

# *Contents*

Introduction . . . . .	4
How to Pray the Rosary . . . . .	5
Prayers of the Rosary . . . . .	6
Mysteries of the Rosary . . . . .	9
How to Pray the Rosary Novenas . . . . .	13
Rosary Novenas Checklist . . . . .	14
The Joyful Mysteries . . . . .	15
The Luminous Mysteries . . . . .	22
The Sorrowful Mysteries . . . . .	29
The Glorious Mysteries . . . . .	36
The Family Rosary Novena . . . . .	43
Marian Prayers . . . . .	44
Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary . . . . .	48

## *Introduction*

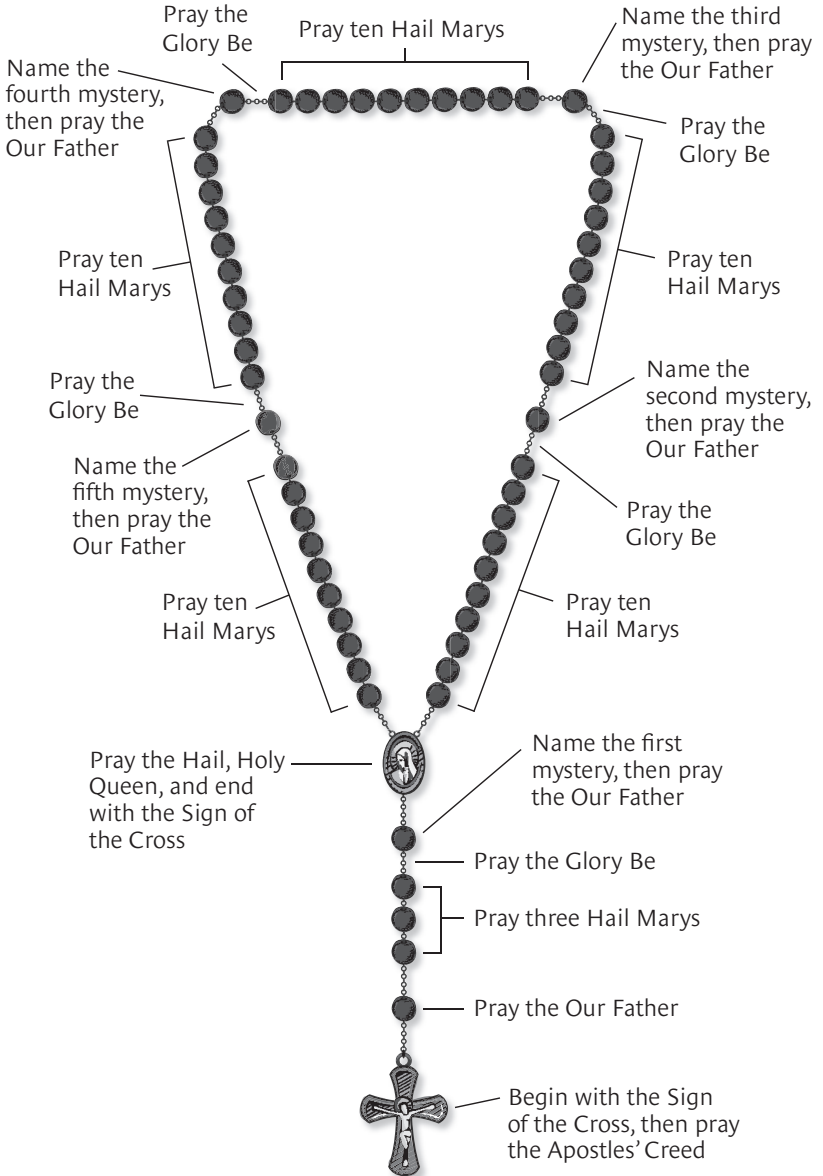
*Rosary Novenas to Our Lady* was written by Charles V. Lacey and first published in 1924. This “little blue book,” as it has become known, has provided comfort and hope to many people who have turned to Our Lady for help and solace in their times of trouble. Since that first publishing, the novenas have been updated to include the Luminous Mysteries introduced by Pope Saint John Paul II.

This new edition preserves the power and charm of the original devotion, maintaining the cadence, structure, and basic prayers of the novenas. It also includes a new guide to praying the Rosary and a new section of Marian prayers and feast days. Our hope is that these additional resources can be helpful as you continue honoring Our Lady and asking for her intercession throughout the year.

May Our Lady be with us all to remind us of God’s love and grace in moments of joy, and to offer comfort, strength, and hope in times of challenge.

—The Publishing Team at Saint Mary’s Press

# How to Pray the Rosary



# *Prayers of the Rosary*

## **Sign of the Cross**

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

Amen.

## **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;  
the third day he arose 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.

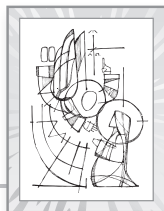
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.

Amen.

# *Mysteries of the Rosary*

The complete Rosary now includes twenty decades, divided into four sets of mysteries: Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious. Pope Saint John Paul II recommended that they be prayed in this order. However, many people say one set of mysteries a day. In that case, it is suggested to recite the mysteries on the days indicated.

## *The Joyful Mysteries* (Mondays and Saturdays)



### **The Annunciation**

The Archangel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will be the mother of God's Son.

### **The Visitation**

While she is pregnant with Jesus, Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, who is pregnant with John the Baptist.

### **The Nativity**

Jesus, the Savior, is born.

### **The Presentation in the Temple**

According to Jewish Law, Jesus is brought to the Temple as an infant and dedicated to God.

### **The Finding in the Temple**

Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple, instructing the elders.

# *The Luminous Mysteries*

(Thursdays)



## **The Baptism of Christ in the Jordan**

John the Baptist baptizes Jesus.

## **The Wedding Feast at Cana**

At Mary's request, Jesus turns water into wine.

## **Jesus' Proclamation of the Coming of the Kingdom of God**

Jesus announces that he was sent to bring Good News—liberty and favor from the Lord.

## **The Transfiguration**

Peter, James, and John see Jesus transfigured. His face becomes as dazzling bright as the sun.

## **The Institution of the Eucharist**

Jesus shares with his Apostles the meal that perpetuates his earthly presence.

## *How to Pray the Rosary Novenas*

The Rosary Novenas require a substantial commitment. The idea is to pray five decades of the Rosary each day for twenty-seven days in petition for a particular request, followed by five decades each day for twenty-seven days in thanksgiving—whether or not the petition was granted. The intent of the Rosary Novenas is to enlist Mary’s help in presenting our needs to God. Every request we make may not be granted in the exact way we wish. Many times, God’s grace comes to us through people and events we never imagined. Often our prayers are answered, but not as we expected them to be.

The practice of making a novena (which comes from the Latin word for *nine*) has a long tradition in the Church. In the Rosary Novenas, we are asked to make six novenas—three in petition and three in thanksgiving—over fifty-four consecutive days. It does not matter on what day of the week the Rosary Novenas are begun.

A simple checklist is given on the following page to keep track of each day of the Rosary Novenas. Remember, say one set of mysteries (five decades of the Rosary) each day in petition for twenty-seven straight days, and then do the same in thanksgiving (whether you feel your request has been answered in the manner you expected or not) for twenty-seven more days in a row. If you miss a day because of an emergency or forgetfulness, make it up by saying an extra five decades the next day.

# *Rosary Novenas Checklist*

Place a check mark next to each day after you pray the Rosary.

## **In Petition**

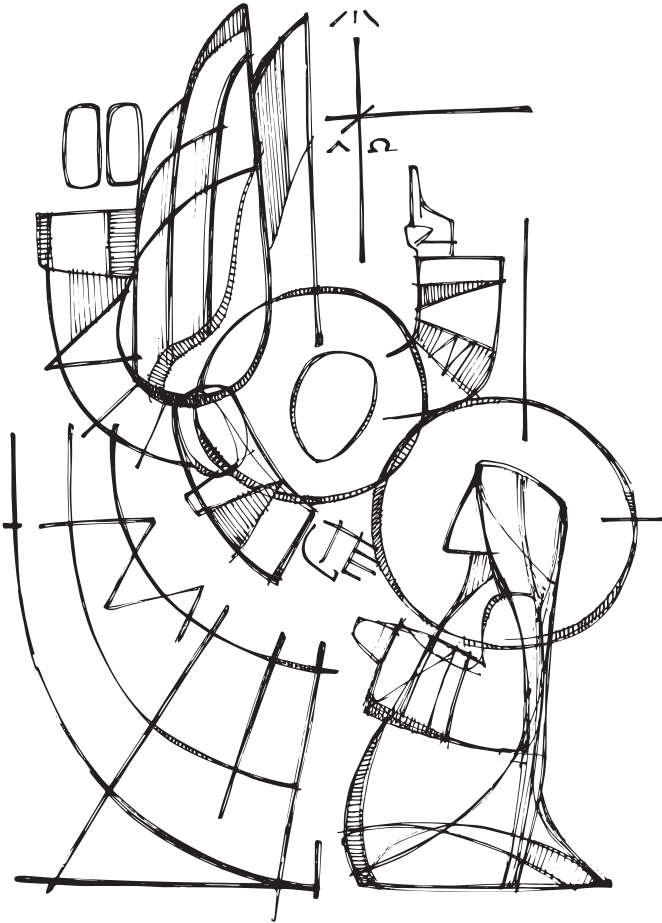
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## **In Thanksgiving**

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# *The Joyful Mysteries*



## **Prayer before the Recitation of the Joyful Mysteries**

### **Sign of the Cross**

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

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*Say one Hail Mary.*

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### **Prayer for the 27 Days of Petition**

Hail, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, my Mother Mary, hail! At your feet I humbly kneel to offer you a crown of roses—snow-white buds to remind you of your joys—each bud recalling a holy mystery; each ten bound together with my petition for a particular grace.

O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my petition; from your bounty you will give me the favor I so earnestly and trustingly seek.

I despair of nothing that I ask of you. Show yourself as my Mother!

### **Prayer for the 27 Days of Thanksgiving**

Hail, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, my Mother Mary, hail! At your feet I humbly kneel to offer you a crown of roses—snow-white buds to remind you of your joys—each bud recalling a holy mystery; each ten bound together with my petition for a particular grace.

O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my thanks; from your bounty you have given me the help I so earnestly and trustingly sought, even if I do not yet fully comprehend your wisdom.

I despaired not of what I asked of you, and you have truly shown yourself as my Mother.

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*Say the Apostles' Creed, one Our Father,  
three Hail Marys, and one Glory Be.*

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## **The First Joyful Mystery**

### **The Annunciation**

Sweet Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel appeared to you with the tidings that you were to become the Mother of God, greeting you with that sublime salutation, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you!" and you humbly submitted yourself to the will of the Father, responding, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to your word," I humbly pray:

---

*Say one Our Father, ten Hail Marys, and one Glory Be.*

---

I bind these snow-white buds with a petition for the virtue of humility and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

## *Marian Prayers*

### **The Regina Coeli (Queen of Heaven)**

*This prayer replaces the Angelus prayer during the Easter Season.*

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
The Son whom you merited to bear, alleluia,  
has risen as he said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.  
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.  
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who through the resurrection of your Son,  
Our Lord Jesus Christ, did vouchsafe to give joy to  
the world;  
Grant, we beseech you, that through his Mother,  
the Virgin Mary,  
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.  
Through the same Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### **Short Prayer to Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception**

*This prayer was given in a vision to Saint Catherine Labouré  
and is imprinted on the Miraculous Medal.*

“O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have  
recourse to thee.”

## **The Angelus**

**V.** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

**R.** And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary . . .

**V.** Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

**R.** Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary . . .

**V.** And the Word was made flesh.

**R.** And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary . . .

**V.** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

**R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Mary, Help of Those in Need**

Holy Mary, help those in need,  
 give strength to the weak,  
 comfort the sorrowful,  
 pray for God's people,  
 assist the clergy,  
 intercede for the religious.  
 May all who seek your help  
 experience your unfailing protection.  
 Amen.

## *Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*January 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
February 2	The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple
February 11	Our Lady of Lourdes
March 25	The Annunciation
May 13	Our Lady of Fatima
May 31	The Visitation of Our Lady to Elizabeth
June 27	Our Lady of Perpetual Help
July 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
*August 15	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
August 22	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
September 8	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
September 12	The Most Holy Name of Mary
September 15	Our Lady of Sorrows
October 7	Our Lady of the Rosary
November 21	The Presentation of Mary in the Temple
*December 8	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

\* = Holy Day of Obligation

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