus on the head with a reed and spitting at Him. (Mk 15:19).
5. They genuflected before Him and pretended to pay Him homage. (Mk 15:19).
6. Pilate said, “Look, I am bringing him out to you, so that you may know that I find no guilt in him” (Jn 19:4).
7. “When the chief priests and guards saw [Jesus], they cried out, ‘Crucify him, crucify him!’ ” (Jn 19:6).
8. The Jews responded, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God” (Jn 19:7).
9. Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him. I find no guilt in him” (Jn 19:6).
10. When they had finished mocking Him, they stripped Him and led Him out to crucify Him (Mk 15:20).

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery

Jesus Carries His Cross
Fruit of the Mystery: Patience in Adversity



If anyone wishes to be my disciple, let him pick up his cross and follow me (Lk 9:23). Where is the cross today in Christianity? It is seen as an unpleasant thing that we encounter in life, rather than a sign of victory, a mark of our union with Christ. In fact, nothing of the Christian life can be understood apart from the cross. To become close to Christ, we must embrace and carry our cross! There is no Easter Sunday without the Good Friday. For this we pray.

1. “And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the cloak ... and led him off to crucify him” (Mt 27:31).
2. “he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness” (Phil. 2:7).
3. “When he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten” (1 Pt 2:23).
4. “[Christ] himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Pt 2:24).

8. “from now on all ages will call me blessed” (Lk 1:48).
9. “The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name” (Lk 1:49).
10. Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months and then returned home (Lk 1:56).

The Third Joyful Mystery

The Birth of Jesus
Fruit of the Mystery: Detachment from Material Goods

The late Archbishop Fulton Sheen once noted: “Mary's joy was to form Christ in her own body; her joy now is to form Christ in our souls.” In this mystery, we pray to become pregnant with the Christ's Spirit, giving Him new lips with which He may speak of His Father, new hands with which He may feed the poor, and a new heart with which He may love everyone, even our enemies. We pray for a rebirth of Christ in the world today.

1. Caesar Augustus issued a decree ordering a census of the whole world (Lk 2:1).
2. So “Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem” (Lk 2:4).
3. “...because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child” (Lk 2:4, 5).
4. It came to pass while they were there, “... the time came for her to have her child” (Lk 2:6).
5. “and she gave birth to her first born son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn” (Lk 2:7).
6. The angel of the Lord said to the shepherds, “Do not be afraid; for behold ... today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord” (Lk 2:11).
7. “And suddenly, there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel praising God” (Lk 2:13).
8. The angels said, “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests” (Lk 2:13-14).
9. The shepherds said to one another: “Let us go, then, over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us. So they went in haste” (Lk 2:15).
10. Mary kept in mind all these things, “reflecting on them in her heart” (Lk 2:19).



The Fourth Joyful Mystery

The Presentation of the Child in the Temple
Fruit of the Mystery: Obedience

We see in advance the actual historical situation in which the Son is to accomplish His mission. We see the Mother offering her Son in the Temple to the Father in perfect obedience, a scene to be repeated again at Calvary when a sword pierces her heart and the side of her Son. Obedience of faith means obedience in suffering at the side of the suffering Savior. With Mary, we offer ourselves to the Father through Christ, and pray for courage when suffering.

1. When the day came to purify them, according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph “... took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Lk 2:22).
2. As in the law of Moses, “Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord” — and to offer, in sacrifice, “a pair of turtledoves” (Lk 2:23, 24).
3. “... there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel,” and the Holy Spirit was upon him (Lk 2:25).

4. "It had been revealed to him" by the Holy Spirit that "he should not see death before he had seen the Messiah of the Lord" (Lk 2:26).
5. Simeon said: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace; according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation" (Lk 2:29, 30).
6. He further said: "light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory of your people Israel" (Lk 2:32).
7. "Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother: "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel" (Lk 2:34).
8. And your own soul "a sword will pierce, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Lk 2:35).
9. A certain prophetess, Anna, gave thanks to God and "spoke about the child to all who were waiting the redemption of Jerusalem" (Lk 2:36, 38).
10. "When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth" (Lk 2:39).



The Fifth Joyful Mystery

The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

Fruit of the Mystery: Patience

Unknown to His parents, Jesus remained behind as Mary and Joseph left for Nazareth. After three agonizing days searching, they find Jesus in His "Father's house" (Lk 1:49). Mary knows what it is like to lose Jesus physically. How much worse it is to lose Him spiritually. But Mary also knows how to find Him. We pray for her help.

1. Each year Jesus' parents "went to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover" (Lk 2:41).
2. "when he was twelve years old, they went up according to the festival custom" (Lk 2:42).
3. Returning from the feast, unknown to His parents, "... the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem" (Lk 2:43).
4. "Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances" (Lk 2:44).
5. "but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him" (Lk 2:45).
6. "After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions" (Lk 2:46).
7. "all who heard him were astounded at understanding and his answers" (Lk 2:47).
8. And His mother said to Him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety" (Lk 2:48).
9. He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (Lk 2:49).
10. "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them ... And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man" (Lk 2:51, 52).

II The Sorrowful Mysteries

The First Sorrowful Mystery

The Agony in the Garden

Fruit of the Mystery: Resignation to God's Will

We see the torches in the distance as the mob moves toward the Mount of Olives where Jesus is with Peter, James and John who are asleep. Although guilty of no sin, Jesus now experiences the internal effects of sin: sadness, fear, and loneliness. He has no one to comfort Him, until an angel appears. But we are awake with Him, and pray:

1. Jesus took His disciples and came to a place call Gethsemane. He said, "Sit here while I pray" (Mk 14:32).
2. He said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch" (Mk 14:34).
3. He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will" (Mk 14:36).
4. "And to strengthen him, an angel from heaven appeared to him" (Lk 22:43).
5. And His sweat became like drops of blood running down upon the ground (Lk 22:44).
6. Rising, He found His disciples sleeping and He said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you might not enter into temptation" (Lk 22:45, 46).
7. Jesus' betrayer, Judas, had arranged a signal, "The man I kiss is the one, arrest him and lead him away securely" (Mk 14:44).
8. Judas "went up to Jesus to kiss him." Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" (Lk 22:47, 48).
9. After he was arrested, Jesus said, "Day after day I was with you teaching in the temple area, yet you did not arrest me; but that the scriptures may be fulfilled" (Mk 14:49).
10. "They led Jesus away to the high priest ... chief priests and the elders" (Mk 14:53).



The Second Sorrowful Mystery

The Scourging at the Pillar

Fruit of the Mystery: Mortification

How many lashes Jesus received, no one knows, but the prophet foretold that afterwards the bones of His body would be numbered. But through His stripes, we are healed! The scourging is an act of reparation for the sins of the flesh. We pray for the mortification of our senses and for an increase in moral virtues in the world today.

1. As soon as it was daybreak, "... the chief priests with the elders and the scribes ... bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate" (Mk 15:1).
2. "The chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus in order to put him to death" (Mk 14:55).
3. The high priest questioned him: "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" (Mk 14:61).
4. Jesus replied, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power" (Mk 14:62).
5. The high priest said: "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" (Mk 14:63, 64).
6. "They all condemned him as deserving to die" (Mk 14:64).