

October

*Month of the
Holy Rosary*



When was October established as the Month of the Holy Rosary?

Pope Leo XIII published *Superiore Anno*, an encyclical which was focused on recitation of the holy rosary in 1884. In it, he called for the entire Church to dedicate the whole of the month to the rosary and pray it daily. The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on the 7th of October. The word rosary comes from Latin and means a garland of roses



What is the Holy Rosary?



- The Rosary is a string of beads like a necklace. The beads are grouped into 5 sets of 10. This is called a decade.
- It is an important way of praying in the Catholic Church.
- The rosary beads are used to pray to Mary our Mother and Jesus.
- When praying the Rosary we can have a special connection with Mary and also think about the life of Jesus.
- Many people like to say the Rosary if someone is sick or unwell, on pilgrimages, in special places, in Church or even at home

Why is the Rosary so important?

People pray the Rosary to become closer to God. The holy Rosary is a prayer in which we meditate on the life of Jesus. Because of the mission that Mary received from God, her life was closely tied to Jesus. Mary was always focused on the life of her son Jesus. When we pray the Rosary, we are asking Mary to pray for us that we might be more focused on the life of Jesus. The Rosary is the main prayer said in Lourdes because it is a place of pilgrimage where people go to say prayers to Mary. Mary visited St Bernadette eighteen times to remind her that she should pray the Rosary each day.



The Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

- The Rosary focuses on the life of Christ from the Bible.
- During these prayers, people meditate on different aspects of Christ's life.
- The beads of the Rosary are divided into five decades; each decade represents an event from the life of Christ.
- These five events are grouped into a set of four mysteries, each focused on an important part of the life of Christ.



The Origins of the Rosary

In 1208 Our Lady appeared to Saint Dominic with three angels and a beautiful wreath of roses representing the Rosary. She asked him to say the Rosary every day and to teach the people to pray the Rosary so he was one of the first people to pray the Rosary.



Our Lady of Lourdes

On Thursday, February 11, 1858, fourteen year old Bernadette was sent with her younger sister and a friend to gather firewood, when a very beautiful lady appeared to her above a rose bush in a grotto. She smiled at Bernadette and then made the sign of the cross with a rosary of ivory and gold. Bernadette fell on her knees, took out her own rosary and began to pray it.





Our Lady of Fatima

On the 13th May 1917 a beautiful young woman wearing white appeared to three young children in Fatima, Portugal. She told them she had come from heaven and asked them to come on the thirteenth day of each month to see her. On the 13th October the beautiful lady told the children that she was the Lady of the Rosary. She asked the people to build a church and to pray the Rosary for peace.

The Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary



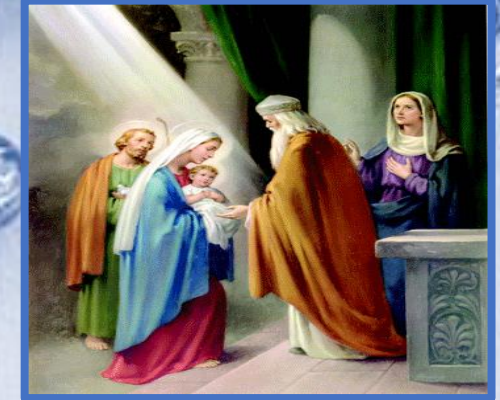
The Annunciation



The Visitation



The Birth of Jesus

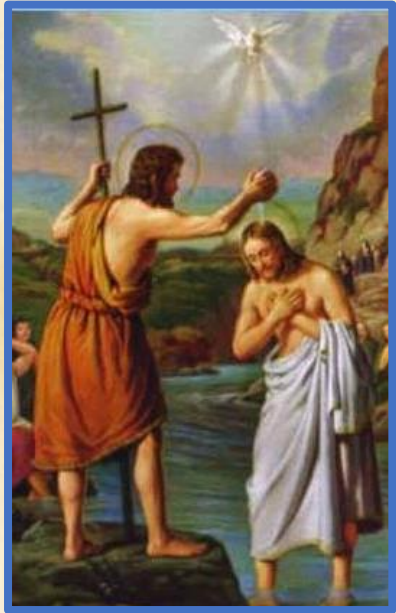


The Presentation
in the Temple



The Finding of Jesus
in the Temple

The Luminous Mysteries of the Holy Rosary



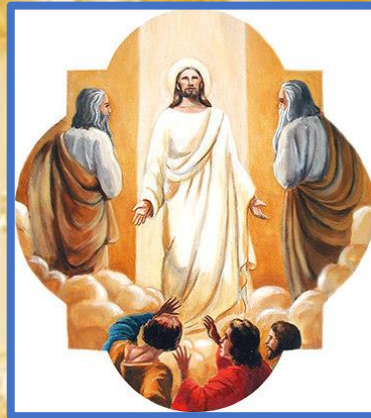
The Baptism
of Jesus



The Proclamation
of the Kingdom



The Wedding
Feast at Cana



The Transfiguration



The Institution
of the Holy Eucharist

The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary



The Agony in the Garden



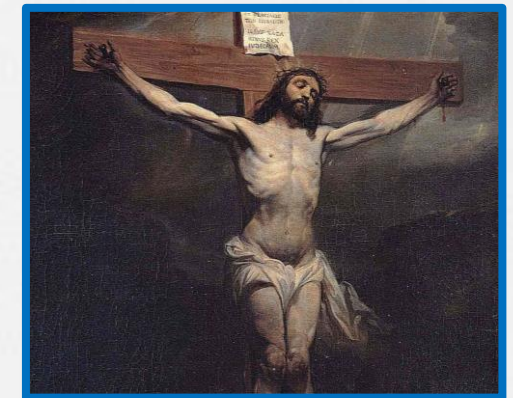
The Carrying of the Cross



The Crowning with Thorns



The Scourging at the Pillar



The Crucifixion

The Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary



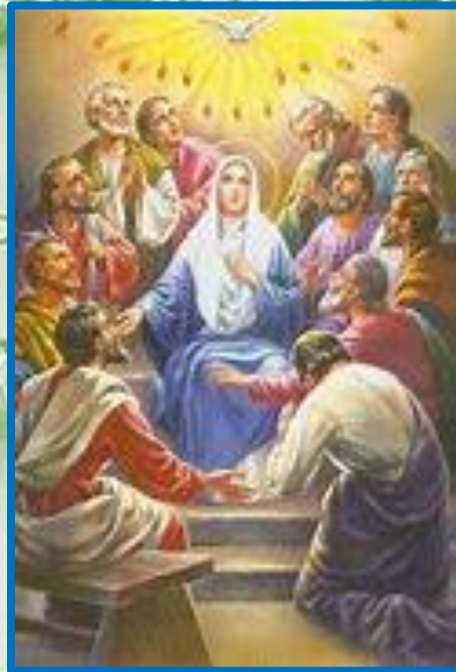
The Resurrection



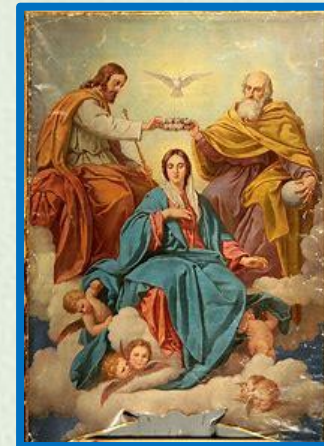
The Assumption
of Our Lady



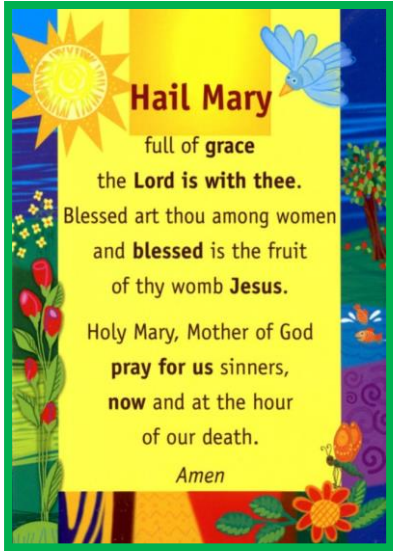
The Ascension



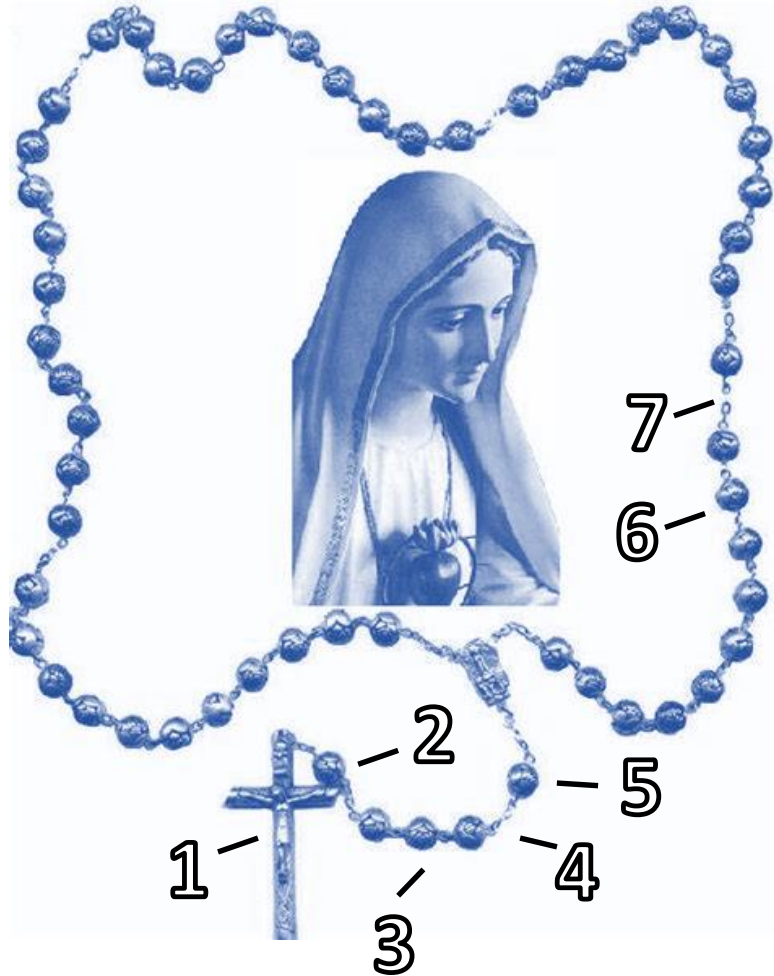
The Descent of the
Holy Spirit



The Crowning of Our Lady
as Queen of Heaven



Praying the Holy Rosary



1. Sign of the Cross
2. One Our Father
3. Three Hail Mary's
4. Glory Be to the Father
5. One Our Father
6. Ten Hail Mary's
7. Glory Be to the Father