Andrew Kim Taegon was the son of Korean parents who became Christians after hearing the Word of God. Christianity had come to Korea in secret in the 17th century. People who traveled to foreign lands learned about Jesus and were baptized. When they returned home, they shared their faith with others. The Korean government did not allow Christians to practice their faith. The Church in Korea was led quietly by lay people for many years until priests and a bishop were brought into the country and hidden from the government. When these Church leaders were discovered, they were martyred. When Andrew was 15, his father was executed for being a follower of Jesus. The faith of his father and other brave Catholics inspired Andrew to become a priest.

Andrew traveled 1,300 miles to the nearest seminary in faraway Macao, China. He arrived in 1837 and began his studies with the missionaries of the Far Eastern Procure of the Parish Foreign Mission Society. In 1842 Kim Taegon left Macao as an interpreter for a French admiral aboard a warship. When the admiral returned to France, Kim Taegon tried to return to his homeland through the strictly guarded northern frontier, but he failed. He was ordained a deacon in China in 1844 and managed to return to Korea the next year, arriving in Seoul early in 1845 with the help of members of the Christian community who helped him get past the Border Patrol.

He then led the French missionaries by sea to Shanghai, where Bishop Ferreol ordained him the first Korean priest in the Church’s 60-year history in Korea. He returned to Korea with Bishop Ferreol, reaching Chungchong Province in October of the same year. The Korean Catholics were overjoyed to finally have a priest who could celebrate the sacraments with them. In his home town and vicinity, he catechized the faithful, until Bishop Ferreol summoned him to Seoul. At the Bishop’s command, he tried to introduce French missionaries from China into Korea, enlisting the aid of Chinese fishermen. For this, Father Kim Taegon was arrested and sent to the central prison in Seoul, where he was charged as the ringleader of a heretical sect and traitor to his country. He was sentenced to death and was beheaded on 16 September 1846 at the age of 25.

Paul Chong Hasang was a catechist training him for the priesthood with Father Taegon. He, too, was captured and martyred. In all, 103 Catholics died for their faith between 1839 and 1867. They were young and old, men and women, peasants and wealthy people.

Pope John Paul II traveled to Korea in 1984 and canonized these Martyrs of Korea. We honor their sacrifice. They help us to remember that faith is a virtue that makes it possible to know and believe in God. Their sacrifice also reminds us that we are blessed to live in a country where we are free to live our faith.
Praying the Chaplet of St. Andrew Kim Taegon

Opening Prayer on the Crucifix:
https://prayers4reparation.wordpress.com/

O God, who have been pleased to increase your adopted children in all the world, and who made the blood of the Martyrs Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gon and his companions a most fruitful seed of Christians, grant that we may be defended by their help and profit always from their example. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Intention: (on the cord after the Crucifix) Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gon, you followed the Lord's Call and journeyed to Macao to enter seminary. Please pray for our priests and seminarians as they serve with love as you did.

Reading from his letters from prison: 'God orders all things in this world. God permits even persecutions. As you wait in patient submission, pray earnestly for speedy peace. My death will be a loss to you physically and spiritually, but before long God will send you another shepherd better than I. So do not grieve, but practice greater charity and serve the Lord so that we may meet again in God's eternal mansion.'

3 Our Fathers

Intention: Saint Andrew Kim Taegon, in serving the Korean people you underwent trials and tribulations. Please pray for us to always trust in the Lord.

Reading: 'Following the footsteps of the saints, bring greater glory to the Church by being loyal soldiers and upright people of God. Although you are many be of one mind, not forgetting to love. Be patient and compassionate as you await the Lord’s day of mercy.'

3 Hail Mary’s

Intention: Saint Andrew Kim Taegon, you were imprisoned because you were a Christian and martyred for your faith. Please help us spread the love of Jesus wherever we are as you did.

Reading: 'Once born, no one can escape dying. What I desire is to die for God. Whether you question me today or tomorrow, my answers will be the same.'

3 Glory Be’s

Intention: Saint Andrew Kim Dae-gon, you greatly inspired your people who had contact with you. Pray that others will see the Lord in us as they did in you.

Reading: 'So it is the Lord regards the world as His field and us as His seedlings. He fertilizes us with grace and waters us with the Blood of the Savior that we might grow and produce grain. At the judgment, harvest time, those who produce the fruits of grace will be justified and the others will receive just punishment.'

Closing Prayer on the Medal:

O God, you have created all nations and you are their salvation. In the land of Korea your call to Catholic faith formed a people of adoption, whose growth you nurtured by the blood of Andrew, Paul, and their companions. Through their martyrdom and their intercession grant us strength that we too may remain faithful to your commandments even until death. Saint Andrew Kim Dae-gon, you led others in service to Christ. You said “We will soon be going out to the battlefield. Take good care and let us meet again in Heaven. I love you and cannot forget you. I beg you, in these troubled times do not be led astray. Pray to the Lord day and night to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil. Be steadfast in persecution. Put eternal glory first and work for the salvation of your souls.” Please pray that we will love abundantly in our service to others. We ask all these things through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (modified from The Roman Missal)

https://aleteia.org/daily-prayer/sunday-september-20/

You can find another Chaplet to St. Andrew Kim using a regular rosary and these same intention reflections here:
https://www.angelfire.com/cantina/prayforpriests/standrewkim.html