

**October**  
month  
of the  
**HOLY ROSARY**



*Pray yours  
today!*

## The Holy Rosary

The Holy Rosary is a Catholic devotion praying towards Mother Mary and Jesus. During recitation of the Rosary for each decade we meditate the events happened in Mother Mary or Jesus' life as given in the bible which we call Mysteries of the Rosary. The purpose of praying with Rosary is to help keep in memory of these events or mysteries and to thank and praise God for them. There are twenty mysteries in total grouped as Joyful Mysteries, Sorrowful Mysteries, Glorious Mysteries and Luminous Mysteries. The main reason we say Rosary is to participate in the life of Mother Mary and to find the way to Christ. Saints and popes have emphasized the meditative and contemplative elements of the rosary and provided specific teachings for how the rosary should be prayed, for instance the need for "focus, respect, reverence and purity of intention" during rosary recitations and contemplations.

There is no good or bad day to say Rosary. It can be said every day or whenever we like. Rosary devotion became popular worldwide after a number of Marian Apparitions spanning two centuries. According to the tradition, the concept of the rosary was given to Saint Dominic in an apparition of the Virgin Mary in the year 1214 in the church of Prouille in the country of France. This Marian apparition received the title of "Our Lady of the Rosary". Rosary based devotions started to become popular after the apparitions for example Novenas which include a Rosary and number of churches named after the Rosary. Even today millions of people pilgrimage to the Marian Apparitions sites at Our Lady of Lourdes and Our Lady of Fatima in France every year.

While we mostly say Rosary for our good health, wealth or other our own intentions, it can also be offered for the sins of other people or sins of the world. Our Lady of Fatima said, "Pray the Rosary daily." Praying the decades of the rosary is not necessarily about focusing on the meaning of each word of each prayer. Rather it is more about pondering the mystery for that decade. For example, the first sorrowful mystery is the Agony in the Garden. While a person says the 10 Hail Mary's for that decade they might think about how Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane and what Jesus said and did

**St : Josephs Parish**  
582 Hopes St Mountain View CA 94041

**Tamil Mass will be celebrated every second  
Saturday at 6.45 PM**

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there. It helps to know the Gospel passages regarding the mysteries. While some people consider praying Rosary is blasphemy, repetitious (based on the bible verse Matthew 6:7), man-made rules or contrary to the bible and God, I believe it is still one of the many good prayers or praying methods available today to pray for our own sins and for the sins of this world. So that we and the people of this world may turn from our evil ways and live Holy in the eyes of God. That's what God is expecting from us no matter how we pray or which holiest praying method we use to pray. It is a hard job in a world where we mostly pray for our own material blessings because if we live like Jesus without any possessions or without any material blessings no one in this world will respect us even our friends and relatives will run away from us.

We are respected in this world based on our material possessions. So we give much importance to accumulate and to show off our possessions. It is the reason even in the churches and prayer groups praying for our material blessings is becoming popular to attract more people. They don't care about "Holiness". Teaching of holiness is lost in front of material blessings. The outcome of our prayers should lead us to "Living Holy" in the eyes of God or "Living as Jesus Lived in this World". Otherwise our prayers and praying methods are useless in the eyes of God no matter how holiest it might be in the eyes of men.

October is the month of Rosary. In this month let us not use Rosary as a decorative item in our homes. Instead, use it to pray for the sins of this world by meditating and connecting with the events happened in the life of Mother Mary and Jesus.

**- Leenus Rich**

### UpComing Events

**Nov 12th Saturday : Sangamam Mass**

**Time : 6:30 pm**

**Location : St. Joseph 's Church  
Mountain View , CA 94041.**

## Why You Should Pray the Rosary Daily: 15 Reasons Straight From Our Lady

The Rosary is arguably the most recognizable Catholic devotion. Sadly, it is a devotion that has fallen out of fashion for many Catholics. This is deeply unfortunate, as the Rosary is one of the most powerful weapons in our arsenal for spiritual warfare and one of the greatest aids in the pursuit of a fruitful spiritual life. Among the most common excuses for failing to pray the Rosary one hears are that it's "boring" or that it takes too much time. What many Catholics aren't aware of, however, are the benefits – promises from Our Lady herself – associated with its faithful recitation.

### A History of the Rosary and How to Pray It

While the specifics are unclear, tradition and the Church hold that Our Lady appeared to St. Dominic and Blessed Alan de la Roche sometime in the 13th century to impart the devotion of the Rosary. The monks of the time had already developed the habit of praying the psalter – all 150 Psalms daily recited by memory. Mary gave the Rosary to these two spiritual sons to promote the habit of daily prayer among all the faithful, not just those in the religious life. Structurally, the Rosary is divided into five decades; a decade is made up of 10 Hail Mary's preceded by an Our Father and concluded with a Glory Be. Each of the five decades is associated with a mystery from the life of Christ, and there are three sets of mysteries: the Joyful Mysteries, the Sorrowful Mysteries, and the Glorious Mysteries. An entire Rosary consists of all 15 decades. Fifteen decades of 10 Hail Mary's each equals a total of 150 Hail Mary's, thus leading the Rosary to be known as "Mary's Psalter."

### Mary's Promises for Daily Devotion

The most amazing thing about the Rosary is that Mary made 15 promises to those who recite it daily. These aren't insignificant promises, but rather enormously helpful graces provided to those who are trying to live a good and faithful Catholic life:

1. To all those who shall pray my Rosary devoutly, I promise my special protection and great graces.
2. Those who shall persevere in the recitation of my Rosary will receive signal graces.
3. The Rosary will be a very powerful armor against Hell; it will destroy vice, deliver from sin, and dispel heresy.
4. The Rosary will make virtue and good works flourish, and will obtain for souls the most abundant divine mercies. It will draw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
5. Those who trust themselves to me through the Rosary will not perish.
6. Whoever recites my Rosary devoutly, reflecting on the mysteries, shall never be overwhelmed by misfortune. He will not experience the anger of God nor will he perish by an unprovided death. The sinner will be converted; the just will persevere in grace and merit eternal life.
7. Those truly devoted to my Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite my Rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plenitude of His graces and will share in the merits of the blessed.
9. I will deliver promptly from Purgatory souls devoted to my Rosary.
10. True children of my Rosary will enjoy great glory in Heaven.
11. What you shall ask through my Rosary you shall obtain.
12. To those who propagate my Rosary I promise aid in all their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Son that all the members of the Rosary Confraternity shall have as their intercessors, in life and in death, the entire celestial court.
14. Those who recite my Rosary faithfully are my beloved children, the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion to my Rosary is a special sign of predestination. Mary, who is our true spiritual Mother, always desires what is best for us. She who was conceived without sin and sits as the Queen of Heaven and Earth enjoys a will that is in perfect unity with the will of God. What she wants for us is nothing less than what He wants. And He who made us knows precisely what we need to do to do the work He has assigned us, and the surest path home to Him.

These promises of Mary show us how the rosary serves as a spiritual weapon that every soldier for Christ and His Church needs to fight successfully in the spiritual battle that comprises much of our earthly sojourn. Those who trust in the Rosary and are faithful to Mary through it will have access to many additional graces that those who choose not to pray it won't. Graces we desperately need to help us make it through the narrow gate that leads to heaven.



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