

## Rosary Retreat



### Joyful Mysteries

**Read:** In the beginning, God made a beautiful garden and in that lovely garden, man and woman walked with God. Yet, like a choking weed, sin made its way into the garden, causing its full color and life to fade away like a photograph exposed to the harsh rays of direct light. Then God, in His infinite loving mercy, planned for the world’s redemption.

For that redemption, God created a new garden—not of the earth, but of human flesh that no weed or serpent could disgrace. That garden was Mary our Blessed Mother. Preserving Mary from sin, God gave hope to our disturbed and broken humanity.

### Pray: Apostle’s Creed

**Pray: One Our Father and three Hail Mary’s for increase in faith, hope, and charity. Glory Be**

#### First Joyful Mystery The Annunciation

“Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.” [Luke 1:28]

**Read:** “Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High...and of his kingdom there will be no end,” said the Archangel [Luke 1:31-33] With those words, the angel Gabriel tells us Mary would be the Mother of Hope—Jesus—the Way, the Truth, and the Life that will lead us to Heaven.

Jesus came into being, not just of Mary’s flesh, but because of her consent as a humble handmaid of the Lord. Let us note that Mary was all human and lived in perfect unity with the Holy Trinity. We too can live in unity with the Holy Trinity when we say yes to God to know our true vocation in life. Mary’s consent gives us

the courage to say: “May it be done to me according to your word.” [Luke 1:38]  
We too can rejoice in knowing that the Lord is with us.

### **Reflection**

- **The Angel said: “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.” [Luke 1:30] How do faith and trust in God allay your fears?**
- **What changes can you make to be more open to God?**
- **Think about the choices you make in your life. How can Mary, our model of faith and charity, help you?**

**Pray: Dear Blessed Mother, help me to say yes to God’s will and may my words, thoughts, and actions reflect the love of God. Amen**

**Pray: One Our Father, Ten Hail Mary’s, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer**

### **Second Joyful Mystery**

#### **The Visitation**

“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.” [Luke: 1:46-47]

**Read:** With Jesus living within her, Mary shared the Savior with her cousin Elizabeth. When Mary’s greeting reached Elizabeth, the child in Elizabeth leapt with joy and she was filled with the Holy Spirit. Although Elizabeth could not see Jesus, she recognized the Savior radiating through Mary. “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled,” said Elizabeth [Luke 1:45].

Believing in our Lord helps us to make the right choices in what we say and what we do, how we treat ourselves and one another, and how we handle our trials as well as our triumphs. The Word of God—the love of God—becomes the heart and soul of who we are. We too can bring Christ, His love, and spirit to each person we greet.

### **Reflection**

- **How does your life proclaim the greatness of God?**
- **What has God done for you and how do you show your gratitude?**

**Pray: Heavenly Mother, may the Lord dwell in each of us and shine through our faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

**Pray: One Our Father, Ten Hail Mary's, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer**

**Third Joyful Mystery**

**The Nativity**

“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”  
[Luke 2:14]

**Read:** Mary and Joseph never hid their faith, hope and love. Through Mary and with Joseph's protection, our Savior was born and they shared Jesus with all those searching for salvation. Mary and Joseph shared the Good News. Jesus is the Good News. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life that can change one's heart for the better and give us peace on earth with faith, hope, and merciful love.

**Reflection**

- **How do you share the Good News through your daily living?**
- **Consider the signs in your life that tell you Jesus is here for you. What are those signs?**
- **Does the peace of God rest in you? Ponder your answer.**

**Pray: Dear God, help us to graciously bring Jesus into the world through our words, deeds, and relationships. Amen.**

**Pray: One Our Father, Ten Hail Mary's, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer**

**Fourth Joyful Mystery**

**The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple**

“...for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in sight of all the peoples...” [Luke 2:30-31]

**Read:** Into God's hands Mary and Joseph presented baby Jesus—the Son of God—at the Temple, preparing Him for His future role. Their loving faith, trust, and obedience to God prepared Mary and Joseph to accept God's will. Amazed, they accepted the words of Simeon. “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” [Luke 2: 34-35] Mary was being prepared for that moment at her Son's cross when she accepted her role as Mother to us all.

Our loving faith, trust and obedience to God prepare us for the lives God wants us to live. Although we may not always understand the events in our lives, we will be amazed. With God, nothing is impossible.

### **Reflection**

- **How much time do you spend in prayer each day?**
- **How do you show your loving obedience to God?**

**Pray: Dear Lord, help me to obey your will.**

**Pray: One Our Father, Ten Hail Mary's, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer**

### **Fifth Joyful Mystery**

#### **Finding the Child Jesus in the Temple**

“Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” [Luke 2:49]

**Read:** Losing Jesus for three days was certainly cause for anxiety, but with quiet fortitude and faith, Mary with Joseph sought out Jesus where we will find Jesus—in God’s house. During uncertain and troubling times, we may find it difficult to enter God’s house to pray, to hope, and to trust. However, we can turn to Mary for guidance and support because her whole life represented loving faith, hope and trust in God in every circumstance. Remember, losing young Jesus for three days was not Mary’s first trial and not her last.

### **Reflection**

- **We do not always understand the events that happen in our lives. How do you respond to those events?**
- **What do you do when you cannot find Jesus in your life?**
- **When you need help with your faith, where do you seek knowledge and support?**

**Pray: Dear Jesus, please give me the grace to meet difficult challenges, anxieties, and losses with faith, hope, love and trust. Amen**

**Pray: One Our Father, Ten Hail Mary's, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer  
Hail Holy Queen  
Closing Prayer**