

The
Seven
Day
Bible
Rosary

**Different Mysteries
for each day of the week**

The
SEVEN DAY BIBLE ROSARY

Fourth Edition

Mysteries of the Rosary
for each day of the week.

A compendium of
the life and teachings
of the Lord Jesus.

Dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima who has asked
us to pray the rosary for world peace, the
conversion of Russia, and the conversion of
sinners throughout the world

John F. Kippley
American Rosary Press

THE SEVEN DAY BIBLE ROSARY

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Acknowledgement is gratefully given to the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. for permission to use verses from the Revised Standard Version Bible, Catholic Edition, copyrighted 1952, 1965 and 1966.

I thank also a devoted disciple of Christ through our Lady of the Rosary. He encouraged me to produce a second edition, and then offered many helpful suggestions for the third edition as well. In this edition, some verses have been dropped and others added to bring out the main points more clearly.

INTRODUCTION

What will you find in The Seven Day Bible Rosary?

The first thing you will notice is that *The Seven Day Bible Rosary* has seven sets of mysteries, one for each day of the week. In addition to the traditional Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries and the Luminous Mysteries from Pope St. John Paul II, I have added three more dealing with the Public Life of Jesus, the Last Supper, and the Church. A suggested schedule is this:

Monday: The Joyful Mysteries

Tuesday: The Luminous Mysteries

Wednesday: The Public Life Mysteries

Thursday: The Last Supper Mysteries

Friday: The Sorrowful Mysteries

Saturday: The Church Mysteries

Sunday: The Glorious Mysteries

Each mystery starts with a short meditation and then has a verse from Sacred Scripture (with a few exceptions) before each Hail Mary.

The **Joyful Mysteries** follow the traditional early events in the life of Jesus. In the **Sorrowful Mysteries**, two of the traditional mysteries—the Scourging and the Crowning with Thorns—have been combined since they are so closely related. Attention is drawn to the trials and witness of Jesus by the addition of “Jesus bears witness and is condemned to die.”

The **Glorious Mysteries** have retained the same name. The traditional mysteries of the Assumption and the Coronation have been combined into one meditation because they are so closely related. Attention is focused on his Second Coming and Last Judgment by the addition of “Jesus will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.” This was the tradition in the fifteenth century.

The other four sets are practically self-explanatory from their names. The **Luminous mysteries** concentrate on five very special events in the public ministry of Jesus. The **Public Life mysteries** focus on five more events or broad themes in the life and teaching of our Lord.

The Mass ought to be the high point in the weekly life of a good Catholic. Thus, it is fitting to meditate regularly on the events of the **Last Supper**, realities that we celebrate at each Mass, including the Lord's special prayer for unity. You might use these thoughts also on Holy Thursday and when you make a Holy Hour.

Because the **Church** is so important in the life of an active Catholic, it seems prudent to meditate weekly on some of the things Jesus has done for his Church and the vocations He has created.

How the Seven Day Bible Rosary developed

In the mid-1960s a newspaper columnist asked a Catholic celebrity if she still prayed the Rosary. She replied that she didn't because she didn't want to bore God. When I read this, my first thought was that she was seriously confused about the difference between God and herself. My second reaction was that she was pointing to problems that many of us have experienced—boredom and distractions. Might an expanded version of the Rosary help some of us to overcome these difficulties?

So, this method of praying the rosary was developed for easily distracted souls like myself. When praying the rosary in the usual way, not infrequently my mind wanders all over the place. Having a verse of Sacred Scripture before each Hail Mary does not completely eliminate my distractions, but it certainly helps to focus my mind and imagination on the subject of the mystery.

In the traditional manner of praying the Rosary, the same mystery is repeated two or three times per week. I find that it is easier to think or meditate about a particular mystery if I don't repeat the same meditation quite as often. *The Seven*

Day Bible Rosary offers seven sets of meditations, one for each day of the week.

I was also concerned that the traditional form omits the entire public life of Jesus. In October 2002, **Pope Saint John Paul II** expressed the same concern in his apostolic letter, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae [RVM]* (n. 19). After the traditional fifth Joyful mystery of the finding of Jesus in the temple at the age of twelve, the next traditional meditation is on the agony of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane. The gospels' emphasis on his public life is not retained in the traditional 15-decade form of the rosary. According to Pope Saint John Paul II, the rosary "is at heart a Christocentric prayer" and can be called a "compendium" or concise summary of the gospel (*RVM* n. 2). *The Seven Day Bible Rosary* provides a broad compendium on a weekly basis.

Pope Saint John Paul II: How to pray the rosary

Pope Saint John Paul II offers several suggestions to improve the way we pray the Rosary.

Introduction. He notes that "in different parts of the Church, there are many ways to introduce the Rosary. In some places, it is customary to begin with the opening words of Psalm 70, 'O God, come to my assistance, O Lord, make haste to help me.' ...In other places, the Rosary begins with the recitation of the Creed..." (*RVM* n. 37).

Announce each mystery. "Announcing each mystery...is...to open up a scenario on which to focus our attention" (*RVM* n. 29). [Italics are in the original.]

Use the Bible. "In order to supply a Biblical foundation and greater depth to our meditation, it is helpful to follow the announcement of the mystery with the proclamation of a related Biblical passage, long or short, depending on the circumstances... It is not a matter of recalling information but of allowing God to speak" (n. 30).

Use silence. "Listening and meditation are nourished by silence. After the announcement of the mystery and the proclamation of the word, it is fitting to pause and focus

one's attention for a suitable period of time on the mystery concerned, before moving into vocal prayer" (n. 31).

Realize what you are saying when you pray the Our Father, the Hail Marys, and the Glory be (n. 32-34).

Make specific intentions for each mystery. "...the contemplation of the mysteries could better express their full spiritual fruitfulness if an effort were made to conclude each mystery with a prayer for the fruits specific to that particular mystery" (n. 35). I think the same can be said about starting each mystery with such a prayer.

Understand the symbolism of the Rosary beads. They "converge upon the Crucifix, which both opens and closes the unfolding sequence of prayer. The life and prayer of believers is centered upon Christ" (n. 36).

Conclusion. The Holy Father suggests several prayers to conclude the Rosary. "The Rosary is then ended with a prayer for the intentions of the Pope, as if to expand the vision of the one praying to embrace all the needs of the Church" (n. 37). He also suggests praying the *Salve Regina* (Hail Holy Queen) and to pray that by meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary we may come to "imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise" (n. 35). (See the Most Holy Rosary Prayer in the "Concluding prayers.")

How to pray *The Seven Day Bible Rosary*

Our Lady of Fatima never told us that we had to enjoy praying the rosary, and many people who do not really enjoy praying the rosary continue to do so simply because Our Lady told us that if we want peace, we must pray the rosary. On the other hand, if various techniques can help you or me to pray the rosary with fewer distractions and greater devotion, then let us use them. Allow me to make several more suggestions for praying *The Seven Day Bible Rosary*, especially in your family setting.

Variety. Not only children but also some adults experience restlessness with the rosary, so you may find it helpful to introduce a certain amount of variety into your family rosary. For example, one week you may want to read

everything. Another week you may want to skip the meditation. Or spend some time discussing the mystery.

Our Lady's request. Start the rosary by specifically praying it in response to Mary's request at Fatima. For example:

“Dear Blessed Mother, we pray our rosary today for world peace, for the conversion of Russia and for the conversion of sinners throughout the world as at Fatima you asked us to pray.”

In the family rosary setting, that makes it clear to everyone why you are praying the rosary as a family: it is not your idea; it's what Our Lady has asked us to do.

Prayer intentions. I suggest making several other intentions that are of universal importance—a stop to abortion and contraception, a rebirth of chastity, and authentic reform and renewal within the Church. Perhaps you will want to pray also for other large-scale intentions such as the conversion of China and of Islam, the conversion of the Jews, peace in the Holy Land and the rest of the Middle East, the missionary works of the Church, the conversion of those who oppose and even persecute the Church, and the conversion of the nation in which you live. Then mention your special family intentions and invite each family member to join in—perhaps with at least one prayer of thanksgiving and one of petition.

I hope that parents will find this form of the rosary helpful in praying the family rosary with their children. It is not uncommon for outspoken children to say they think it's boring to say the rosary. Saint Pope John Paul II has given formal recognition to this problem. “If this repetition [of the Hail Marys] is considered superficially, there could be a temptation to see the Rosary as a dry and boring exercise” (*RVM* n. 26).

In response, he has suggested additional meditations on the public life of Jesus and has given us suggestions on how to pray the rosary with greater thoughtfulness. Perhaps the combination of a wider series of meditations, the scripture

verses, and a variety of ways to pray *The Seven Day Bible Rosary* will prove helpful to children as well as to adults.

It's also possible that weekly meditation on the importance of priests and their vocation to administer the sacraments and to preach the Word of the Lord may stimulate vocations. Perhaps weekly reflection on the permanence of marriage may have beneficial long-term effects on Christian married couples.

I make no claim that this form of praying the rosary is "better" than the usual method. I can say only that it provides more of the events in the life of our Lord for meditation and that some people find it helpful.

If you use this in your family rosary, I hope that it helps you and your children to walk more closely with the Lord, for that is the ultimate purpose of all Marian devotion—to Jesus through Mary.

—*John F. Kippley*

Technical matters. The translation is mixed. I wanted a fairly literal translation but also one that would be good for oral reading in the Catholic home. I generally followed the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) version of 1941 that is in the public domain and familiar to many Catholics. However, where I thought the translation of the Revised Standard Version (RSV) of 1952 was more clear, I used it.

Moreover, in many cases, I made changes to get away from archaic words or usages or to express the thought more briefly or in language that better conveyed the thought to the reader of today. If you are concerned about which translation is used for any particular verse, you can check the sources, and you will find that the CCD and RSV translations are identical in some cases.

In many cases, I shortened the scriptural accounts in order to convey the overall lesson or event within the space of ten verses. References are given at the end of each mystery so you can read the complete account in your own Bible. Words in brackets [such as this] are words I inserted to clarify certain transitions of place, time or speaker.

Quotation marks. You will see that some quotation verses end with quotation marks and others do not. When a quotation verse does *not* end with quotation marks, that means that the next verse is a continuation of the same text. When a verse *does* end with a quotation mark and the next verse *begins* with a quotation mark, that means that the second verse is not a direct continuation of the previous one.

How to use your rosary beads

The traditional rosary beads are a set of five groups of ten beads, called a decade, with a single, usually larger, bead between each decade. Where the decades are joined, there is another chain of five beads and a crucifix.

At the crucifix, pray the Apostles' Creed.

At the first bead, pray the Our Father.

At the set of three beads, pray three Hail Marys.

At the last single bead, pray the Glory Be.

Suggestion: Pray the Our Father for the Pope, and pray the three Hail Marys for an increase in faith, hope and love. At the end of the rosary, pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of the Holy Father.

At the decades, pray the Our Father **and** the first Hail Mary on the first bead, then a Hail Mary on each of the nine remaining beads, and conclude with the Glory Be on the single bead between the decades. That's how I learned it, but some do it differently. Many Catholics recite the Fatima prayer (in the next section) after the Glory Be.

In the Apostles Creed, I have substituted "He descended to the dead" for "He descended into hell" because almost all Christians recognize "hell" as the name given to the place of eternal punishment. Thus, almost all of us recognize that "hell" is really not what is meant in the Creed.

The Prayers of the Rosary

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 to the dead; 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 shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The 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.

The Glory Be

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, world without end. Amen.

The Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those most in need of thy mercy.

Concluding prayers

Hail Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail, 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 toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Most Holy Rosary Prayer

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of everlasting life, grant, we beseech You, that, meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto Thee, o Virgin of virgins, my mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Prayer to St. Michael

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

THE SEVEN DAY BIBLE ROSARY

Meditations

Intentions

Scripture verses

The first Joyful mystery

Mary consents to be the Mother of the Christ

God has a universal will for all of us that is contained in the Ten Commandments, the Great Commandment of Love, and the moral teaching of the Church. God also has a special will for each one of us.

For Mary, God's special will was that she should be the mother of the Messiah. Her acceptance is the model for every Christian. We need her help to say “Yes” to God’s unique plan for each of us.

*We pray for all the graces we need
to accept God's special will for us.*

Our Father

1. The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth;

Hail Mary

2. To a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

Hail Mary

3. And the angel said to her, “Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.”

Hail Mary

4. When she heard him, she was troubled at his word, and wondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Hail Mary

5. And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

Hail Mary

6. “Behold, you will conceive and give birth to a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

Hail Mary

7. “He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and his kingdom will have no end.”

Hail Mary

8. Mary replied to the angel, “How can this be since I do not have a husband?”

Hail Mary

9. The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.”

Hail Mary

10. And Mary said, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done unto me according to your word.” And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Luke 1:26-38; John 1:14

The second Joyful mystery

Mary goes to help her cousin Elizabeth

Mary has just been given the greatest honor of the human race—the Motherhood of the Messiah, the Motherhood of the God-Man, Jesus. At the same time, she is told that her cousin Elizabeth is with child.

Mary does not expect to be waited upon because of the honor God has given her. Instead, she promptly goes to help her older cousin, carrying her newly conceived Son within her.

It is noteworthy that in this first example of Christian service, help is extended to a member of Mary's own family. How peaceful will be the Christian family inspired by this spirit of being helpful to others.

*We pray for all the graces we need
to bring Christ to others by serving their needs.*

Our Father

1. [The angel said to Mary,] “Behold, your cousin Elizabeth has conceived a son in her old age;

Hail Mary

2. “She who was called barren is now in her sixth month for nothing is impossible with God.”

Hail Mary

3. Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country to a town of Judah, and she entered the house of Zachary and greeted Elizabeth.

Hail Mary

4. When Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb.

Hail Mary

5. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and cried out with a loud voice—

Hail Mary

6. Saying to Mary, “Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Hail Mary

7. “And how have I deserved that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

Hail Mary

8. “The moment I heard your greeting, the babe in my womb leapt for joy.

Hail Mary

9. “Blessed is she who believed that the things promised her by the Lord would be fulfilled.”

Hail Mary

10. And Mary replied, “My soul shows forth the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for He has looked with favor on his lowly servant.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: Luke 1:36-47

The third Joyful mystery

Jesus is born in Bethlehem

The angels announced to the shepherds the birth of the Savior as “good news of great joy.” In taking on our human nature, God the Son poured Himself out for us, and from this we learn that joy comes from the giving of self.

Another message of the angels is that joy comes from personal acceptance of Jesus as our Savior. The proud can never experience this joy, for they refuse to admit their need for salvation; or they pursue a futile quest for joy in pleasures and possessions.

We pray: Thank you, Jesus, for coming to save us.

Our Father

1. [While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem for the census,] the time came for her delivery.

Hail Mary

2. And she gave birth to her first-born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes.

Hail Mary

3. She laid Him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

Hail Mary

4. There were shepherds in the same region, living in the fields and keeping watch over their flocks at night.

Hail Mary

5. And behold, an angel of the Lord came to them, and the glory of God shone round about them, and they were very much afraid.

Hail Mary

6. The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid for I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all the people.

Hail Mary

7. “Today in the town of David there has been born to you a Savior who is Christ the Lord;

Hail Mary

8. “And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

Hail Mary

9. Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God,

Hail Mary

10. And saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men of good will.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: Luke 2:1-14

The fourth Joyful mystery

The Presentation of Jesus in the temple

It is common to want to think we are above the law. Almost anything suffices for this temptation—some excellence in athletics, the arts, or education; personal achievement, political office, or honors. These can feed the germ of false pride that can lead us to think we are above God's laws instead of giving humble thanks for whatever gifts we have received.

Mary and Joseph knew that they were very special, unique in the history of mankind. Yet they did not think they were above the law. Thus, when Jesus was 40 days of age, they followed the Mosaic law of Leviticus 12:1-12.

We pray for an increase in religious obedience.

Our Father

1. When the time came for her purification according to the law of Moses, they took Jesus to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord.

Hail Mary

2. And to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord.

Hail Mary

3. There was in Jerusalem a just and devout man named Simeon, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

Hail Mary

4. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

Hail Mary

5. When the parents of the child Jesus brought Him into the temple, Simeon took Him into his arms and blessed God—

Hail Mary

6. Saying, “Now let your servant go in peace, O Lord, according to your word, because my eyes have seen your salvation.

Hail Mary

7. “A light of revelation to the Gentiles and a glory to thy people Israel.”

Hail Mary

8. And he said to Mary: “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and the rise of many in Israel, and for a sign that will be contradicted.

Hail Mary

9. “And your own soul a sword shall pierce, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

Hail Mary

10. And when they had fulfilled everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to their own town of Nazareth.

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: Luke 2:22-39

The fifth Joyful Mystery

The Finding of Jesus in the temple

It was not a breeze to be the parents of Jesus. First, they had to travel to Bethlehem when Mary was in her ninth month, and the birthplace was a cave. Then Simeon told Mary that a sword would pierce her heart. Next, they had to flee to Egypt.

When Jesus stayed at the temple, Mary and Joseph wondered where He was. They trusted in God but they were anxious.

It is significant that the Messiah, who at age 12 was fully competent to dialogue with the Jewish teachers, continued to be obedient to his parents.

We pray for confident hope at times of anxiety.

Our Father

1. When Jesus was 12 years old, they went up to Jerusalem as was the custom.

Hail Mary

2. And after the feast was over and they were returning, the boy Jesus remained in Jerusalem, and his parents did not know it.

Hail Mary

3. Thinking He was in the caravan, they went a day's journey and then looked for Him among their relatives and acquaintances.

Hail Mary

4. When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem in search of Him.

Hail Mary

5. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

Hail Mary

6. And all who heard Him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

Hail Mary

7. And when they saw Him, they were astonished; and his mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for You anxiously."

Hail Mary

8. And He said to them, "Why did you look for Me? Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?"

Hail Mary

9. And they did not understand what He was saying to them.

Hail Mary

10. And He went down with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: Luke 2: 41-51

The first Luminous mystery

Jesus is baptized by John

John the Baptist had been giving a baptism of repentance to sinners, and thus he was surprised to see Jesus. Though He was sinless, Jesus underwent John's baptism as a sign of Him taking on the sins of the world. The heavens opened, the image of the Holy Spirit descended, and the voice of the Father bore witness to his Son.

The baptism of Jesus was truly luminous because it was the first event in his public life that revealed Him as the Messiah. It was also the first revelation of the Trinity, three Persons—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—in One God.

*We pray for all the graces we need
to repent for our sins.*

Our Father

1. The people questioned in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.

Hail Mary

2. John answered them all, "I indeed baptize you with water, for repentance.

Hail Mary

3. "But He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry.

Hail Mary

4. “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”

Hail Mary

5. Then Jesus came from Galilee to John to be baptized by him.

Hail Mary

6. John was for hindering Him, and said, “I ought to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?”

Hail Mary

7. But Jesus said to him, “Let it be so now, for thus it becomes us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

Hail Mary

8. When Jesus had been baptized, He immediately came up from the water.

Hail Mary

9. And behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and coming upon Him.

Hail Mary

10. And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Luke 3:15-16; Matthew 3:11-17

The second Luminous mystery

Jesus first manifests his power at Cana

The wedding at Cana sheds light on several aspects of God's plan in Christ. The presence of Jesus, Mary and his disciples at the wedding affirms the basic goodness of marriage. We see the special relationship between this mother and her Son. We learn the power of her intercession.

Mary's faith led her to ask Jesus for this favor, and the miracle then opened the hearts of the disciples to faith.

The servants at the wedding had real wisdom. They followed Mary's advice: "Do whatever He tells you." We need to do likewise.

We pray: Holy Mary, help us to do whatever Jesus tells us to do through his word and his Church.

Our Father

1. Jesus, his mother, and his disciples were invited to a marriage at Cana of Galilee.

Hail Mary

2. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

Hail Mary

3. And Jesus said to her, "What would you have me do, woman? My hour has not yet come."

Hail Mary

4. His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever He tells you.”

Hail Mary

5. Six stone jars were standing there, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.

Hail Mary

6. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them to the brim.

Hail Mary

7. And Jesus said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to the chief steward.” And they took it to him.

Hail Mary

8. When the chief steward tasted the water now become wine and did not know where it had come from, he called the bridegroom.

Hail Mary

9. [And the steward said,] “Every man serves the good wine first and then, when men have drunk freely, the wine that is poorer. But you have kept the good wine until now.”

Hail Mary

10. Jesus worked this, the first of his signs, at Cana of Galilee; and He manifested his glory, and his disciples believed in Him.

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: John 2: 1-11

The third Luminous mystery

Jesus proclaims the Kingdom of God with a call to faith and to a change of heart

The gospel is summarized by the simple message with which Jesus begins his public preaching—
Change your heart!

We know from our own experience that having a change of heart is not just a one-time thing. We need continual conversion so that we can walk with the Lord on the narrow path that leads to eternal life.

Our Lord challenges us to live by faith and to trust that if we seek first the kingdom of God, He will take care of the rest.

*We pray for hearts open to the Lord
and to live by faith.*

Our Father

1. After John the Baptist was imprisoned, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God.

Hail Mary

2. [And He was saying,] “The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand. Undergo a change of heart and believe in the gospel.”

Hail Mary

3. “No one can serve two masters; you cannot serve God and money.”

Hail Mary

4. “Do not be anxious saying, ‘What shall we eat and drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

Hail Mary

5. “Unbelievers seek all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

Hail Mary

6. “But seek first the kingdom of God and his justice, and all these things will be given you as well.”

Hail Mary

7. “Enter by the narrow gate, for the gate is wide and the road is broad that leads to destruction, and many follow that way.

Hail Mary

8. “For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”

Hail Mary

9. “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven,

Hail Mary

10. “But those who do the will of my Father in heaven shall enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Mark 1:14-15; Matthew 6:24-33;
7:13-21

The fourth Luminous mystery

The Transfiguration gives us hope

Six days after Simon Peter had made his act of faith in Jesus as the Messiah, our Lord began to teach the mystery of the cross and resurrection. He would suffer, die and then rise from the dead. To share the glory of Christ, a disciple must carry his cross.

Jesus gave to Peter, James and John a foretaste of the final outcome. “The glory of the Godhead shines forth from the face of Christ as the Father commands the astonished Apostles to ‘listen to Him’ ” (*RVM*, n.21).

*We pray to keep in our hearts
the vision of Christ in resurrected glory.*

Our Father

1. After six days Jesus took Peter, James and his brother John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

Hail Mary

2. He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as snow.

Hail Mary

3. And there appeared to them Moses and Elijah talking together with Him.

Hail Mary

4. Then Peter said to Jesus: “Lord, it is good for us to be here...Let us set up three tents here, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

Hail Mary

5. While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them;

Hail Mary

6. A voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased; listen to Him.”

Hail Mary

7. On hearing it, the disciples fell on their faces and were exceedingly afraid.

Hail Mary

8. Jesus came near and touched them, and said to them, “Get up, and do not be afraid.”

Hail Mary

9. Lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus by Himself.

Hail Mary

10. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus cautioned them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one, till the Son of Man has risen from the dead.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matthew 17:1-9; 2 Peter 1:17-18

The fifth Luminous mystery

Jesus institutes the Holy Eucharist

In the Holy Eucharist, the Lord Jesus strengthens us to walk with Him on the narrow road that leads to eternal life.

Receiving Holy Communion is also a sign of unity with our Savior and with his Church—one, holy, Catholic and apostolic.

So great is the Holy Eucharist that St. Paul teaches us that “whoever eats this bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.”

We thank Jesus for his presence in the Eucharist.

Our Father

1. Jesus said to them, “It was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.

Hail Mary

2. “The bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

Hail Mary

3. They said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.” . . . Jesus said to them, “I am the living bread that has come down from heaven.

Hail Mary

4. “If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

Hail Mary

5. “Amen, amen I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

Hail Mary

6. “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has life everlasting, and I will raise him up on the last day...”

Hail Mary

7. Many of his disciples said, “This is a hard saying...” and no longer walked with Him. Jesus said to the Twelve, “Will you also go away?”

Hail Mary

8. Simon Peter answered, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life.”

Hail Mary

9. While they were at supper, Jesus took bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take and eat: this is my body.”

Hail Mary

10. And taking a cup, He said, “All of you drink of this. For this is my blood of the new covenant, which is being shed for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: 1 Corinthians 11:27; John 6:32-69;
Matthew 26:26-28

The first mystery of the Public Life

John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus

The prophetic preparation for the public ministry of Jesus was completed by John the Baptist. He was led by the Holy Spirit to preach the call to repentance and to a real change of heart and behavior—as Jesus would also do. He also witnessed to the permanence of marriage and the evil of adultery, and for this he was put to death.

St. John the Baptist is the first adult martyr of the New Testament. He is the only person in the Bible to be martyred specifically for his witness to the marriage bond.

*We pray for the gifts of repentance
and respect for true marriage.*

Our Father

1. John the Baptist was in the wilderness of Judea, preaching, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Hail Mary

2. The people went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins.

Hail Mary

3. Then he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism.

Hail Mary

4. He said to them, “Brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?”

Hail Mary

5. “If you are repentant, bring forth the right kind of fruit.”

Hail Mary

6. [Later], Herod seized John and bound him in prison because Herod had married Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip.

Hail Mary

7. John had told Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.”

Hail Mary

8. Herodias wanted to kill John, but she could not because Herod feared John, knowing he was a just and holy man.

Hail Mary

9. But Herod said to the daughter of Herodias after her dance, “Ask me for whatever you want, and I will grant it.”

Hail Mary

10. She asked her mother, “What shall I ask for?” and she said, “The head of John the Baptist.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 6:14-29

The second mystery of the Public Life

Jesus is tempted in the wilderness

The Savior of the world experienced our own temptations including the temptation to do evil in order to accomplish something good.

The last temptation may have been this: to worship Satan in exchange for the souls of the rest of mankind. This would have been the greatest possible temptation since Jesus had come to save each one of us.

In his answer, Jesus teaches us that we may never do what is wrong even to accomplish some good purpose. He clearly teaches us that the end does not justify the means.

*We pray for all the graces we need
to overcome all temptations.*

Our Father

1. Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Hail Mary

2. And after He fasted forty days and forty nights, He was hungry.

Hail Mary

3. The tempter said to Him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

Hail Mary

4. But Jesus answered, “It is written, ‘Not by bread alone does man live but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God’.”

Hail Mary

5. Then the devil took Him into the holy city and set Him on the pinnacle of the temple.

Hail Mary

6. He said, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will give his angels charge of you, and on their hands they will bear you up lest you strike your foot against a stone’.”

Hail Mary

7. Jesus said to him, “It is also written, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord thy God’.”

Hail Mary

8. The devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world...

Hail Mary

9. And he said to Him, “All these things I will give you if you will fall down and worship me.”

Hail Mary

10. Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ‘The Lord thy God shall you worship and Him only shall you serve’.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: Matthew 4:1-11

The third mystery of the Public Life

Jesus teaches us about the loving mercy of God for sinners who repent

This Scripture gives hope to all of us. The parable of the Prodigal Son teaches us about God's desire to forgive sin and to embrace the sinner.

Jesus also gives us some challenges. In order to receive God's forgiveness, I must first accuse myself of my sins. I also need to undergo a change of heart, put aside my sins, and I must firmly resolve to walk the narrow way with the Lord.

I also need to accept God's mercy on others, even public sinners. We all have something in common—our need for the gracious mercy of God.

*We pray for the conversion of sinners
including ourselves.*

Our Father

1. [Jesus told them this parable:] "A certain man had two sons, and the younger son asked for his inheritance."

Hail Mary

2. "When he received it, he soon left for a far country where he squandered his fortune in loose living.

Hail Mary

3. “After he spent everything, a great famine came over that country, and he began to suffer.”

Hail Mary

4. “Finding a job on a farm, he longed to eat what he fed the pigs, but no one gave him anything.

Hail Mary

5. “Coming to his senses, he told himself, ‘How many hired in my father’s house have plenty of bread to eat while I am starving here?’

Hail Mary

6. “ ‘I will go to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and you;

Hail Mary

7. “ ‘I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired men.’

Hail Mary

8. “When his father saw him coming, he was filled with compassion and ran to embrace him.

Hail Mary

9. “And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.’ But the father said, ‘Fetch the best robe and prepare a feast;

Hail Mary

10. ‘This my son was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and is found’.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: Luke 15:11-32

The fourth mystery of the Public Life

Jesus teaches us about marriage and a right heart

God knows that husbands and wives are tempted to take each other for granted, to feel sorry for themselves, and even to imagine that life might be better with someone else. So Jesus reaffirms the God-given reality that marriage is truly permanent.

The Lord also knows our human weaknesses and our tendency to use other people, so he reminds us that lust is not love.

Chastity is the spiritual energy that enables us to place our sexuality at the service of authentic love. Marital chastity entails self-mastery and fidelity in both thought and deed.

*We pray for all married couples
to be faithful to God and to each other.*

Our Father

1. Pharisees came to test Him by asking, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?”

Hail Mary

2. Jesus said to them, “From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.

Hail Mary

3. “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife, and the two shall become one.

Hail Mary

4. “So they are no longer two but one flesh. What God has joined together, let no man put asunder.”

Hail Mary

5. His disciples asked Him about this again, and He said, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her;

Hail Mary

6. “And if the wife divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

Hail Mary

7. “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’

Hail Mary

8. “But I say to you that anyone who looks at a woman with lustful intention has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

Hail Mary

9. “Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, every form of sexual immorality, stealing, lying, and slander, and these defile you.”

Hail Mary

10. “Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matt 5:8, 27-28; 15:19-20; 19:3-12; Mark 10:2-12

The fifth mystery of the Public Life

In his miracles, Jesus shows us his divine power at work in the world

In curing the paralytic, Jesus added something not found in most of his miracles. He noted that this miracle was a sign of his divine power to forgive sins, a sign that people should believe that He was sent by God and that his words are true.

Mid-19th century Europe was wounded by lack of faith. Skeptics denied the reality of the gospel miracles. God answered them with the miracles at Lourdes, the same sort of unexplainable healings that Jesus worked in his public life. We thank Jesus for his continuing signs and for the gift of faith.

We pray for faith in all that Jesus did and taught.

Our Father

1. As He preached to them, four men brought a man who was paralyzed.

Hail Mary

2. Since they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof and lowered the paralytic on his pallet.

Hail Mary

3. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven."

Hail Mary

4. Some of the scribes questioned in their hearts, “Why does this man speak this way? That's blasphemy! Who can forgive sins except God alone?”

Hail Mary

5. Jesus immediately knew in his spirit that they were questioning within themselves.

Hail Mary

6. So He said to them: “Why are you arguing this way in your hearts?”

Hail Mary

7. “Which is easier? To say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven you’? or to say, ‘Arise, pick up your mat and walk’?”

Hail Mary

8. “So that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins” — He said to the paralytic, “I say to you, arise, pick up your mat, and go home.”

Hail Mary

9. Immediately he arose, took up his mat, and walked out in the sight of all.

Hail Mary

10. The people were all amazed and glorified God saying, “We have never seen anything like this.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

Reference: Mark 2:1-12

The first mystery of the Last Supper

Jesus washes the feet of his apostles

Our Lord contrasts his teaching with the way of the world. The secular way of things is this: the strong become more powerful by using those who are weaker, the rich become richer by using the poor.

In contrast, the King of kings teaches that those who have power and money and authority are to help those who don't. It is such a hard lesson that he dramatizes it by washing the feet of his apostles—and tells them to do likewise.

Jesus does not eliminate authority, but He wants to change the hearts of those who possess it.

*We pray for the Christian spirit of service
in leadership.*

Our Father

1. Jesus rose from the supper table and wrapped a towel around his waist.

Hail Mary

2. Then He began to wash the feet of his disciples and to dry them with his towel.

Hail Mary

3. After He had washed their feet, He said to them: “Do you know what I have done to you?”

Hail Mary

4. “You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right for so I am.

Hail Mary

5. “If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash the feet of one another.

Hail Mary

6. “I have given you an example; as I have done, you should do also.”

Hail Mary

7. “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in authority are called benefactors.

Hail Mary

8. “But not so with you; let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and let the leader become as a servant.”

Hail Mary

9. “Amen, amen, I say to you, no servant is greater than his master; nor is the one sent greater than he who sent him.

Hail Mary

10. “If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: John 13:1-17; Luke 22:24-26

The second mystery of the Last Supper

Jesus commands us to love one another as He has loved us

At the Last Supper, Jesus continues to teach us about the demands of love—we are his friends *IF* we do what He commands us.

There is no question that God pursues us with unconditional love in order to obtain our conversion—that's the lesson of the Good Shepherd. But the other side of the coin is that we must undergo continual conversion—putting the Faith into practice. As St. Paul said, “If I have all faith...yet do not have love, I am nothing.”

The Great Commandment is the most difficult of all: we are commanded to love each other with the self-sacrificing love of Jesus.

*We pray for the strength
to keep his commandments.*

Our Father

1. [Earlier, Jesus taught:] “Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you. Pray for those who persecute you and tell lies about you.”

Hail Mary

2. “If you love those who love you, what reward shall you have? Do not even the tax collectors do that?”

Hail Mary

3. “If you greet only your friends, what more are you doing than anyone else? Don't even unbelievers do that much?

Hail Mary

4. “You are called to be perfect even as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Hail Mary

5. [At the Last Supper, Jesus taught] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.”

Hail Mary

6. “If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

Hail Mary

7. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Hail Mary

8. “Greater love than this no one has, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Hail Mary

9. “You are my friends if you do what I command you.”

Hail Mary

10. “This I command you, to love one another.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

Refs: 1 Cor 13:2; Matthew 5:44-48; John 15: 9-17

The third mystery of the Last Supper

Jesus gives us his body and blood as our spiritual food and drink

In the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist, Jesus remains with us, body and blood, soul and divinity. Under the appearances of bread and wine, He is personally and physically present in order to nourish us as we journey through life with Him.¹

At each Mass we ought to pray in thanksgiving for all the teachings of Jesus, for his suffering and dying for us, for his resurrection and ascension, for his continued presence in his Church, and for Holy Mass.

We thank you, Jesus, for your Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.

Our Father

1. “Amen, amen, I say to you, he who believes in Me has eternal life. I am the bread of life.”

Hail Mary

2. “I am the living bread that has come down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread he shall live forever;

Hail Mary

3. “And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

Hail Mary

4. “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

Hail Mary

5. “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has everlasting life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

Hail Mary

6. While they were at supper, Jesus took bread, and blessed and broke it and gave it to his disciples,

Hail Mary

7. Saying, “Take and eat, this is my body.”

Hail Mary

8. And taking a cup, He gave thanks and gave it to them saying, “Drink of this, all of you;

Hail Mary

9. “For this is my blood of the new covenant which is being shed for many for the forgiveness of sins;

Hail Mary

10. “Do this in remembrance of Me.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: John 6:47-65; Matthew 26:26-28; Luke 22:19

1. Personally and physically present: “The body and blood together with the soul and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ and therefore the whole Christ (totum Christum) is truly, really and substantially contained in the Sacrament of the most holy Eucharist,” Council of Trent, 11 October 1551.

“Under these [species], Christ whole and entire is there in his physical reality, indeed bodily present although not in the same way that bodies are present in a given place,” Pope Paul VI, *Mysterium Fidei, Enchiridion Vaticanum*, #427. In English: *The Mystery of Faith*, (Boston: St. Paul Editions, 1965) p. 20.

The fourth mystery of the Last Supper

Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will guide the Church to teach the truth

At the Last Supper, Jesus repeatedly promised that He would send the Holy Spirit to lead the apostles and their successors into the fullness of the truth. The faith of Christians rests upon those promises.

When we profess our faith through the Nicene Creed at Sunday Mass, we affirm our belief that the Holy Spirit guided the Fathers of the Council of Nicea to proclaim the truth about Jesus—that He is true God and true man, one in being with the Father.

Jesus is still keeping his promises to be with the Pope and the bishops in his Catholic Church.

We pray for all bishops and priests—to bear witness to the truth in season and out of season.

Our Father

1. “If you love Me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever,

Hail Mary

2. “The Spirit of Truth whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him.”

Hail Mary

3. “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you.

Hail Mary

4. “The Father will send in my name the Counselor, the Holy Spirit;

Hail Mary

5. “The Holy Spirit will teach you all things and bring to mind all that I have told you.”

Hail Mary

6. “When the Advocate has come, whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness to Me.

Hail Mary

7. “And you also are witnesses because you have been with Me from the beginning.”

Hail Mary

8. “I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now;

Hail Mary

9. “But when the Spirit of Truth comes, He will lead you into all the truth.”

Hail Mary

10. “He will glorify Me, for He will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: John 14:15-26; 15:26-27; 16:12-15

The fifth mystery of the Last Supper

Jesus prays for unity among all those who believe in Him

Our Lord and Savior put it positively: perfection in unity among his disciples will be a sign to the non-believing world of his own divine mission. However, the great divisions among Christians provide a stumbling block to non-believers to approach the saving message of Christ.

Problems within the Church sometimes obscure its essential unity, but the words of Jesus remain, "There will be one flock and one shepherd."

Even after twenty centuries, the authentic Catholic faith remains undivided, and for those who search with an open heart, its unity of faith is still a sign of the divinity of its founder, Jesus Christ.

We join our prayer for unity to his.

Our Father

1. "I am the good shepherd; and I lay down my life for my sheep.

Hail Mary

2. "I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice.

Hail Mary

3. "So there shall be one flock and one shepherd."

Hail Mary

4. “I pray not only for these but also for those who believe in Me through their word,

Hail Mary

5. [I pray] “that they may all be one, even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, so that the world may believe that You have sent Me.

Hail Mary

6. “The glory which You have given Me, I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one...

Hail Mary

7. “So that the world may know that You have sent Me, and that You have loved them just as You have loved Me.”

Hail Mary

8. And St. Paul wrote: I...beg you...to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Hail Mary

9. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call,

Hail Mary

10. One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, Who is above all and through all and in all.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: John 10:14-16; 17:20-23; Ephesians 4:1-6

The first Sorrowful mystery

Jesus accepts his suffering in the garden of Gethsemane

Three times Jesus prayed about the possibility of not suffering. Three times He concluded, “Not my will but thine be done.”

We do not understand the mystery of suffering. We do not understand why our salvation had to come through agony and pain. But one thing we do know: Jesus accepted suffering to be faithful to his Father.

We can share in the redemptive work of Jesus by joining our pains and afflictions with his. On the other hand, the refusal to accept difficulties is the cause of much sin. The lesson is obvious. Jesus accepted suffering; so must his disciples.

*We pray to accept whatever suffering is necessary
to be faithful to God's will.*

Our Father

1. Jesus went with his disciples to Gethsemane and told them, “Stay here while I go yonder and pray.”

Hail Mary

2. He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with Him, and He became sad and very troubled.

Hail Mary

3. He told them, “My soul is sorrowful, even unto death. Wait here and stay awake with Me.”

Hail Mary

4. And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed.

Hail Mary

5. “Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will, but yours, be done.”

Hail Mary

6. And there appeared to Him an angel from heaven to strengthen Him.

Hail Mary

7. And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground.

Hail Mary

8. Then He came back to the disciples and found them sleeping, and He said to Peter, “Could you not watch one hour with Me?”

Hail Mary

9. “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.”

Hail Mary

10. He went away and prayed again, “My Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink it, your will be done.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matthew 26:36-42; Luke 22:39-46

The second Sorrowful mystery

Jesus bears witness and is condemned to die

On trial for his life, Jesus proclaimed that He is the Messiah, and He also referred to Himself as the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven. The Jewish leadership recognized this as a claim to equality with God, and for this witness they condemned Him to death.

The Christian is called to proclaim the person and the teachings of Christ by word and by example. This witness, no matter how tactful, may bring exclusion from some groups, rejection by some individuals, or even physical suffering. If so, rejoice to be treated as Jesus was.

*We pray for the faith and courage always
to bear witness to the truth of God's revelation.*

Our Father

1. The high priest said to Jesus, "I order you by the living God: tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God."

Hail Mary

2. Jesus said to him, "You have said it.

Hail Mary

3. "I say to you, hereafter you shall see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming upon the clouds of heaven."

Hail Mary

4. Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has blasphemed . . . What do you think?”

Hail Mary

5. They answered and said, “He is liable to death,” and they spat in his face and struck Him.

Hail Mary

6. [Then Jesus stood before Pilate who asked Him,] “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus said to him, “You are saying it.”

Hail Mary

7. “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my followers would have fought, but my kingship is not from here.”

Hail Mary

8. Pilate said to Him, “You are then a king?” Jesus answered, “You are saying it. I am a king.”

Hail Mary

9. “That is why I was born and why I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth.”

Hail Mary

10. “Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matt 26:63-67, 27:11; John 18:33-37

The third Sorrowful mystery

Jesus is scourged and mocked and crowned with thorns

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught that “if someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also,” and in his passion He shows us his teaching in action. Ridicule may be one of the most painful experiences we might have to endure. In word and in deed Our Lord teaches us that we are not to respond to insults with vengeance.

Many of us find it difficult to deny ourselves any legitimate pleasure. The scourging of the flesh of Jesus is a never-ending statement about the need for self-sacrifice in the life of Christian discipleship.

*We pray for the gifts of humility
and voluntary self-denial.*

Our Father

1. Pilate saw that he was doing no good so he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd;

Hail Mary

2. Saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this just man; see to it yourselves.”

Hail Mary

3. And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!”

Hail Mary

4. Then he released Barabbas, but Jesus he scourged and delivered to them to be crucified.

Hail Mary

5. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium and gathered the whole cohort around Him.

Hail Mary

6. They stripped Him and put a scarlet cloak on Him, and they wove a crown of thorns and placed it on his head.

Hail Mary

7. They put a reed into his right hand, and bending the knee before Him they mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews."

Hail Mary

8. And they spat on Him, and they took the reed and kept striking Him on the head.

Hail Mary

9. He was wounded for our iniquities; He was bruised for our sins.

Hail Mary

10. Upon Him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matthew 27:24-30, Isaiah 53:5

The fourth Sorrowful mystery

Jesus carries his cross to Calvary

How honored must have been Simon of Cyrene after the Resurrection. Yet on Good Friday, it was not a pleasant task that this man was forced to accept; it was carrying or helping to carry a cross. He did not know that it was the cross on which the Savior of the world would be crucified. How joyful Simon must have been when he learned about the resurrection of Jesus.

In his humanity, Jesus needed help to carry his cross, and so do we. Helping to carry the cross of Christ was undoubtedly a cause of salvation for Simon and his family, and it will be the same for us.

We pray for the gift of perseverance.

Our Father

1. After they had mocked Him, they took off the cloak and put his own garments on Him.

Hail Mary

2. As they led Him away, they laid hold of a certain Simon of Cyrene who was coming in from the country;

Hail Mary

3. And upon him they laid the cross to carry it after Jesus.

Hail Mary

4. There was following Him a great crowd of the people and of women who were bewailing and lamenting Him.

Hail Mary

5. But Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me but weep for yourselves and for your children.

Hail Mary

6. “The days are coming . . . when men will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’

Hail Mary

7. “If they do these things to the green wood, what will happen to the dry?”

Hail Mary

8. And they brought Him to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

Hail Mary

9. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

Hail Mary

10. Surely, He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matthew 27:31; Luke 23:26-31;
Mark 15:22; Isaiah 53:3-4

The fifth Sorrowful mystery

Jesus suffers and dies for us upon the cross

Both in living and in dying, Jesus shows us how to love. In the Sermon on the Mount, He teaches us to pray for our persecutors; on Mount Calvary He prays for those who have condemned and crucified Him. In the parables of the Good Shepherd and the Prodigal Son, Jesus teaches us about God's love for repentant sinners; on the cross He forgives and saves the repentant thief.

Words cannot describe the great evil of sin, but the suffering and death of our Savior give us an insight into the damage caused by our disobedience.

We pray: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Our Father

1. They crucified Him there, and the robbers, one on his right hand, the other on his left.

Hail Mary

2. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Hail Mary

3. The repentant thief said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into your kingdom."

Hail Mary

4. Jesus said to him, “Amen, I say to you, this day you will be with Me in paradise.”

Hail Mary

5. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to his mother, “Woman, behold your son.”

Hail Mary

6. Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother.”

Hail Mary

7. About the ninth hour, Jesus called out with a loud voice, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?”

Hail Mary

8. [Nearing the end] He cried out, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

Hail Mary

9. Knowing that all was now completed, Jesus said, “I thirst,” and they put a sponge full of vinegar to his mouth.

Hail Mary

10. When Jesus had received the vinegar, He said, “It is finished;” and He bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Luke 23:33-49; Matthew 27:46;
John 19:25-30

The first mystery of the Church

Jesus calls us to be his disciples

Each of us is called to be a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that means to be one who learns from Jesus and follows Him. Disciples try to act like their Master, living out his call in everyday life.

The reward of Christian discipleship is eternal life, and the price of being a follower of Jesus is the daily cross. In turn, the cross is always bearable if it is accepted in the spirit of walking with the Lord.

When we die to self with the help of the Lord Jesus, then we find that his burden is light and that He gives rest to our souls.

*We pray for all the missionary works
of the Church.*

Our Father

1. “Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.

Hail Mary

2. “Take my yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Hail Mary

3. “For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Hail Mary

4. God so loved the world that He gave his only-begotten Son.

Hail Mary

5. So that those who believe in Him may not perish but may have everlasting life.

Hail Mary

6. And Jesus said to all, "If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Hail Mary

7. "For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

Hail Mary

8. "For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world but ruins or loses himself?"

Hail Mary

9. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary

10. "And teach them to observe all that I have commanded you."

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matthew 11:28-30; 28:19-20;
John 3:16; Luke 9:23-25

The second mystery of the Church

Jesus makes Peter the head of his Church

Jesus personally and historically established Peter as the visible head of his Church.

What Our Lord did to Simon is what God did to Abram, and this is a powerful statement of the role of Peter. In response to Abram's act of faith, God changed his name to Abraham and made him the visible head of the Church of the Old Covenant. Just before our text below, Jesus had asked the Apostles what *others* were saying about Him; then He asked them what *they* thought.

In response to Simon's act of faith, Jesus changed his name to Peter—which means “the Rock”—and made him the visible head of the Church of the New Covenant.

We pray for the Pope and for all his needs.

Our Father

1. Jesus said to his disciples, “Who do you say that I am?”

Hail Mary

2. Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”

Hail Mary

3. Jesus answered him and said: “Blessed are you, Simon son of John, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father Who is in heaven.

Hail Mary

4. “And I say to you, you are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Hail Mary

5. “And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

Hail Mary

6. “And whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Hail Mary

7. [At the Last Supper, Jesus said:] “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has wanted to have all of you apostles that he might sift you as wheat.

Hail Mary

8. “But I have prayed for you personally that your faith may not fail.

Hail Mary

9. “And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

Hail Mary

10. [After He was risen from the dead,] Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Feed my lambs . . . tend my sheep . . . feed my sheep.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

Refs: Gen 17:5; Matt 16:13-20; Lk 22:31-32; Jn 21:15-17

Verse 7: “all of you apostles” translates the Greek plural “you” referring to all the apostles. Verse 8: “you personally” translates the Greek singular “you” referring to Peter.

The third mystery of the Church

Jesus continues his saving work through his priests, his sacraments and the preaching of his word

The Lord Jesus Christ has chosen specific, visible ways to give us his saving grace—the seven sacraments. In each sacrament, we meet Jesus in a slightly different way. In Baptism we meet Christ our Savior who brings us into his body. In Penance we encounter our Savior who forgives and reconciles us with his body, the Church.

Preaching faith in Christ, preaching both the cross and the resurrection, teaching us how the true faith should affect our lives—these are also the work of the priest. Called by God to do the work of the Lord Jesus, priests deserve and need our prayers and support. And we need more of them.

We pray for more priests and for all of them to be faithful to their vocation.

Our Father

1. [On Resurrection Sunday, Jesus said to his apostles,] “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

Hail Mary

2. Then He breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven; whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.”

Hail Mary

3. Thomas... was not with them when Jesus came [and did not believe the others.]

Hail Mary

4. [After eight days Jesus came again and said to Thomas,] “Bring your hand and put it into my side; and be not unbelieving but believing.” Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God.”

Hail Mary

5. Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are they who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Hail Mary

6. [St. Paul wrote:] How are men to call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have not heard?

Hail Mary

7. And how are they to hear if no one preaches? And how can men preach unless they are sent? Faith comes from what is heard, and hearing depends upon preaching the word of Christ.

Hail Mary

8. [And to Timothy:] I charge you . . . preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season. . . Be unfailing in patience and in teaching.

Hail Mary

9. A time will come when people will not endure sound teaching. . . and they will turn from the truth.

Hail Mary

10. Be watchful in all things, bear suffering patiently, preach the gospel, and fulfill your ministry.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: John 20:19-29; Romans 10:14-17;
2 Timothy 4:1-5

The fourth mystery of the Church

Jesus works through the members of his Mystical Body

The Second Vatican Council clearly teaches that the laity are called to bring the light of the Lord Jesus to their families and culture. We are called “to explain and defend Christian principles, and to apply them rightly to the problems of our era.” ... “God's plan for the world is that men should work together” to improve the culture in which they live. The laity must see the task of renewing their society as “their own special obligation.”¹

We do not want to hear, “Because you are lukewarm ... I will vomit you out of my mouth” (Rev. 3:16). God calls us to serve Him wholeheartedly.

*We pray for the laity of the Church,
especially those in positions of leadership.*

Our Father

1. “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, He takes away;

Hail Mary

2. “Every branch that does bear fruit, He prunes so it will bear more fruit.”

Hail Mary

3. “Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

Hail Mary

4. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him is the one who bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

Hail Mary

5. "In this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and thus prove to be my disciples."

Hail Mary

6. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Hail Mary

7. "Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel basket but on a lamp-stand to give light to all in the house.

Hail Mary

8. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Hail Mary

9. "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes, nor thieves break in and steal.

Hail Mary

10. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: 1. Vatican Council II, *Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity*, Sections 6 and 7, November 18, 1965; John 15:1-8; Matthew 5:14-16; 6:20-21

The fifth mystery of the Church

Jesus intends his Church to be a symbol of truth and love in the midst of a sinful and unbelieving world

The Lord Jesus continues to teach his truth through his Body—the Church, and his goodness and truth attract all people who search with an open heart.

On the other hand, the sins and failings of individual members are an obstacle to seeing Christ in his Catholic Church. Thus, we are in this dilemma:

We are members of the Church because we admit our sinfulness and our need for forgiveness and the sacraments; and yet our weaknesses obscure the truth and goodness of God's Church.

The traditional saying, "The Church is always in need of reform," means us.

We pray for authentic reform and renewal in the Church, in ourselves, and in our families.

Our Father

1. Jesus said to them, "I am the light of the world.

Hail Mary

2. "He who follows Me does not walk in the darkness but will have the light of life."

Hail Mary

3. “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

Hail Mary

4. “I am the way and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.”

Hail Mary

5. “You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall its saltiness be restored?”

Hail Mary

6. “It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden underfoot by men.”

Hail Mary

7. [St. Paul wrote:] Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; love is not arrogant or rude.

Hail Mary

8. Love does not insist on its own way; love is not irritable or resentful.

Hail Mary

9. Love does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

Hail Mary

10. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: John 8:12, 31-32; 14:6;
Matthew 5:13; 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

The first Glorious mystery

Jesus is risen from the dead

Our Christian faith is not a philosophy of ideas with which we happen to agree. Rather, true faith is based upon the person of Jesus Christ and upon his teaching, his death and his resurrection. So crucial is the resurrection that St. Paul wrote, “If Christ is not risen, your faith is in vain and you are still in your sins” (1 Corinthians 15:17).

The saving death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus are the foundations of our faith. They are also the reasons for our being faithful to our Savior in the everyday things of life.

*We pray for an increase in faith
and in daily fidelity to Jesus.*

Our Father

1. After the Sabbath, when the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulcher.

Hail Mary

2. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and rolled back the stone and sat upon it.

Hail Mary

3. The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.

Hail Mary

4. “He is not here; for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay.

Hail Mary

5. “Go quickly and tell his disciples that He has risen from the dead. He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him.”

Hail Mary

6. They departed quickly from the tomb in fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

Hail Mary

7. Jesus came to the disciples and showed them his hands and his side, and they rejoiced to see Him. But Thomas was not with them, [and he did not believe them].

Hail Mary

8. Eight days later, Jesus said to Thomas, “Put your finger into my hand, and put your hand into my side, and be not unbelieving but believe.”

Hail Mary

9. Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed.

Hail Mary

10. “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Matthew 28:1-10; John 20:1-29

The second Glorious mystery

Jesus ascends to his throne in heaven

Christian hope is different from presumption. It is presumption to think that just because you are no worse than the average secular person, you will go to heaven when you die.

It is Christian hope to believe the promise of Jesus that if we walk with Him now, He will save us. That means that if we live by faith, keep the Commandments to love God and neighbor, and confess our sins, we will live with Him forever.

The teaching of our Lord and Savior that He has prepared a place for us gives us firm hope.

We pray that we will walk with Jesus in this life so we can be with Him in heaven for all eternity.

Our Father

1. [At the Last Supper Jesus said,] “In my Father's house there are many rooms. If there were not, I would have told you because I go to prepare a place for you.

Hail Mary

2. “And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself so that where I am, you may also be.”

Hail Mary

3. [Right before his ascension] Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Me.

Hail Mary

4. “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Hail Mary

5. “Teach them to observe all that I have commanded you.

Hail Mary

6. “And behold, I am with you always, even unto the consummation of the world.”

Hail Mary

7. And when He had said these things, He was lifted up before their eyes and a cloud took Him out of their sight.

Hail Mary

8. And while they were gazing up to heaven as He went, ... two men in white garments stood by them.

Hail Mary

9. [They said to the Apostles,] “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up to heaven?”

Hail Mary

10. “This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will come in the same way as you have seen Him going up to heaven.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: John 14:2-3; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:9-11

The third Glorious mystery

The Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles

For ten days after the Lord ascended into heaven, the apostles prayed and reflected on the promise of Jesus to send the Holy Spirit. On the Jewish feast of Pentecost, the promise was fulfilled.

The Holy Spirit filled them with love and with great zeal for souls. The Holy Spirit empowered them to overcome their fears and to preach the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.

That same Holy Spirit is working in the Church today.

*We pray for the faith and the courage
to witness to the Lord Jesus in our daily lives.*

Our Father

1. [Jesus said to the apostles,] “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.

Hail Mary

2. “And you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and even to the ends of the earth.”

Hail Mary

3. When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

Hail Mary

4. Suddenly there came a sound from heaven, like a mighty wind blowing; and it filled the whole house where they were staying.

Hail Mary

5. There appeared to them tongues as of fire, separating and settling on each of them.

Hail Mary

6. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages as the Holy Spirit prompted them to speak.

Hail Mary

7. Now there were staying at Jerusalem devout Jews from every nation under heaven. And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”

Hail Mary

8. [Peter explained the death and resurrection of Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.] And after hearing this, they asked, “What shall we do?”

Hail Mary

9. And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Hail Mary

10. Those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Acts 1:8; 2:1-13, 38-41

The fourth Glorious mystery

Mary is crowned Queen of Heaven

Like her divine son before her and as another promise of our own future on the last day, Mary “was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory and exalted by the Lord...”¹

Like Jesus, Mary was a sign of contradiction. Pledged to a life of dedicated virginity, she was yet called to be the mother of the Messiah and remained a virgin. She gave birth to the Lord of the universe—in the humble surroundings of a cave.

At the Visitation, Elizabeth asked, “How have I deserved that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” Here we have Mary’s answer.

*We pray for greater devotion to Mary
in our families and throughout the Church.*

Our Father

1. [Mary replied to Elizabeth,] “My soul shows forth the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;

Hail Mary

2. “For He has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed.

Hail Mary

3. “He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

Hail Mary

4. “He has mercy on those who fear Him in every generation. He has shown strength with his arm; He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their hearts.

Hail Mary

5. “He has put down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly;

Hail Mary

6. “He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.

Hail Mary

7. “He has given help to Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever.”[Amen.]

Hail Mary

8. A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.

Hail Mary

9. When St. Bernadette asked the blessed virgin Mary her name, she replied, “I am the Immaculate Conception.”

Hail Mary

10. To the three children at Fatima, Mary said, “Pray the rosary every day to bring peace to the world.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: 1: Pope Pius XII, *Munificentissimus Deus* (n. 44, Nov 1, 1950); Lk 1:39-55; Rev. 12:1

The fifth Glorious mystery

Jesus will come in glory to judge the living and the dead

The Church prays, “Come, Lord Jesus!” Our choices have eternal consequences, and we do not know the day nor the hour of his return.

Jesus asks whether He will find faith when He returns. Our answer can be “Yes!” if we put our faith to work, serve the needs of others, and help them to get ready for his return.

*We pray that the entire Church will be ready
to meet the Lord when He returns.*

Our Father

1. [At the end of the parable of the unjust judge, Jesus asked his listeners,] “When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?”

Hail Mary

2. [St. James wrote:] “What will it profit, my brothers, if a man says he has faith but does not have works?... Faith without works is dead.”

Hail Mary

3. [Jesus taught:] “When the Son of Man comes in his majesty, He will sit on the throne of his glory, and before Him will be gathered all the nations...

Hail Mary

4. “The king will say to those on his right hand, ‘Come blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Hail Mary

5. ‘For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in...’

Hail Mary

6. Then the righteous will ask, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? Or welcome You as a stranger?’

Hail Mary

7. The king will say to them, ‘Amen I say to you, as long as you did it for one of the least of my brethren, you did it for Me.’

Hail Mary

8. Then He will say to those on his left hand, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire that was prepared for the devil and his angels.

Hail Mary

9. ‘For I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome Me...’ ”

Hail Mary

10. [In the Creed we profess,] “He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.”

Hail Mary

Glory be

References: Revelation 22:20; Luke 18:8; James 2:14, 26; Matthew 25:31-46; Nicene Creed

Other works by John and Sheila Kippley

Natural Family Planning: The Complete Approach by John and Sheila Kippley. This is a user-friendly manual that puts the physiology of NFP in the context of Christian discipleship—marital chastity, the marriage act as a renewal of the marriage covenant, and the call to generosity in having children. This text also describes and promotes ecological breastfeeding, the only form of baby care that naturally provides an average of 14 to 15 months of postpartum infertility.

Sex and the Marriage Covenant: A Basis for Morality by John Kippley (Ignatius). This work supports the teaching of *Humanae Vitae* by explaining that the marriage act is intended by God to be at least implicitly a renewal of their marriage covenant. It shows that the contraceptive act contradicts the “for better and for worse” of the marriage covenant and is thus dishonest and immoral.

Battle-Scarred: Justice Can Be Elusive by John Kippley. In this book of memoirs, the author describes his work as a parish evangelist and as a participant in both the *Humanae Vitae* “debate” and in the NFP movement. Many will be able to benefit from the mistakes made by him and others.

Breastfeeding and Catholic Motherhood by Sheila Kippley. This work applies the papal “Theology of the Body” to the God-given bodily activity of breastfeeding.

Breastfeeding and Natural Child Spacing by Sheila Kippley. This is the original 1974 edition with the natural mothering practices that have brought great joy to thousands of mothers.

The Seven Standards of Ecological Breastfeeding: The Frequency Factor by Sheila Kippley. This work shows the scientific basis for each of the seven standards and how mothering practices affect natural birth spacing.

For information on the books listed above, see www.nfpandmore.org.

For further information about the rosary booklet, see www.sevendaybiblerosary.com

I am a convert and since I didn't learn of the Blessed Virgin as a young person, I didn't have a relationship with her. I asked God to help me have a devotion to Mary, and I discovered the *Seven Day Bible Rosary*. The Bible verses between each Hail Mary help me keep my mind on what I'm praying, and I feel a growing closeness with Mother Mary. The Lord has answered my prayer.

—Grateful for a help in my spiritual life.

Your Rosary book always helps to add some variety to our prayers. It is also a great teaching tool. You have highlighted and summarized many of the most significant parts of the Bible.

—Devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary

I love the Scripture reflections, the advice on praying the rosary, the specific intentions, and suggested graces to pray for with each mystery. I am nursing our baby in bed at night, and he doesn't want me to get up, so I use the *Seven Day Bible Rosary* for my prayer time (by flashlight) before I go to sleep. It is perfect—it tucks in under my pillow and I don't have to worry about the baby trying to eat the beads! —*Former agnostic*