

Rosary for Vocations

After each decade, pray the following prayer: *Lord, grant us many holy priests and consecrated men and women, and faithful married couples.*

The Joyful Mysteries

1st Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation

Mary answers “Yes” to God’s call. Even though it was unexpected and the Archangel gives her only the details she needs to know at the present moment, she responds generously. Let us offer this decade for those who are being called to the priesthood or religious life that they, like Mary, may have the grace to respond whole-heartedly.

2nd Joyful Mystery: The Visitation

Mary wastes no time in acting upon the grace of her vocation. Through her cooperation the plan of salvation is already unfolding. Let us offer this decade for those who have been called but are hesitating. May God’s grace hurry them forward to answer the call and thus begin to labor for the harvest.

3rd Joyful Mystery: The Nativity

Our Savior comes to us in the midst of a family. How crucial is the role of the family! Let us offer this decade for all parents that they may provide an atmosphere of love and faith in the home. May parents thus help foster their children’s vocations.

4th Joyful Mystery: The Presentation

Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the Temple and dedicated Him to Almighty God. They knew their Son was a gift from God to be given back to Him. Let us offer this decade for the grace parents need to recognize the gift of their children and thus offer them to the divine plan of God. May His will determine every moment of their lives.

5th Joyful Mystery: The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

This mystery tells of a very unplanned event in the life of Joseph and Mary. For days their hearts ached with sorrow until they found their Son. Let us offer this decade for those parents who find it difficult to understand and thus support their child’s vocation as a priest or religious. May they be graced with the faith to support God’s will for their children and, like Joseph and Mary, to hold the mysterious ways of God in their hearts.

The Luminous Mysteries

1st Luminous Mystery: The Baptism of Jesus

The mystery of our Lord's Baptism is the mystery of Jesus taking upon Himself the mission of the Messiah. Thus begins His public ministry. Let us offer this decade for those called to the priesthood and religious life but are afraid to answer because of what others may say or think. Grant them courage, O Lord, to accept the mission You are giving them.

2nd Luminous Mystery: The Wedding Feast of Cana

Through the intercession of Mary, Jesus transforms ordinary water into extraordinary wine. What incredible things God's grace can do in our lives! Let us offer this decade for those who are being called but doubt that they have much to offer. May they trust in the power of God to bring all things into completion and say "yes" to His call.

3rd Luminous Mystery: The Proclamation of the Kingdom

Our Lord begins His public ministry by announcing the arrival of the Kingdom of God. What joyous news this is for all humanity to hear! Let us offer this decade for an increase in vocations that there might be many more priests and religious who will proclaim this truth and bear witness to it with their lives.

4th Luminous Mystery: The Transfiguration

Jesus strengthened the faith of His Apostles by allowing His divinity to be momentarily perceived. He wished them to gain a supernatural perspective on His forthcoming Passion and Death. Let us offer this decade for all those who are being called as priests and religious that they may have the grace to recognize God's call in the midst of life and courageously accept carrying the Cross.

5th Luminous Mystery: The Institution of the Holy Eucharist

The gift of the Most Holy Eucharist is a mystery going beyond our ability to fully comprehend. Our Lord's abiding Presence in the Blessed Sacrament, the saving mystery of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass — the world would suffer a great loss without these miracles. Jesus gives Himself in the Holy Eucharist through the ministry of His priests. Let us offer this decade for more priests for our Diocese. May God call many more men to share in the Priesthood and may they respond generously.

The Sorrowful Mysteries

1st Sorrowful Mystery: The Agony in the Garden

Jesus asked His Apostles to pray so that they “might not enter into temptation.” Our Lord knew they needed to pray in order to endure what would soon happen. Let us offer this decade for those men and women whom God is calling to be priests and religious, that they might have a deep and abiding life of prayer. Through the strength given to them through their spiritual life may they respond courageously to God’s call.

2nd Sorrowful Mystery: The Scourging at the Pillar

Our Lord’s suffering during the scourging was excruciating. For our sake Jesus offered Himself to obtain our salvation. Let us offer this decade for the grace that many young people might feel the desire in their hearts to offer themselves to God as priests and religious.

3rd Sorrowful Mystery: The Crowning with Thorns

Jesus endured the terrible ridicule and mockery of the soldiers even to the point of accepting the painful crown of thorns. Let us offer this decade for those who have a calling to the priesthood or religious life but find it difficult to say “yes” because of painful obstacles in their lives. May concern for human respect never stand in their way of following God’s will.

4th Sorrowful Mystery: The Carrying of the Cross

On the way to Calvary, our Lord found comfort and assistance from a number of people: Simon of Cyrene, the women of Jerusalem, His Mother, and Veronica. How much those acts of love must have meant to Jesus! Let us offer this decade for the grace to always support, with our prayers and sacrifices, those whom God is calling to become priests and religious. May God find us seriously engaged in this very important apostolate!

5th Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus

At the foot of the Cross, there came into existence a new type of family. Before Jesus died He entrusted to the maternal care of Mary all of humanity, represented in the person of the “beloved disciple.” Through the New Covenant the notion of family is greatly enlarged, it takes on a different dimension. Let us offer this decade for those who are being called but are hesitant because of fears of not being able to have a family and living a lonely life. Help them, O Lord, to see that in serving You as a priest or religious, their desires for family will indeed be completely fulfilled.

The Glorious Mysteries

1st Glorious Mystery: The Resurrection

Our Lord's Resurrection brought tremendous joy to His sorrowful followers. Never were their lives to be the same again. Let us offer this decade for an increase in grace in the hearts of those who are being called to be priests and religious. May they experience the immense joy of giving God their entire lives and saying "yes" to His call. Help them to realize that their unselfish response to God will change their lives forever.

2nd Glorious Mystery: The Ascension

Jesus ascended into Heaven, not to abandon us, but to be our hope. He continually intercedes for us before the throne of the Father and prepares a place for His faithful followers in the heavenly Kingdom. Let us offer this decade for an increase in the number of priests and religious to help us strive faithfully to attain heavenly homeland. May these men and women always recognize the irreplaceable mission they have in the plan of our salvation.

3rd Glorious Mystery: The Descent of the Holy Spirit

The coming of the Holy Spirit transformed the timid Apostles into bold witnesses for the Gospel. The Church was sent forth with courage and zeal! Let us offer this decade for the power of the Holy Spirit to come upon all He has chosen to labor as priests and religious. May they respond boldly to the invitation to lay down their lives for Christ and His Church.

4th Glorious Mystery: The Assumption of Mary

The Second Vatican Council reminded us that Mary's role in salvation history did not end with her Assumption into Heaven. She continually intercedes for all of us, her children, as we journey through life. Let us offer this decade asking Mary's intercession. Through her prayers may the Church be granted an abundance of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

5th Glorious Mystery: The Coronation of Mary

This mystery brings before us the beauty of the faithfulness of Mary, the first disciple of the Lord. She who referred to herself as the "handmaid of the Lord" is now exalted far above even the Angels. The one who said "yes" to God in all things is now the Queen of heaven and earth. Let us offer this decade for those who have been called that they may always have the grace to understand that to serve God is to reign with Him. Whatever sacrifices need to be made in order to live the mission God gives us will pale in comparison to the glory He has reserved for His faithful servants.

How to Pray the Rosary

Praying the Rosary, from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Familiarize yourself and/or your group with the [prayers of the rosary](#).

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Holding the Crucifix, say the *Apostles' Creed*.
3. On the first bead, say an *Our Father*.
4. Say three *Hail Marys* on each of the next three beads.
5. Say the *Glory Be*
6. For each of the five decades, announce the Mystery, then say the *Our Father*.
7. While fingering each of the ten beads of the decade, next say ten *Hail Marys* while meditating on the Mystery. Then say a *Glory Be*. (After finishing each decade, some say the following prayer requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: "O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy.") Then say the following prayer for vocations: "Lord, grant us many holy priests and consecrated men and women, and faithful married couples."



After saying the five decades, say the *Hail, Holy Queen*, followed by this dialogue and prayer:
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

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

*Let us pray: O God, whose Only Begotten Son,
by his life, Death, and Resurrection,
has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life,
grant, we beseech thee,
that while meditating on these mysteries
of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
we may imitate what they contain
and obtain what they promise,
through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.*