



FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

The Joyful Mysteries & the Rosary

Welcome to our First Saturday devotions in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:

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

THE APOSTLES CREED:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.*

OUR FATHER:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.

*Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against
us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

HAIL MARY:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen. X 3

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.



A meditation on the Rosary and the Joyful Mysteries

THE FIRST MEDITATION: The Annunciation

“Hail, Mary, full of Grace, Hail!” Mary is startled and lowers Her head. She sees a shining creature kneeling and looking at Her, his hands crossed over his chest. Mary’s face shows surprise and fear. “Do not fear. The Lord is with you. You are blessed amongst all women. I am Gabriel, the Angel of God. You have found grace in the eyes of God. And you will conceive and bear a Son and you will call Him ‘Jesus’.”

(Pause ...) The first Joyful Mystery of the Rosary – the Annunciation.



The mysteries of the Rosary are precious and powerful. We share these mysteries with Jesus, and with Mary, who ‘pondered them in Her heart’. The mysteries are the sacred events in the life story of Jesus which were lived out over two thousand years ago, but are as priceless and as precious today as they were then. Jesus is ‘yesterday, today, the same forever’. The events of His Life are never out-of-date or out of place. They belong to all. And there lies their secret, their mystery.

(Pause ...) We offer this mystery in reparation for blasphemy against Our Lady’s Immaculate Conception.

OUR FATHER HAIL MARY X 10 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER
*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.*

THE SECOND MEDITATION: The Visitation

As soon as Elizabeth sees Mary, she raises her arms to the sky in joy and surprise. She then rushes, as fast as she can, towards Mary, her cousin. They embrace for an instant and then Elizabeth bows deeply, exclaiming, “You are blessed amongst all women! Blessed is the Fruit of Your womb! How did I deserve that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?” Mary, with her face raised to heaven exclaims, “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.”

(Pause ...) The second Joyful Mystery of the Rosary – the Visitation.

The beauty of the Holy Rosary is made up of two heavenly things: the Lord’s Prayer and the Hail Mary. By praying the Rosary we keep in touch with the Lord. The mysteries of the Rosary reveal the secrets of His Heart. As we say the Rosary and finger the beads, it becomes a dance for the Lord, while the Our Fathers and Hail Marys become a song of the heart. We should always have these prayers in our hearts and on our lips to honour the Most Blessed Trinity, Jesus Christ our Saviour, and His Most Holy Mother, Mary.

(Pause ...) We offer this mystery in reparation for the blasphemy and heresies against the perpetual virginity of the Most Holy Mother of God.

OUR FATHER HAIL MARY X 10 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, ...

THE THIRD MEDITATION: The Birth of Jesus

Inside the poor stony shelter Mary and Joseph have found refuge, sharing with some animals. A thin ray of moonlight creeps in through a crack in the wall. It rests on Mary's head where it forms a halo of pure light. Mary seems to be drawing to herself all the light that can descend from Heaven. And the light increases more and more. And Jesus is born, a little Baby, rosy and plump. Mary looks at her Baby and adores Him. She bends down to kiss Him.

(Pause ...) The third Joyful Mystery of the Rosary – the Birth of Jesus.

The Rosary is one of the most meaningful prayers for the faithful of every age and every condition. It is marvellous in its simplicity and in its depth. It gives our Blessed Mother so much joy. When we pray the Rosary out loud, we ask our dear Mother to help us focus on the person of Jesus Himself. He is the Prime Mystery revealed to us.

Jesus lived the mysteries of the Rosary for our sake and they are alive and active. We touch the Rosary beads as a lifeline, with the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary continually on our lips. May we be steadfast, persevere and praise Mary faithfully through the Rosary.

(Pause ...) We offer this mystery in reparation for the blasphemy and heresies against the divine maternity of Our Blessed Mother.

OUR FATHER	HAIL MARY X 10	GLORY BE TO THE FATHER
<i>O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, ...</i>		

THE FOURTH MEDITATION: The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Mary offers the Child, who has woken up and is turning His innocent eyes towards the priest. The priest takes Him in his arms and raises Him towards the Temple. The rite finishes. Simeon takes the Child and kisses Him. The old man is crying and laughing at the same time. Jesus smiles at him and stretches out His little hands towards Simeon's long white beard. Mary and Joseph smile and so do all the others who praise the beauty of the Child.

(Pause ...) The fourth Joyful Mystery of the Rosary – the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

Even if we suffer from dryness of soul, boredom and interior discouragement, may we never give up even the least little bit of our Rosary. The Rosary is a priceless treasure which is inspired by God. We need to pray the Rosary with great confidence, with confidence based upon the goodness and infinite generosity of God and the promises of Jesus Christ.

God does not despise our poor prayers because He is pleased when we sing His praises. Through the Rosary, let us learn to know Him well and to be grateful for all His Blessings so that, at the Day of Judgement, He may count us among His children and His friends.

(Pause ...) We offer this mystery in reparation for the disrespect and irreverence shown to Our Lady's shrines or images.

OUR FATHER	HAIL MARY X 10	GLORY BE TO THE FATHER
<i>O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,</i>		

THE FIFTH MEDITATION: The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

Mary is distressed when she realises that Jesus is not with Joseph. Where, where can her Jesus be? They return to Jerusalem. After three days, Mary, exhausted, enters the Temple. She walks along the yards and the halls. Nothing. Then, she hears the voice of her Jesus. He is teaching. There is her Son, standing in the midst of the doctors of the Temple, with His arms stretched out. She runs to her Son and embraces Him.

(Pause ...) The fifth Joyful Mystery of the Rosary – the Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple.

Praying the Rosary and meditating on the sufferings and joys in the life of Mary and Jesus can give us the strength we need to continue the battle against the evil one. In the Rosary we contemplate the mysteries of Christ through the eyes of Mary. It is she who reveals them to us, helps us to appreciate them and brings them within our grasp. Mary herself gathers up the prayers of the poor and humble and intercedes for them. As we take up our Rosary beads, Heaven and Earth are joined and the Queen of Heaven looks down, smiles and calls us closer.

Mother, look upon me. Smile on me now, and at the hour of death. Call me home to be always near Jesus and you.

(Pause ...) We offer this mystery in reparation for the crime of those who attempt to uproot devotion to the Mother of God, particularly from the souls of our young people.

OUR FATHER HAIL MARY X 10 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

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.

HAIL HOLY QUEEN:

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, Hail 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 vale of tears.

Turn then, O most gracious Advocate, your eyes of mercy towards 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.

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 you, that by 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.*

May the Divine Assistance remain always with us.
And may the Souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the hour of battle, be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God restrain him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who roam through the world seeking the ruin of souls. **Amen.**