

Praying the Rosary



Focus

How do you pray the Rosary?

The Rosary is a prayer honoring Mary. It is also a religious article with five sets of ten beads; each set is called a decade. When people pray the Rosary, they keep in mind important events in the lives of Jesus and his mother. These events are called the mysteries of the Rosary.

How to Pray the Rosary

- Hold the crucifix, and pray the Apostles' Creed.
- Then say the Our Father and three Hail Marys, followed by a Glory to the Father.
- The Rosary is divided into five decades. Each decade is made up of an Our Father, ten Hail Marys, and a Glory to the Father.
- Use the beads as you pray each of the five decades.
- During each decade, think about the mystery it represents.
- Close the Rosary by praying Hail, Holy Queen.

*Hail, Holy Queen, mother of mercy, hail, our life,
our sweetness, and our hope. To you we cry,
the children of Eve; to you we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this land of exile.
Turn, then, most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us;
lead us home at last and show unto us
the blessed fruit of your womb,
Jesus: O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.*

? Why do you think praying the Rosary is such a popular devotion?



Research the Rosary's History In small groups, discuss and research the history of the Rosary so that you can answer the questions below. Record your results, and discuss ways, that you might incorporate the Rosary into your prayer life.

Did you learn anything about the Rosary from your family? If so, who told you about it?

What are the origins of the Rosary?

Which saints are particularly noted for their devotion to this prayer?

What organizations are associated with praying the Rosary?

Who is Our Lady of Fatima, and what did she say about the Rosary?

