

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

Featuring the Words of Christ in Red

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Regina
Press

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an imprint of Catholic Book Publishing Corp.

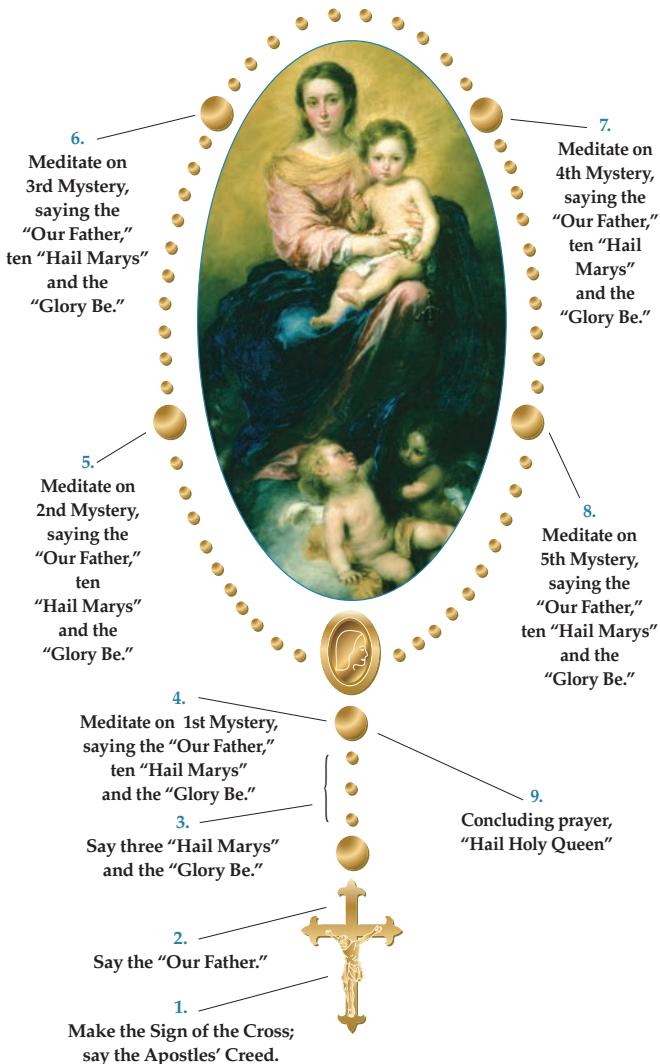
THE ROSARY

"To recite the rosary is nothing other than to contemplate the face of Christ with Mary."

Pope John Paul II

In his letter "Rosarium Virginis Mariae" (October 16, 2002) Pope John Paul II expressed his esteem for a method of praying that has nourished the faith of generations of Christians. The pope called on Catholics – and other Christians as well – to pray the rosary and enter "the school of Mary," who knew Jesus Christ so well as his mother and who was his closest disciple.

Though it is not mandatory, the Pope also suggested that five mysteries be added to the traditional fifteen. He called them "Luminous Mysteries," or the Mysteries of Light, which include the mysteries of Christ's public ministry between his Baptism and his Passion. While leaving the use of these mysteries "to the freedom of individuals and communities," Pope John Paul suggested that they could help make the prayer more deeply centered in the life of Christ. This book includes the Luminous Mysteries, taken from a period of Jesus' life when he revealed himself as "the Light of the world," and incorporates them into the fifteen traditional mysteries.



THE THIRD JOYFUL MYSTERY

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

MEDITATION

It is easy to imagine the scene of Jesus' birth in a stable at Bethlehem. Mary and her husband, Joseph, lovingly welcome Jesus into their lives. They dream of the wonderful things they will show him, and they promise to care for him.

 **OUR FATHER** 

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. He went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him.

Luke 2:4

† **HAIL MARY** †

She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby.

Luke 2:6

† **HAIL MARY** †

THE FIFTH LUMINOUS MYSTERY

THE INSTITUTION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

MEDITATION

“I am the bread of life,” Jesus told them. “Those who come to me will never be hungry; those who believe in me will never be thirsty.” On the night before he died, Jesus gave his friends a lasting sign of his love for them. He gave them his body and his blood. For all the ages, he would be their bread of life. Through bread and wine, he gave them his body and blood.



OUR FATHER



When it was evening, Jesus and the twelve disciples sat down to eat. During the meal Jesus said, *“I tell you, one of you will betray me.”*

Matthew 26:20-21

† HAIL MARY †

The disciples were very upset and began to ask him, one after the other, *“Surely, Lord, you don’t mean me?”*

Matthew 26:22

† HAIL MARY †

THE FOURTH GLORIOUS MYSTERY

THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

INTO HEAVEN

MEDITATION

Just as Mary loved her son, so did Jesus have a very special love for his mother. Because of this special love, she was taken to heaven body and spirit. We can picture her in heaven with Jesus as she tells us how glorious heaven is. From heaven, Mary cares for us, as her children.

 **OUR FATHER** 

Mary said: "My heart praises the Lord;"

Luke 1:46

† **HAIL MARY** †

"my soul is glad because of God my Savior,"

Luke 1:47

† **HAIL MARY** †

"for he has remembered me, his lowly servant."

Luke 1:47

† **HAIL MARY** †