

OCTOBER – MARY BE OUR INSPIRATION

PRAYER SERVICE – Mary Be Our Inspiration

Opening Song (Optional): “Sing of Mary” Verse 1

Leader: The month of October has been dedicated to our Lady of the Rosary. The actual feast day of October 7th was established by Saint Pius V on the anniversary of the naval victory won by the Christian fleet at Lepanto. The victory was attributed to the help of the Holy Mother of God whose aid was invoked through praying the rosary. The celebration of this day invites all to meditate upon the mysteries of Christ, following the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was so singularly associated with the incarnation, passion and glorious resurrection of the Son of God.

Mary, our Mother, inspires us to prayer and devotion to her beloved Son, Jesus. She encourages us through prayer and good works to share God’s love with one another. In this month dedicated to praying the rosary, let us pray together one decade reflecting on one of the holy mysteries. (See attached How to Pray the Rosary).

(The leader announces the mystery. One person is designated to lead the openings of the Our Father, Glory Be, and Hail Mary as the rest of the group concludes each prayer.)

Leader: Mary, our Mother, we ask you to be our intercessor and pray to God for us. We ask you to take our prayers and petitions to our God and place them before Him with our love.

(Sister Columbiettes are invited to present their petitions to Mary, our Mother)

We are confident that through your gentle intercession our prayers and petitions will be heard and answered.

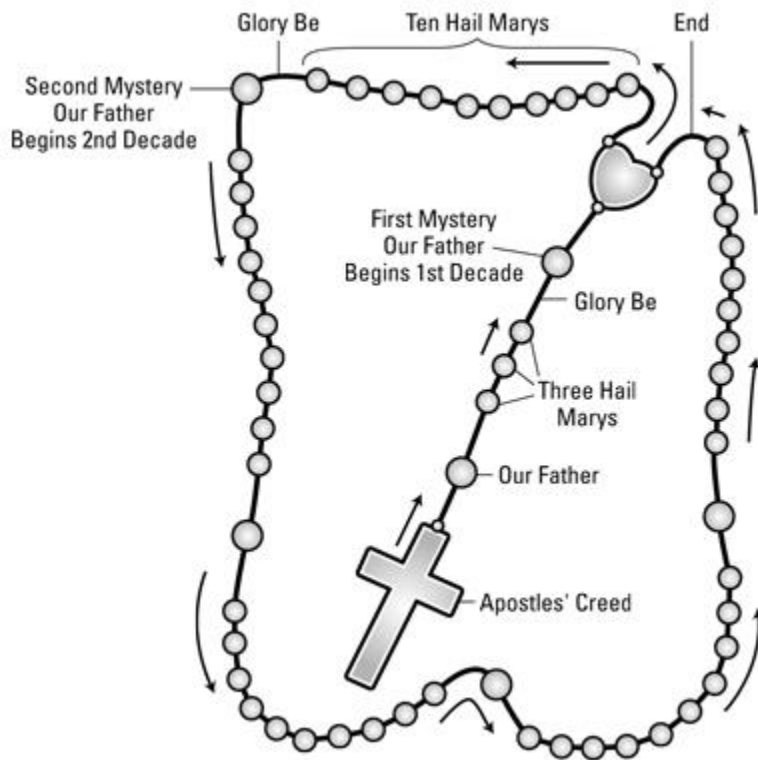
Mary, our Mother, whenever we remember you and call upon your name, we feel hope in us and long to know with you the experience of God’s nearness. We thank you for your fervent prayer, for your longing that was fulfilled in the coming of the Savior. Pray for us, that our lives may be a constant thanksgiving for his coming and become for many a sign of hope, of trust, and an invitation to seek the Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Closing Song (Optional): “Sing of Mary” Verses 2 and 3

Prayer Service “October-Mary Be Our Inspiration” is excerpted from Come Holy Spirit

HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY



Rosary beads help Catholics count their prayers. More importantly, Catholics pray the rosary as a means of entreaty to ask God for a special favor, such as helping a loved one recover from an illness, or to thank God for blessings received — a new baby, a new job, a new moon. Our Lady of Fatima requested all Catholics pray the rosary daily and to include the prayer called here the “Fatima Prayer” a.k.a. “Oh My Jesus”

1. On the crucifix, make the sign of the cross and then pray 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, was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified; died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; on the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits 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.

2. On the first large bead, say the Our Father. (*For the intentions of the Pope.*)

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.

3. On the following three small beads, pray three Hail Marys. (*For Faith, Hope, Charity*)

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.

4. On the *chain*, pray the Glory Be & Fatima Prayer a.k.a. “Oh My Jesus”

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are in most need of thy mercy.

5. On the large bead, meditate on the first mystery and pray the Our Father.

You pray mysteries for each of the five sections (decades) of the rosary according to the day of the week:

a) Mondays and Saturdays:

The Joyful Mysteries remind the faithful of Christ’s birth: The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38); The Visitation (Luke 1:39–56); The Nativity (Luke 2:1–21); The Presentation (Luke 2:22–38); The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41–52)

b) Tuesdays and Fridays:

The Sorrowful Mysteries recall Jesus’ passion and death: The Agony of Jesus in the Garden (Matthew 26:36–56); The Scourging at the Pillar (Matthew 27:26); The Crowning with Thorns (Matthew 27:27–31); The Carrying of the Cross (Matthew 27:32); The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:33–56).

c) Wednesdays and Sundays:

The Glorious Mysteries focus on the resurrection of Jesus and the glories of heaven: The Resurrection (John 20:1–29); The Ascension (Luke 24:36–53); The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–41); The Assumption of Mary, the Mother of God, into heaven; The Coronation of Mary in heaven.

d) Thursdays:

Pope John Paul II added The Mysteries of Light, also known as the Luminous Mysteries, in 2002: The Baptism in the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13–16); The Wedding Feast at Cana (John 2:1–11); The Preaching of the coming of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14–15); The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–8); The Institution of the Holy Eucharist (Matthew 26).

6. Skip the centerpiece medallion, and on the ten beads after that, pray a Hail Mary on each bead; on the chain, pray a Glory Be and Fatima Prayer a.k.a. "Oh My Jesus".

These prayers form a decade of the rosary.

7. Repeat Steps 5 and 6 four more times to finish the next four decades.
8. At the end of your Rosary, say the 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 valley 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.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation; grant we beseech Thee, 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. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen

9. Close by making the Sign of the Cross. Amen.