

## THE WESTERN ROSARY AS PRAYED BY THE BASILIAN FATHERS

(The Society of Clerks Secular of Saint Basil)

Make the Sign of the Cross with the Crucifix of the Rosary. Say, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen." When you say "Father" the Crucifix should be on your forehead, when you say "Son" you should move the Crucifix to over your heart (the middle of your chest), and when you say "Holy" it should be on your right shoulder (left shoulder if your are Western), and when you say "Ghost" you should cross over to your left shoulder (right shoulder if you are western).



Then on the large or single bead next to the Crucifix, pray 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 arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, sitteth 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 Ghost the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

If you are praying the Rosary with others, all should pray the Apostles' Creed together.

Then, still on the bead next to the Crucifix, pray The Lord's Prayer, 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.

If you are praying the Rosary with others, the leader should pray:

V. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

and the others should pray:

R. 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.

Then move to the first of the three small beads in a row between the Crucifix and the medal, and pray the Hail Mary (also known as The Angelic Salutation) on each of the three beads. Pray:

Hail Mary, full of grace! the Lord is with thee: blessed art 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.

If you are praying the Rosary with others, the leader should pray:

V. Hail Mary, full of grace! the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

and the others should pray:

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

Then, on the last large or single bead which is immediately next to the medal, pray the Glory Be:

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and for ever shall be, through out all ages of ages. Amen. (You can substitute for "through out all ages of ages" the words "world without end".)

**If you are praying the Rosary with others, the leader should pray:**

**Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,**

**and the others should pray:**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and for ever shall be, through out all ages of ages. Amen.**

**There are a total of fifteen mysteries - occurrences - in our Lord's life which are commemorated in the Rosary; used as a basis for meditation while praying. These fifteen mysteries are grouped into three categories, the first being The Joyful Mysteries, the second being The Sorrowful Mysteries, and the third being The Glorious Mysteries.**

**One group of Mysteries is prayed each time you pray the rosary (unless you pray all fifteen Mysteries at the same time).**

**The Joyful Mysteries are:**

- 1) The Annunciation - The Angel Gabriel announces to The Virgin Mary, God's desire she be the Mother of Christ;**
- 2) The Visitation - The Virgin Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth who is pregnant with Saint John the Forerunner (the Baptist);**
- 3) The Nativity - the birth of Our Lord;**
- 4) The Presentation (also known as The Circumcision) - the presentation of Our Lord in the Temple according to Judaic Mosaic Law, and His circumcision;**
- 5) The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple - when our Lord was twelve years of age, and He taught the Priests and Scribes in the temple during and after Passover.**

**The Sorrowful Mysteries are:**

- 1) The Agony in the Garden - after Passover, the evening Our Lord was arrested;**
- 2) The Scourging at the Pillar;**
- 3) The Crowning with Thorns;**
- 4) Jesus Carries His Cross;**
- 5) Jesus is Crucified and Dies on the Cross.**

**The Glorious Mysteries are:**

- 1) The Resurrection - Our Lord rises from the dead;**

- 2) The Ascension - Our Lord ascends into heaven;
- 3) The Descent of the Holy Ghost upon the Apostles at Pentecost;
- 4) The Assumption / The Dormation of the Theotokos - The Ever Virgin Mary Mother of God, is raised to Heaven upon her death;
- 5) The Crowning of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth, of the entire universe.

The Joyful Mysteries are prayed on Mondays and Thursdays (and on Sundays in Advent); the Sorrowful Mysteries are prayed on Tuesdays and Fridays (and Sundays in Great Lent); and the Glorious Mysteries are prayed on Sundays (except Sundays in Advent and Great Lent), Wednesdays, and Saturdays.

Using the Joyful Mysteries as an example, at the last single or large bead before the medal, the bead where you have just prayed the Glory Be to the Father, say (or the leader says):

The First Joyful Mystery, The Annunciation.

*(Then you may say - this is optional - "We adore Thee O Christ and we bless Thee; because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world." If a group is praying the Rosary, the leader would pray:*

*V. We adore Thee O Christ and we bless Thee*

*and the others would pray:*

*R. because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.)*

Then is prayed The Lord's Prayer, the Our Father - just like it was prayed above.

Then are prayed ten Hail Mary's, just as above.

Then is prayed the Glory Be, just as it was prayed above.

Then is prayed (if a group is praying the Rosary, all pray this together):

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, and save us from the fires of Hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy.

Then say:

The Second Joyful Mystery, The Visitation

and proceed as above until you reach the end of the Fifth Joyful Mystery.

The following are customary:

**After the prayer, "O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, and save us from the fires of Hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy." which follows the completion of the Fifth Mystery, pray (all should pray this together):**

**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 vale of tears. Turn then most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards 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 who have recourse to thee.**

**This is usually followed by a short litany, such as:**

**V. Saint Joseph**

**R. Protect us;**

**V. Saint Basil,**

**R. Teach us;**

**V. My Holy Guardian Angel,**

**R. Help me;**

**V. Saint Joseph and Saint Benedict,**

**R. Pray for us and our absent brothers and sisters, and grant us a happy death.**

**All: May our souls and all the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

**Followed by The Sign of the Cross with which the Rosary was begun.**

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