

The Rosary
for Children:
A Guide and
Activity Book

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History

The Rosary has been a common prayer for centuries. The "Hail Mary" and other prayers that form part of the Rosary have been used even longer.

The tradition of using strings of beads as a way to count prayers has also been used for centuries by both Christian and non-Christian traditions.

We do not know for sure exactly when the Rosary as we know it today began. One commonly accepted story is that Our Lady gave the Rosary to St. Dominic in the early 1200s, and that he played an important role in teaching the Rosary to others and encouraging them to pray it.

Whether or not this story about St. Dominic is true, the Rosary as we know it did start in the 1200s.

The mysteries of the Rosary evolved during the 1300 and 1400s.

Most recently, John Paul II added an additional set of mysteries, the Luminous Mysteries, in 2002.

Prayers

The Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He arose again; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name: Thy kingdom come: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation: but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,

Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Fatima Prayer

"O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Your Mercy."

The Hail Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy! our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley, of tears. Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

The Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Lord have mercy. *Lord have mercy.*

Christ have mercy. *Christ have mercy.*

Lord have mercy. *Lord have mercy.*

Christ hear us. *Christ graciously hear us.*

God, the Father of heaven, *have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us.*

God the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, one God, *have mercy on us.*
Holy Mary, *pray for us.*
Holy Mother of God, *pray for us.*
Holy Virgin of virgins, *pray for us.*
Mother of Christ, *pray for us.*
Mother of the Church, *pray for us.*
Mother of divine grace, *pray for us.*
Mother most pure, *pray for us.*
Mother most chaste, *pray for us.*
Mother inviolate, *pray for us.*
Mother undefiled, *pray for us.*
Mother most amiable, *pray for us.*
Mother admirable, *pray for us.*
Mother of good counsel, *pray for us.*
Mother of our Creator, *pray for us.*
Mother of our Savior, *pray for us.*
Mother of mercy, *pray for us.*
Virgin most prudent, *pray for us.*
Virgin most venerable, *pray for us.*
Virgin most renowned, *pray for us.*
Virgin most powerful, *pray for us.*
Virgin most merciful, *pray for us.*
Virgin most faithful, *pray for us.*
Mirror of justice, *pray for us.*
Seat of wisdom, *pray for us.*
Cause of our joy, *pray for us.*
Spiritual vessel, *pray for us.*
Vessel of honor, *pray for us.*
Singular vessel of devotion, *pray for us.*
Mystical rose, *pray for us.*
Tower of David, *pray for us.*
Tower of ivory, *pray for us.*

House of gold, *pray for us.*
Ark of the covenant, *pray for us.*
Gate of heaven, *pray for us.*
Morning star, *pray for us.*
Health of the sick, *pray for us.*
Refuge of sinners, *pray for us.*
Comfort of the afflicted, *pray for us.*
Help of Christians, *pray for us.*
Queen of Angels, *pray for us.*
Queen of Patriarchs, *pray for us.*
Queen of Prophets, *pray for us.*
Queen of Apostles, *pray for us.*
Queen of Martyrs, *pray for us.*
Queen of Confessors, *pray for us.*
Queen of Virgins, *pray for us.*
Queen of all Saints, *pray for us.*
Queen conceived without original sin, *pray for us.*
Queen assumed into heaven, *pray for us.*
Queen of the most holy Rosary, *pray for us.*
Queen of families, *pray for us.*
Queen of peace, *pray for us.*

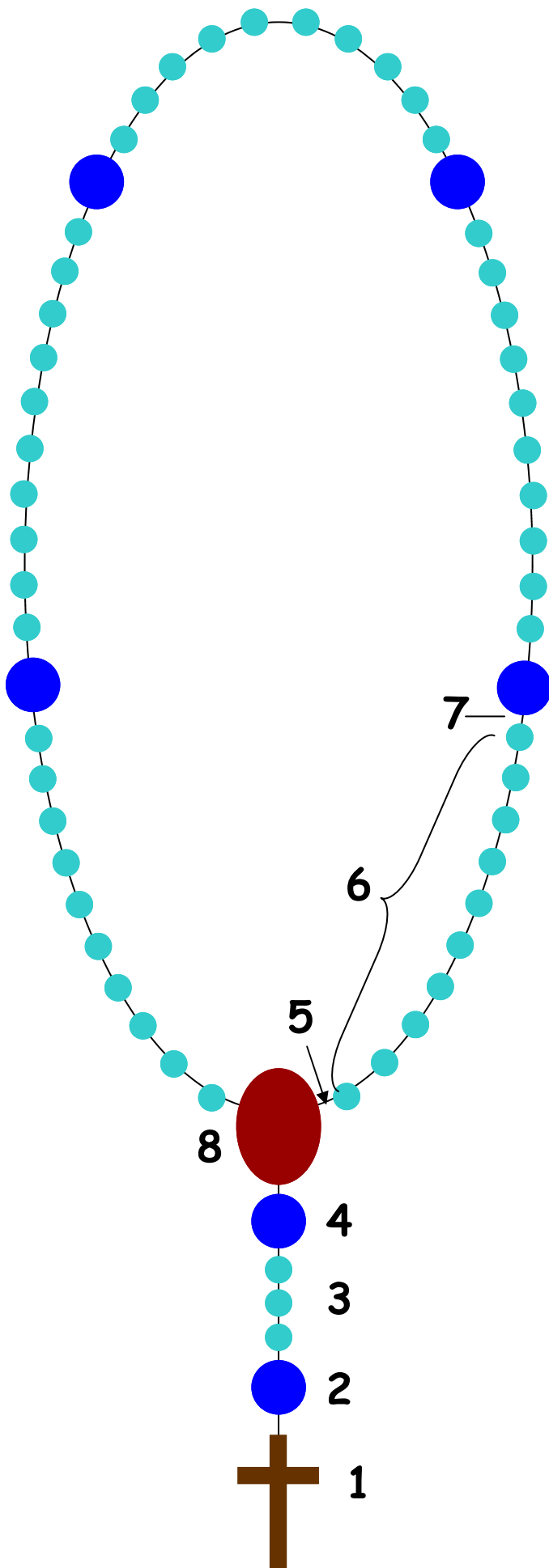
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *have mercy on us.* (Repeat 3 times)

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation. Grant, we beseech Thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

How to Say the Rosary



1— Say the Sign of the Cross

2— Say the Our Father

3— Say 3 Hail Marys for faith, hope and charity

4— Say the *Glory Be*, followed by the Fatima Prayer

5— Announce the first mystery. Say an Our Father

6— Say 10 Hail Marys

7— Say the *Glory Be*, followed by the Fatima Prayer

(Repeat 5-7 for each of the mysteries)

8— Say the Hail Holy Queen, followed by any other concluding prayers (like the Litany).

The Mysteries of the Rosary

Joyful Mysteries

- *Mondays and Saturdays*

- 1— The Annunciation
- 2— The Visitation
- 3— The Birth of Jesus
- 4— The Presentation
- 5— The Finding in the Temple

Sorrowful Mysteries

- *Tuesdays and Fridays*

- 1— The Agony in the Garden
- 2— The Scourging at the Pillar
- 3— The Crowning with Thorns
- 4— The Carrying of the Cross
- 5— The Crucifixion

Glorious Mysteries

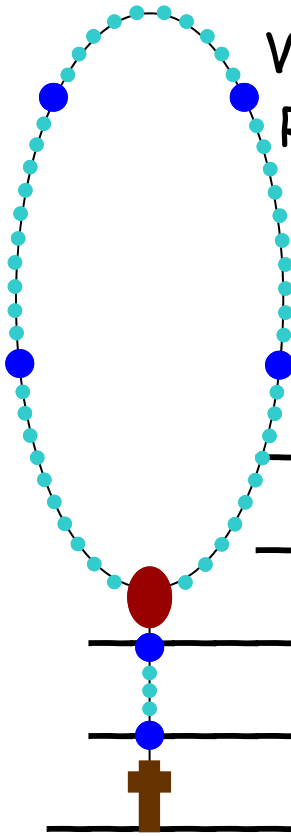
- *Wednesdays and Sundays*

- 1— The Resurrection
- 2— The Ascension
- 3— The Descent of the Holy Spirit
- 4— The Assumption
- 5— The Coronation

Luminous Mysteries

- *Thursdays*

- 1— The Baptism of Jesus
- 2— The Wedding at Cana
- 3— The Proclamation of the Kingdom
- 4— The Transfiguration
- 5— The Last Supper



What is your favorite mystery of the Rosary, and why?



What can you talk about with Mary while you pray the Rosary?



If you could write a letter to Our Lady telling her what the Rosary has meant to you, what would you say?



If you could add another mystery to the Rosary, what would it be and why?



Madonna del Rosario

If you could ask St. Dominic one question, what would it be and why?



If you had a friend who had never heard of the Rosary before, how would you explain what it is and why we pray it?

Unscramble the words to find out what different Saints say about the rosary!

1. "oen ady, trohguh het orsayr nda eht casrulap, uor dyal liwl vaes eth rowdl." St. Dominic

2. "teh ratetges edothm fo rypagni si ot rpya het syrrao." St. Francis de Sales

3. "nocetmiu ot aryp hte sryaor ryeev ayd." Our Lady of Fatima to Sister Lucia

4. "uoy hllas anitob lal uyo kas fo em yb eht ctreitnoai fo eth ysroar." Our Lady to Blessed Alan de la Roche.

Rosary Word Search

S A L P Y R E C I T E I F M L
T D Z B A P T I S M V N P R U
D W V K R O S A R Y H T C N M
O Q I U P B D E C A D E A O I
M Y S T E R Y M A R Y R S I N
I G I T Y I G H J L N C C T O
N L T K I N G D O M A E E P U
I O A J O Y F U L K T S N M S
C R T Z C B N W M R I S S U T
O I I U P R A Y E R S I I S Y
L O O K P J H F G D S O O S A
X U N O I T A I C N U N N A Z
C S O R R O W F U L V N B M P
I W O C R U C I F I X I O N Q
B L E S S E E V I R G I N R T

Word List

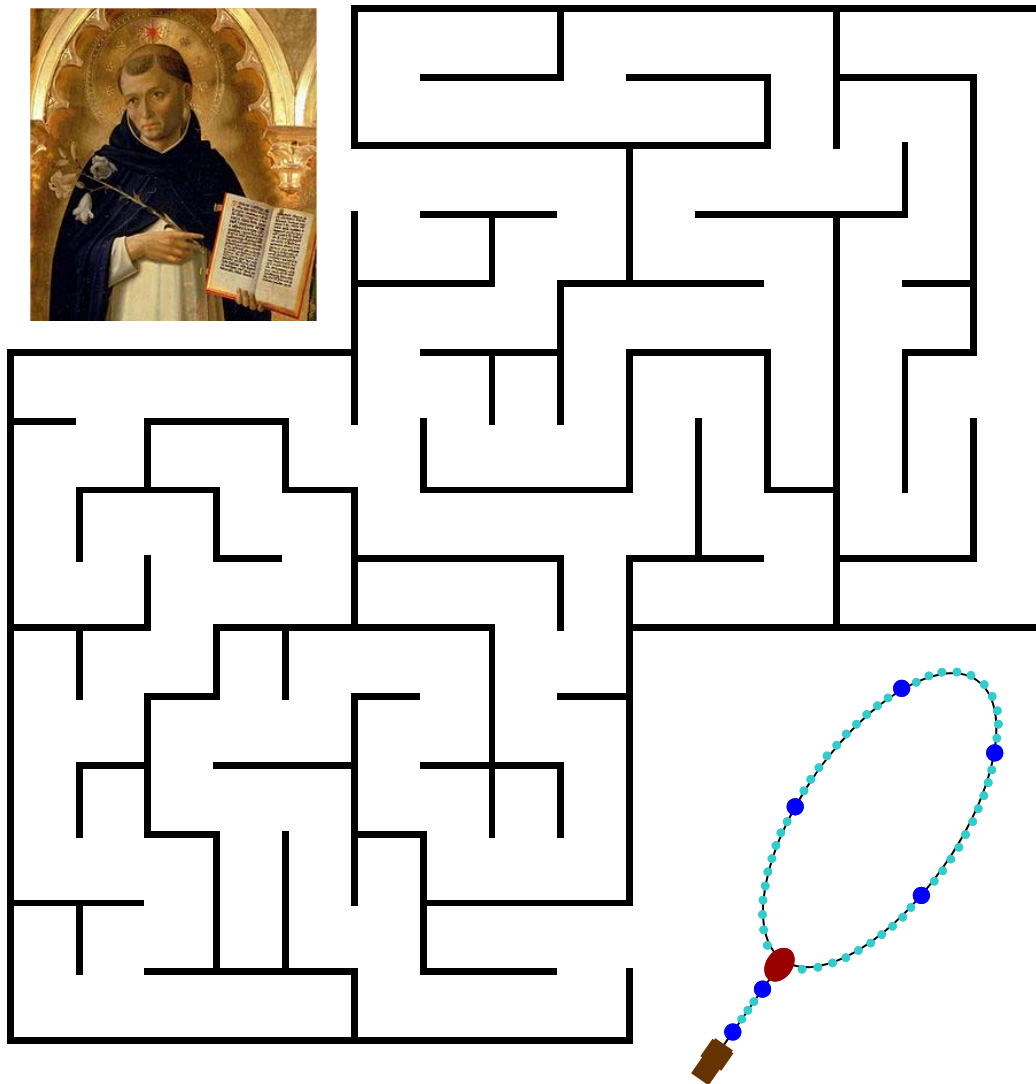
ANNUNCIATION
ASCENSION
ASSUMPTION
BAPTISM
BLESSED VIRGIN
CRUCIFIXION
DECADE

GLORIOUS
INTERCESSION
JOYFUL
KINGDOM
LITANY
LUMINOUS
MARY

MYSTERY
PRAY
RECITE
ROSARY
SORROWFUL
ST DOMINIC
VISITATION

Maze

Help St. Dominic find his rosary!



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