



Month of the Holy Rosary: Pray the Rosary as a Corporal Work of Mercy

Pray in person in the Lady Chapel Monday through Saturday at 9 am or in spirit using the meditations below. – The OLPH Holy Rosary Group

Thursdays: Comfort the Sick with The Luminous Mysteries

Today, offer your Rosary for those who are sick in your family, your community, and on the OLPH sick list. Pray in the name of Jesus for their miraculous healing. Trust that Mary is bringing your prayers directly to Jesus. Pray also for all caregivers and medical professionals who have answered God's call to serve others with care and compassion.

After each Rosary meditation, pray one Our Father, ten Hail Marys, the Glory Be and the Fatima Prayer ("Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins..."). Meditations courtesy of "Praying the Rosary with Pope Francis" by Twenty Third Publications. Learn how to pray the Rosary here. ([link to https://marian.org/mary/rosary/how-to-pray](https://marian.org/mary/rosary/how-to-pray))

First Luminous Mystery

The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan: *Let us allow ourselves to be invaded by the love of God. This is the great time of mercy!*

At Jesus' birth, the heavens were opened. And it is with the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we receive at baptism that we ourselves begin to understand what that means. Sin had closed the heavens, Pope Francis says, but God's love is so great that he tore the heavens open with the gift of his Son, inaugurating the age of mercy that is still with us. As we ponder Jesus humbling himself to be baptized, and as we reflect on the words of the Father—"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased"—let us remember that these words are meant for us as well, as we ask the Spirit to fill our hearts with God's love so that we may love one another.

PONDER: What has my baptism truly meant in my life?

PRAY: *Holy Spirit, fill me with the awareness of your love!*

Second Luminous Mystery

The Wedding Feast at Cana: *What happened at the wedding feast of Cana happens at every wedding—if we realize it!*

In a wedding homily, Pope Francis talked about the wedding feast at Cana, where Jesus made his first public sign of his coming ministry. How easy it is, Pope Francis says, to get caught up in all the externals of a wedding: the dress, the decorations, the reception. This is not wrong, he continues, IF the bride and groom are aware of the deeper purpose of what these externals reveal: the couple's awareness that "it is the presence of the Lord that will render your marriage full and profoundly true." "The best for last" may not be fully revealed until a couple has lived a faith-filled and faithful love for decades—but what a witness such love reveals!

PONDER: Am I aware of God's presence in my loving relationships?

PRAY: *Lord, help me to keep deepening my love for others and for you.*

Third Luminous Mystery

The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God: *The highest compliment you can receive is that you are a worker for the kingdom of God.*

When Jesus' disciples returned happy from their evangelization missions, Pope Francis says, Jesus invited them to go off with him to pray and refresh themselves. But he did not shower them with compliments or offer new strategies for more effective results. What he said to them was that they should tell themselves that in everything they were "useless servants." To say this meant that they were not following their own path, but that of Jesus, who came to show the way of discipleship. We proclaim the kingdom much more by how we act than by what we say. How do we proclaim the kingdom in our daily lives?

PONDER: How can I better serve God?

PRAY: *Jesus, keep me humble and focused on your path!*

Fourth Luminous Mystery

The Transfiguration: *The intimate encounter with God on the mountaintop pushes us back down to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters.*

Moments of connecting with God in prayer, Pope Francis tells us, are crucial to our healthy witness. But we can't stop there—this grace is not given to us to be hoarded, but to be shared. Yes, we need to go off by ourselves and discern the voice of the Lord, but that encounter must lead to our becoming ever more aware of the needs of our neighbors—those who are tired, hungry, lost, broken, and afraid. But once we have truly felt the Lord's goodness, helping our neighbors will be a joyful task, one we can embrace wholeheartedly.

PONDER: How aware am I of God's voice in my life?

PRAY: *Transfigured Lord, help me share your light with all!*

Fifth Luminous Mystery

The Institution of the Eucharist: *Jesus made himself our servant. We must be servants to one another.*

Over and over again Pope Francis stresses the servanthood of Jesus. In a homily on Holy Thursday, he talked about how this sacrificing of ourselves for others is the hallmark of our Christian witness. And Jesus' actions are rooted in his love for us, the same love we are to have for one another. In this homily the pope did not talk about the bread and wine of our Eucharistic feast. Before we can share the banquet, he said, we must wash one another's feet—the gesture a slave makes for guests of the household. In this way, the pope drives home the image of a God whose life was devoted to service of others, expressed so poignantly in this humble action. We who are his body here on earth are asked to do the same.

PONDER: How much am I a servant, and how much a master?

PRAY: *Servant Lord, fill me with your humility.*