

Families

Greeting from my kitchen table, my new office space for the past 8 weeks. Don't know about you all, but I miss my office space (thought I would never say that) and talking face to face with people rather than thru Zoom, phone conversations or Messenger. Let's hope this will end soon and we can see everyone in person. I really do miss seeing my families from both Parishes and being able to celebrate Eucharist as a Church family and talk to all of you. Hopefully soon.

As we continue our faith journey together, I want to reflect on the Blessed Mother during the month of May, which is dedicated to her. I do hope that you all find this helpful as we continue our faith journey.

With Mother's Day this Sunday, many of us will be unable to celebrate this special day with our moms. Some are no longer with us and others due to COVID 19, so I thought a good way to celebrate Mother's Day is to say the Rosary to our Heavenly Mother in honor of all our moms both here and with our Heavenly Father.

The Rosary has a special place in prayer. The Rosary helps keep in memory certain principal events in the history of one's salvation. There are twenty mysteries reflected upon in the Rosary. These are the Joyful mysteries (said on Monday and Saturday), the Sorrowful (said on Tuesday and Fridays and during Lent), the Luminous mysteries (said on Thursday) and Glorious Mysteries (said on Wednesday & Sunday) which was included by St. John Paul the II

In 2002, St. John Paul II released an apostolic letter on the 'Rosary of the Virgin Mary' (RVM) in which he referred to the Rosary as a 'compendium of the Gospel'. He also proposed that the practice of praying the rosary would be enhanced by additional 'mysteries of light' for reflection. 'Moving on from the infancy and the hidden life in Nazareth to the public life of Jesus, our contemplation brings us to those mysteries which may be called in a special way 'mysteries of light'. Certainly, the whole mystery of Christ is a mystery of light. He is the 'light of the world' (Jn 8:12). Deacon Keith Fournier

During this time of uncertainty Pope Francis has asked all families to say the Rosary to help focus on those in need of prayer. Peter Elacqua from Blessed Sacrament in Utica did a wonderful job in preparing how to say the Rosary as requested by Pope Francis. If families do not have a Rosary in the home, then one can use their fingers on the hands to say the Rosary. For those who wish to have a Rosary, you may go to St. Patrick's Church and there are rosaries by the side entrance outside the church.

The Joyful Mysteries (Mondays and Saturdays)

First Mystery ~ The Annunciation: The angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to Jesus. Mary obediently responded "Yes" to God's plan. Dedicate this entire decade to women who are pregnant and fearful during this time - that they may carry in safety and give birth to healthy children.

Glory be.... Mary, help all pregnant mothers...

Second Mystery ~ The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth: Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, offering to help the aged woman during the final weeks of her miraculous pregnancy. Dedicate this mystery to the aged and to all who are afraid or alone; especially those in nursing homes and hospitals who are not allowed to be visited by their loved ones.

Glory be... Mary, comfort those who are alone without visitors...

Third Mystery ~ The Nativity of our Lord: Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem and gave birth to Jesus in a stable. Dedicate this mystery to families who experience birth at this time without the help of grandparents, relatives or friends. Pray for the safe delivery of babies all over the world born during this time of pandemic - that they will have the love and nourishment they need to lead healthy lives.

Glory be... Mary, bring safety and care to all the newly born in the world...

Fourth Mystery ~ The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple: Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple for purification, and to uphold family tradition. Dedicate this mystery to children, parents and families who are learning patience and how to relate to each other in new ways; that holiness and care for others will be upheld in family situations.

Glory be... Mary, show all families grow in love...

Fifth Mystery ~ The Finding of Jesus in the Temple: Jesus was found teaching in the temple among the scholars of his day. Pray this final decade for those devoted to research - that discovery will soon help treat and cure this pandemic. Pray that science and faith may harmonize to bring gratitude into our lives and worship again.

Glory be... Mary, inspire scientists and researchers to discover a cure...

The Luminous Mysteries (Thursdays)

First Mystery ~ The Baptism of the Lord: Jesus began his public ministry asking John the Baptist to baptize him and God's Spirit was poured upon him. Dedicate this mystery to those who wait to come into full communion with the church - those who for wait Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist, those who await to be ordained or to marry. Pray for their steadfast patience, that faith may fill their time of waiting.

Glory be... Mary, nurture the faith of those who wait for all sacraments...

Second Mystery ~ The Wedding at Cana: At the marriage feast of Cana, Jesus revealed his identity during a time of public celebration. Dedicate this mystery to all who must forego significant celebrations during this time of pandemic - anniversaries, graduations, birthdays, accomplishments, and recognitions of honor, that they may find ways to celebrate and honor the milestones of their lives.

Glory be... Mary, bring joy to those deprived of celebration...

Third Mystery ~ The Proclamation of the Kingdom: Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God, "to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons". Dedicate this mystery to first responders - doctors, nurses, and medical personnel who risk their lives daily for others and who remind us that the Kingdom of God is selfless constancy.

Glory be... Mary, strengthen those who work so hard to heal us...

Fourth Mystery ~ The Transfiguration: Peter, James and John saw Jesus in all his glory and found ecstasy during those moments. Dedicate this mystery to all essential workers, police, fire fighters, first responders, pharmacy, food merchants, transportation workers and other essential laborers who portray the compassionate face of Christ daily.

Glory be... Mary, invigorate all our essential workers...

Fifth Mystery ~ The Institution of the Eucharist: Jesus gave his body and blood to break, pour out, and share in memory of Him. Dedicate this mystery to all who long to be with their faith community and to share the Eucharist during this time. Pray for bishops, priests, religious, and lay people that they will envision new and safe ways to worship and receive the Eucharist and all sacraments of the Church.

Glory be... Mary, enlighten us to find new and safe ways to celebrate our faith...

The Sorrowful Mysteries (Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays of Lent)

First Mystery ~ The Agony in the Garden: Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane for the strength to confront the agony ahead. Dedicate this mystery to those who suffer in fear- the unemployed, those who have lost their business and savings, those struggling to make ends meet, to feed families, those who feel that their lives are falling apart and face depression or despair.

Glory Be.... Mary, encourage those who feel helpless...

Second Mystery ~ Scourging at the Pillar: During his Passion, Jesus suffered mockery, beatings and torture. Dedicate this mystery to those who are afraid because of compromising conditions, to those who suffer through the constant pain of disease, addiction or domestic violence.

Glory be... Mary, provide hope to all who suffer...

Third Mystery: The Crowning with Thorns: While earthly rulers have crowns of silver and gold, our Savior's crown was fashioned with thorns. Dedicate this decade to those who suffer continuously- the poor, hungry, thirsty, war-torn, and homeless - any who lack the means to survive and struggle even more during this pandemic.

Glory be.... Mary, hold the needy and the suffering of our world...

Fourth Mystery ~ The Carrying of the Cross: Jesus accepted his cross to show us how to bear our own suffering. Dedicate this mystery to all who have the virus and confront death, and especially to those who are challenged physically, mentally or emotionally during this time of so much suffering.

Glory be... Mary, tenderly care for all who suffer so deeply

Fifth Mystery ~ The Crucifixion: Jesus died on the cross in order to defeat death itself. Dedicate this decade to all who die these days from this pandemic or because of other causes. Pray for their friends and families who grieve alone and who are challenged to find ways to celebrate and memorialize those whom they have lost.

Glory be... Mary, bring the deceased to eternal rest, comfort the living...

The Glorious Mysteries (Wednesdays and Sundays outside of Lent)

First Mystery ~ The Resurrection of Jesus: The empty tomb was and is still - a sign of hope and new life for all believers. Dedicate this mystery to all who have died, lost hope, or who have been away from faith and community. Pray that all may be strengthened by the power of resurrection, and that we will believe that we can live fuller lives once this pandemic has passed; that faith, hope and love will keep us together.

Glory be... Mary, shape our hope, nurture our faith, strengthen our love...

Second Mystery: ~ The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven: Before ascending, Jesus told the apostles to go forth, baptize, and lead all nations toward. Discipleship. Dedicate this decade to world leaders and government workers who confront difficult decisions during this time. That they may be guided by wisdom and discernment, and dedicated to restoring hope and life to our world.

Glory be... Mary, Mother of all Nations, inspire all leaders in our world...

Third Mystery ~ The Descent of the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit descended upon Mary and the fearful Apostles in the upper room, gifting them with strength, unity, and the power to communicate with all people. Dedicate this decade to the good work that unites our nation and our world, to all who work to end prejudice and to establish harmony and understanding between governments, nations and cultures all over the world.

Glory be... Mary, unite your children all over the world as one family...

Fourth Mystery: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin: At the end of Mary's life, God brought her body and soul into eternal glory. Dedicate this decade to those who have been weakened in their faith and who have lost hope; to those who are judgmental and unable to forgive, that they may know God's glorious work in their lives,

Glory be... Mary, lead us to know of God's deep love for all people...

Fifth Mystery ~ The Crowning of Mary, Queen of Heaven & Earth: We recognize Mary as Mother and Queen of the Universe. Dedicate this decade to furthering the glory and dignity of all humanity and all nature - to artists and architects of every dimension who creatively call us to stronger stewardship for our planet, to scientists who help us uncover the secrets of God's treasure, to all who reveal ways in which we can live together with greater dignity and care accorded for all.

Glory be... Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth, gives us vision to find a better way...

Prayers of the Rosary

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; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there 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.

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.

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.

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN
Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee we do 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.
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

How to pray the Rosary

1. Make the Sign of the Cross and pray "The Apostles' Creed."
2. Pray the "Our Father."
3. Pray 3 "Hail Marys."
4. Pray the "Glory Be To The Father."
5. Announce the First Mystery, then pray the "Our Father."
6. Pray 10 "Hail Marys," while meditating on the First Mystery.
7. Pray the "Glory Be To The Father."
8. Announce the Second Mystery, then pray the "Our Father." Repeat 6 & 7 and continue with the Third, Fourth and Fifth Mysteries in the same manner.
9. After completing the fifth Mystery, pray the "Hail, Holy Queen" on the center medal.

With this Sunday being Mother's Day, wishing all mother, grandmothers. Aunts and all who nurture our children a Blessed Mother's Day. I have attached a Mother Blessing for all of you.

Mother's Day Prayer



May God reward you
for the many ways you love—
for choosing wisely,
for accepting openly,
for giving freely,
and for teaching, encouraging,
and reprimanding patiently.
May Mary make your
memories joyful as you
keep them in your heart,
and may she gain for you every
blessing from Jesus, her Son.
Amen

Remember if possible, continue to contribute what you can to our Parishes. They can be mailed to the Parishes. St Patrick's please review the website for additional information on contributions to the Parish. Sacred Heart/St. Mary's may drop the contribution off at the Parish office in the mail slot.

FYI, someone needs again to remind Mother Nature it is spring and not winter. There should be no snow this weekend.

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