

The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary

The following is meant to offer additional meditation as you pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. Beloved Daughter's Advent Series *Embraced: Welcoming the Newborn King*, is about using the Advent Season to prepare ourselves to Embrace Jesus in the Incarnation on Christmas Day. Perhaps take some time to journal your prayer at the end of each decade. If you need a guide for How to Pray the Rosary please see this great [resource](#).



Opening Prayers

Begin with the Sign of the Cross & a brief prayer to Mary

Mother Mary, we ask for your intercession as we pray these Joyful Mysteries that we might better understand the ways in which God seeks to embrace us, His Beloved Daughters, and how we might better prepare our hearts to embrace Him in the baby Jesus, not only this Christmas but also every day of our lives. Amen.

Apostle's Creed

Our Father

3 Hail Marys for the Virtues of Faith, Hope & Love

Glory Be

1st Joyful Mystery

Read Gospel.
Reflect,
Then Pray:
Our Father
10 Hail Marys
Glory Be
Fatima Prayer

The Annunciation

Read Luke 1: 26 - 38, then reflect on the following:

Mary's trust in the Lord is what makes her a perfect example of what it means to be a disciple and a Beloved Daughter. She knows in her heart who she is and to whom she belongs - she fully embraces her identity - and this allows her to trust in the Lord and embrace, not only the plan that He has for her, but also the love of the Holy Spirit by which Jesus is conceived. Mary is the first to embrace Jesus in the Incarnation.

Where do you still need to embrace your identity as a Beloved Daughter? Are there particular lies you still hear that go against your identity? How can you embrace God's love for you and trust in the plans God has for you? What is one step you can take to show God you trust Him? Where is He asking you to give your own yes, Fiat, "Let it be done to me"?

As you pray this decade, offer these prayers to God through Mary's intercession.

2nd Joyful Mystery

Read Gospel.
Reflect,
Then Pray:
Our Father
10 Hail Marys
Glory Be
Fatima Prayer

The Visitation

Read Luke 1: 39 - 45, then reflect on the following:

When the angel leaves, Mary is compelled to go to her cousin Elizabeth and embrace her because of the fullness of love (and Jesus) that dwells within her. In response, Elizabeth and John both embrace Mary and Jesus. This passage shows us that by embracing God and His love for us, it can overflow so that we can better love and embrace others. Love is always looking to give, to grow, and to be shared with others.

Who are people that embrace you and are an example to you of God's love? Who are people that you easily embrace and share God's love with? Who are people that you struggle to embrace? Why? What is one step you can take toward embracing them and showing them God's love?

As you pray this decade, offer up the people you love and those you struggle to love.

3rd Joyful Mystery

Read Gospel.
Reflect,
Then Pray:
Our Father
10 Hail Marys
Glory Be
Fatima Prayer

The Nativity

Read Luke 2: 1 - 20, then reflect on the following:

Mary & Joseph's journey can be hard to imagine. What must that journey have been like for them knowing that with every step, they were not only getting closer to their destination, but also getting closer to being able to embrace their child. Imagine being in the stable as Mary and Joseph get to hold and embrace their son, Jesus, for the very first time. While there were some that came from far to embrace the newborn king, like shepherds and the wisemen, we shouldn't forget the innkeeper who didn't have room for the Holy Family. Much like today, there are some eager to embrace Jesus and others who will ignore Him, cast Him aside, or reject Him. Which will we be?

Where do you still need to make room in your heart and in your life for Jesus? Is there anything you need to clear out? What are some ways that you can show Jesus He is the top priority? In what ways do you embrace Jesus daily?

As you pray this decade, offer up those closest to you who need Jesus, but have not sought Him out..

4th Joyful Mystery

Read Gospel.
Reflect,
Then Pray:
Our Father
10 Hail Marys
Glory Be
Fatima Prayer

The Presentation of Jesus

Read Luke 2: 22 - 40, then reflect on the following:

As Simeon and Anna both get to embrace Jesus, the One for whom they have been waiting, this moment is a fulfillment of all that God has promised, not only to them, but to all of Israel. But this joyful moment is also shadowed by Simeon's prophecy to Mary, "and you yourself a sword shall pierce" (Lk 2: 35). Mary now has a choice to make whether she will embrace the suffering that will come her way, trusting that God is with her, or run from it. We, too, have that decision to make. By embracing Jesus we must not only embrace all the joy and good, but also the sufferings and challenges that will come.

When in your life have you experienced great joy? Has any of that joy followed a period of suffering in the midst of waiting? In what ways have you experienced suffering? How did God embrace you during it? Jesus tell us that if we wish to be his disciples we must embrace our cross (Luke 9: 23); what cross do you need to pick up and embrace? How can you invite Jesus to help you carry your cross?

As you pray this decade, offer up your joys and sufferings, thanking God for both.

5th Joyful Mystery

Read Gospel.
Reflect,
Then Pray:
Our Father
10 Hail Marys
Glory Be
Fatima Prayer

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Read Luke 2: 41-52, then reflect on the following:

In this passage, we see that Jesus embraces the Father and learns from the teachers in the Temple. Upon finding Him there, Mary & Joseph embrace Jesus. Jesus reminds us that He is always waiting to embrace us and He can always be found in the Father's house - the Church, more specifically, in the Tabernacle. Through the Eucharist, Jesus is able to embrace us fully. We consume God and He consumes us from the inside out.

Think of a time when you were lost (literally or spiritually). What is the embrace like when you are lost and have become found? When in your life have you lost sight of God? Where did He find you / Where did you find Him? How might your life change if you received the Eucharist through understanding that is "the most intimate embrace with God" on this side of Heaven? In what ways can you prepare yourself for Mass more?

As you pray this decade, ask for a greater gift of faith to see the Eucharist for Who it really is.

Closing Prayers

Hail Holy Queen

O God, Whose Only Begotten Son