

Rosary Meditations – Dynamic Catholic

Meditations on the Mysteries of the Rosary from Dynamic Catholic.

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Joyful Mysteries

Mondays, Saturdays & Sundays of Advent & Christmas

The Annunciation

This is Mary's moment, the moment when her "yes" changed the world. Imagine the monumental courage that would have required. Think about it. An angel appeared to Mary, and told her she would be the mother of the savior, the mother of God. She was a teenager, only a child. And what the angel said made no earthly sense. What was Mary thinking? What would have happened if she had said no?

The Visitation

God turned Mary's world upside down. What did Mary do? She rushed off to serve her cousin, Elizabeth, who was pregnant in her old age. It was Mary's first reaction. Too often our first reaction is one of selfishness: "I don't feel like it," "I'll do it later," "Can't someone else take care of it?" But Mary had an instinct to serve, an entrenched humility.

The Nativity

The world is a mess: war, poverty, corruption, greed, selfishness, violence, abuse, injustice. The face of evil torments ordinary people every day, and yet God chose to put himself in the middle of our mess. The humility of God is incredible. He places himself right in the middle of our mess as the solution to it. We don't deserve it. We have no claim to it. God gives us a new beginning, a fresh start, freely and without merit.

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The Presentation

Mary presented Jesus at the temple in Jerusalem, dedicating him to God according to the Jewish custom. As she did so, a man named Simeon said something astounding, “Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation” (Luke 2:29-30). Have you ever waited for something with great anticipation? Did you wait patiently? What are you waiting for in your life right now? Simeon had waited. He had waited patiently, and prayed patiently for the savior. Now, he took baby Jesus in his arms. Imagine the emotion as he pulled the child to his chest. His face filled with a strange combination of joy and anguish. Joy for the present, anguish for the future he knows the child will face.

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

On their way home from celebrating the Passover in Jerusalem, Mary and Joseph actually lost Jesus. God, the Creator of the universe, had entrusted Jesus the Messiah to Mary and Joseph’s care—and they lost him. Imagine what they were thinking and how they were feeling: grief, torment, distress, anguish, torture. So often we lose Jesus in our own lives and don’t even notice.

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Sorrowful Mysteries

Tuesdays, Fridays & Sundays of Lent

The Agony in the Garden

Stay awake. Jesus said it three times. But his disciples could not. They let him down. Imagine how alone he felt that night in the garden. Have you ever been in agony—physical, spiritual, emotional, psychological? Multiply that by infinity and take it to the depths of eternity, and you may get a small glimpse of what Jesus was experiencing that night in the Garden of Gethsemane.

The Scourging at the Pillar

One sentence. “Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him” (John 19:1). Seven words. But it would have been enough to kill most people. The flesh on his back torn in a hundred places, blood dripping from each, small pieces of his divine body that had been ripped off scattered on the ground—the body of Christ. Still, this was almost nothing compared to what he was to go through.

The Crowning with Thorns

They crowned him with thorns and used a stick to smack the crown down on his head driving the thorns deep into his skull. He felt it all. He accepted it all. He embraced it all. It seems we will do anything to avoid pain and suffering today. But not Jesus, he embraced every experience of pain and suffering. He allowed each thorn, each taunt to strengthen his resolve to do what was before him.

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The Carrying of the Cross

As Jesus carried his cross, it was a wonder how he was even still alive. He was beaten by the guards as he struggled to carry the cross. He collapsed three times, magnifying his pain. The guards knew he would not make it to Calvary, so they forced Simon of Cyrene to help Jesus so he would not die along the way.

The Crucifixion

There is a time and place for everything in God's plan, and every debt in the universe needs to be settled eventually. This was the day. Calvary was the place, And over two thousand years ago was the time that God decided to settle our debts.

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Glorious Mysteries

Wednesdays & other Sundays

The Resurrection

It must have been astonishing Sunday morning. The city would have been drowning in gossip and emotion. But few, if any, would have recognized that this was the main event of human history. Jesus rose from the dead. On that day there was no doubt many who ignored it, and many others who doubted it, rejected it, were skeptical or cynical. These people have existed in every age and exist today, but you see them wandering through their lives confused. It is simply impossible to make sense of life and history without acknowledging the Resurrection.

The Ascension

After spending 40 days with his disciples, Jesus ascended body and soul into heaven. Jesus did exactly what he said he would do. He was a man of his word. Why do we ignore and doubt his words so often? He said he would return one day. Do you ever think about it? Imagine if he came today. Are you ready? Would you recognize him?

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

The disciples were afraid. Most of us have probably never experienced fear like the fear they were gripped with. They were afraid they would be killed for being Jesus' followers. But if they weren't killed, what were they to do, now that Jesus was gone? Then the Holy Spirit descended upon them and transformed them. Their fear was banished and they were filled with courage. This is the greatest before-and-after sequence the world has ever seen.

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The Assumption of Mary

Mary's radical humility is an encyclopedia of lessons about the inner spiritual life. Imagine how rich her inner life must have been. Imagine what it was like for the first Christians to seek her counsel and guidance. Then at the end of her life, Mary was taken body and soul into heaven. Her reward for a life lived entirely for God. What's keeping you from giving everything to God?

The Coronation of Mary

Mary's courage, fidelity, and humility greatly pleased the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. They crowned her queen of heaven. There is no greater title on earth than "Mother of God"—and no greater creature than Mary has ever existed. This Mary, your spiritual mother and the Queen of heaven, is the most celebrated woman on earth and in heaven. Who is greater than Mary? None but God.

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Luminous Mysteries

Thursdays

The Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan

Jesus, the Son of God, went to John the Baptist to be baptized. John felt unworthy even to untie Jesus' sandals, but Jesus stood in line with sinners and presented himself to John to be baptized. At that moment, as Jesus stood in the water, the heavens opened and God the Father said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased"

The Wedding Feast at Cana

This is it. Jesus' first public miracle. And it takes place rather quietly at a wedding. When the bride and groom ran out of wine, Mary took their need to Jesus. And he turned water into wine, a wine that was far better than the wine they had already served, and more wine than they could ever drink. That our God is a God of abundance. Just as Jesus abundantly supplied more wine when it was in short supply at the wedding in Cana, he wants to provide abundantly for whatever is in short supply in our lives today.

The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

When Jesus spoke about the kingdom, he perplexed people. They had a certain image of God and his ways, and Jesus turned them upside down and inside out. In our own ways, we too have images of God and ways of thinking about how God does things that he wants to turn upside down—which as it turns out will be right side up.

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The Transfiguration

Jesus wants to show us what is possible. Too often our vision is too earthbound. He wants to open our hearts and minds to all that is possible far beyond our limited thinking. The disciples, like you and I, could only see Jesus in a very limited way because of their limits. Jesus took Peter, John, and James up on the mountain so God the Father could open their spiritual eyes wider than ever before and see Jesus in all his glory.

The Institution of the Eucharist

Do you know what happened at the Last Supper? Most of us would say yes, and then recite the facts and mechanics of that historic experience. But really, what we don't know about the Last Supper dwarfs what we do know. What we don't know about God makes what we do know about him look like a grain of sand in the Sahara desert.

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The prayer leader prays the words in **blue**
& everyone else responds with the rest of the prayer.

The Sign of the Cross

(said to start the rosary prayer)

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

The Apostles' Creed

(said at first, holding the crucifix)

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 rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will 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.**

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The Lord's Prayer (said holding the single large bead before each decade)

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 (said holding each of the 10 beads in the decade)

Hail Mary full of Grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed are thou amongst 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.**

The Glory Be *(said at the end of each decade)*

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 *(said after the Glory Be at the end of each decade)*

**O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,
save us from the fires of hell;
lead all souls to heaven,
especially those who have most need of your mercy,
the born and the unborn Amen.**

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The Hail, Holy Queen

(said after the final decade)

(The Salve Regina)

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

The Final Prayer

(said after the Hail, Holy Queen)

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 purchase for us the rewards of eternal life.
Grant, we beseech Thee,
that by meditating on these mysteries
of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
we may imitate what they contain
and obtain what they promise,
through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help,
or sought thy intercession
was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence,
I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother;
to thee do I come;
before thee I stand,
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.