



## **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*

### **Wednesdays: Shelter the Homeless with The Glorious Mysteries**

Today, offer your Rosary for those who have no place to live. Pray today for homeless people, that children and families in need with no place to call home will be guided to places of peace and security. May God protect them from hunger, stress, illness, violence and abuse. Pray also for those who work in shelters, soup kitchens, as social workers finding much needed services, and our own Sharing Ministry members and Sr. Paulanne for their loving care and merciful work as the face of Jesus.

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 Glorious Mystery

**The Resurrection:** *Let us ask ourselves the angel’s question: “Why do you seek the living among the dead?”*

“Opening the horizons of joy and hope” and “coming out of our spaces of sadness” are the images Pope Francis uses to celebrate the Easter mystery of Christ’s resurrection from the dead. How often, he says, we get caught up in all that deprives us of the important things in life, that can deaden our spirit, when what we need to do is to seek the Lord where he may be found—in our hearts, in the faces of those around us, in prayer both personal and communal, and in the mission before us to share that good news. Our call is to bring this light to others, and resurrection joy will give us the grace to do so.

**PONDER:** How quick am I to be transformed by joy?

**PRAY:** *Resurrected Lord, fill me with your light so that I may bring life to others!*

#### Second Glorious Mystery

#### **The Ascension**

*In Christ our humanity was taken to God.*

The first disciples had so much and yet so little to work with in their mission. They had Jesus with them throughout this ministry, and then they were privileged to witness him after his resurrection. But when Jesus ascended into heaven forty days after Easter, they were left alone looking up into heaven confused and afraid. The Holy Spirit had yet to descend and fill them with courage and assurance. We are so fortunate, Pope Francis says, because we know we have Jesus as our Advocate. He is our constant guide, pulling us ever onward like a mountain-climbing guide. And there is more: when Jesus ascended, the pope says, he took our humanity to the Father—thereby not only redeeming us but ennobling us in God’s sight. Jesus is vouching for us—we’re in good hands!

**PONDER:** Do I rely on Jesus as a constant guide in my life?

**PRAY:** *Lord, help me to remember that you are with me!*

### Third Glorious Mystery

***The Descent of the Holy Spirit:*** *The Holy Spirit is the soul of mission.*

On the day of Pentecost, the Blessed Virgin and the Apostles were gathered in the upper room hiding and afraid. Suddenly they were filled with the Holy Spirit and the Apostles went rushing out to tell the story of Jesus so enthusiastically that those who saw them thought they were drunk. And from that moment on, they were filled with courage and conviction and never stopped proclaiming the good news. Pope Francis reminds us that in our own evangelizing efforts (which can be as small but powerful as a smile) the Spirit will guide us, keeping us from making the church some kind of exclusive club, but rather opening us all up to the joy of sharing our faith with others. There's room for everyone, and it is our duty and pleasure to invite them!

**PONDER:** How can I be more open and welcoming?

**PRAY:** *Holy Spirit, fill me with your fire!*

### Fourth Glorious Mystery

***The Assumption:*** *Mary represents all who have faced the struggle of life while carrying in their heart the hope of the little and the humble.*

"My soul glories in the Lord," sings Mary in her Magnificat, and Pope Francis tells us that this song is being sung all over the world, particularly in places where the body of Christ is suffering. "Wherever the cross is," the pope says, "there is hope." And it's Mary who makes this hope visible—the teenage girl chosen to be the mother of the Savior, one who in her culture would be powerless and most likely overlooked. She is the one whose song rings of the confidence that keeps us looking forward, filled with the ability to do great things for God even in our humblest actions, because God is filling these actions with his grace.

**PONDER:** What little thing might I do to make a difference?

**PRAY:** *Mary, help me to say "yes" without question to God.*

### Fifth Glorious Mystery

***The Coronation:*** *Mary is the center of the communion of saints.*

In an address on All Saints Day, Pope Francis spoke of Mary's central place in heaven, the place of honor reserved for the Mother of Jesus. Yet, the pope reminds us, this honoring of Mary as Queen of All Saints serves to highlight her humility, her obedience to what God asked of her throughout her life. Mary's experiences mirror what all humans face: her motherhood embraced joy and sorrow in equal measure, yet her answer was always "yes" to what God wanted. She gave birth to her child and watched him be killed, she lost her husband, she became a revered elder in the new community of those who followed Jesus, and she ended her earthly life in obscurity. Her place in heaven is a sign of hope for all of us who try to serve God in all that we do.

**PONDER:** Which part of Mary's witness do I relate to most?

**PRAY:** *Queen of Heaven, remind me that the humblest duties can bring great comfort to others.*