Introduction to the Rosary

Follow the Mysteries on this month's prayer calendar emailed to you today.

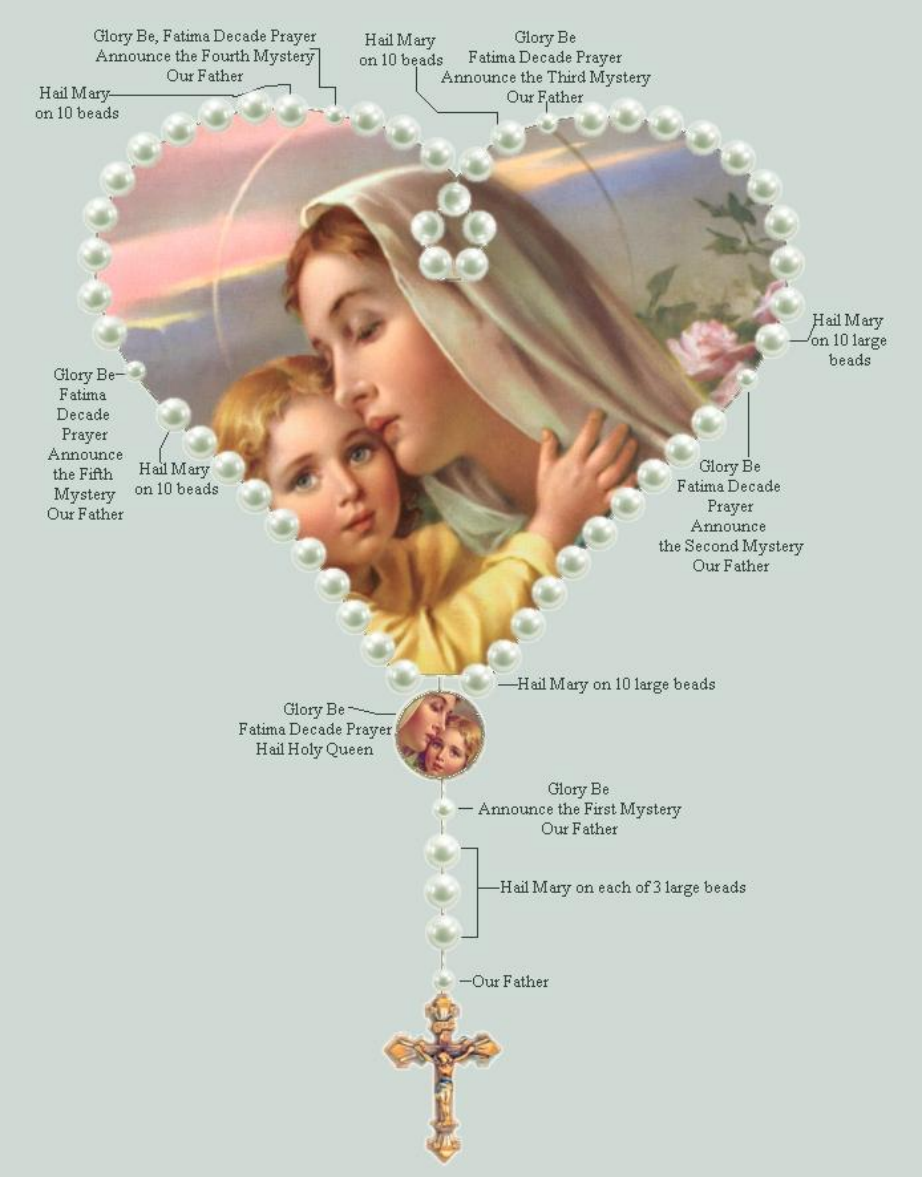
The Rosary is divided into **five decades.** Each decade represents a mystery or event in the life of Jesus. There are four sets of "Mysteries of the Rosary *(Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious)*. These four "Mysteries of the Rosary therefore contain, a total of twenty mysteries. The Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries are then said on specific days of the week *(see your October Prayer Calendar)*. During private recitation of the Rosary, each decade requires devout meditation on a specific mystery. Public recitation of the Rosary *(two or more people)*, requires a leader to announce each of the mysteries before the decade, and start each prayer (*see "The Family Rosary" below)*.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits 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.

Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell; lead all souls to Heaven especially those who are most in need of Thy Mercy. Amen



Hail Holy Queen

Hail! Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, 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, O 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 merciful, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

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

T**O BEGIN THE ROSARY** you say **The Apostle's Creed** on the crucifix. Then you say the **Our Father** and three **Hail Mary's** on the beads connected to the crucifix and a **Glory Be to the Father**.

Then you come to the mysteries or decades. At the beginning of each decade you announce the mystery e.g. in the Joyful Mysteries you begin with The Annunciation and then start by reciting the Our Father, then 10 Hail Mary's and finish with one Glory be to the Father and, finally, the short prayer of Fatima (requested by Mary at Fatima).

When you have finished the ten decades say one Our Father, one Hail Mary, one Glory be to the Father and finally the Hail Holy Queen.