



The "Give me five" Rosebud-Rosary is a Catholic outreach Apostolate suggesting an optional Pastoral-Catechetical approach for the Marian Rosary and, to some extent, also for the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and the Stations of the Cross.

- ✓ Never prayed the Rosary or the Chaplet of Divine Mercy before?
- ✓ Tired of being 'tired' at Rosaries, not knowing when it's a blessing?
- ✓ Would like to share such precious time with your children or elderly, but their natural impatience makes it impractical?
- ✓ Think it is boring or just a waste of time, maybe for never learning anything new from such devotions?
- ✓ Never found Peace during or after Rosary prayer times?
- ✓ Have no emotional, intellectual, spiritual, ... motivation to pray?
- ✓ Seeking for a deeper-meaningful & colorful-meditational Rosary?
- ✓ Already pray it frequently, but would like to pray it daily, if possible, but time, personal circumstances or anxiety make it unlikely?
- ✓ Uncomfortable for "having" to meditate on a mystery while reciting fast or non-stopping strict Hail Mary's, at the same time?
- ✓ Want not only to say the Rosary, but optionally also pray the Rosary?

If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, please read this book. This alternative and fully optional devotional approach may indeed open a priceless supernatural door for you and/or your family, for the rest of your life. Just give it a try! You may never be the same anymore, as soon as you meet the pre-required spiritual conditions, clearly described. Our specially designed JoAnnine's Rosary, nicknamed "Give-Me-Five," and this guiding manual for regular or meditated use are available not-for-profit, and they can be:

- More realistic for busy people
- Easier for the elderly and children
- More meaningful for beginners, catechumens, ...
- it can provide a deeper experience even for ascetics and consecrated religious people.



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The JoAnnine's Rosebud-Rosary Apostolate

The Rosebud-Rosary Apostolate



An Optional Pastoral-Catechetical
Approach

The Rosebud-Rosary Apostolate



An Optional Pastoral-Catechetical
Approach



**The Blessed Family
Rosebud-Rosary
Apostolate**

**“Give-Me-Five”
JoAnnine Rosary**

St. Pope Paul VI Foundation

The Blessed Family Catholic Network

The Rosebud-Rosary Apostolate

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ABOUT THIS BOOK

The Rosary is the most relevant and widespread Catholic devotion not directly related to any sacrament, worldwide; and the variety of Rosary-bead instruments for devotional recitations, if authentically Catholic, are powerful sacramentals once blessed by a priest or deacon. If well crafted, they are also considered sacred art objects, and even sacred “jewelry”, whenever built with precious materials.

The Blessed Family Catholic Network, also known as the JoAnnine Community, developed their own specially designed hybrid Rosary for “rosebuds” or full-blown roses (the standard rosary), in order to make both fully optional, under the same chain of beads.

This prayer book and manual of pertinent references present the rationale and the basic guidelines for its proper Marian, Divine Mercy, and Stations of the Cross devotional uses. In addition, throughout the book, it shares several reflections and suggestions regarding the prayer life and the mysterious power of prayer in general, beyond or foundational to those three major devotions. It is presented and illustrated with colorful images, by quoting some expert opinions, and adding online reference links on some of the issues discussed.

Let’s give Her at least ‘high-fives’ (5 kisses, 5 thanks, 5...)

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DEDICATION



Unlike ordinary books, this is an internal appendix of the General Statutes¹ of a religious community, adapted in order to be shared as a public book. It **cannot** be separated from its specially designed Rosebud-Rosary instrument, and vice-versa, since the Rosebud-Rosary itself, as a devotional bead-tool, cannot be understood nor properly used as a sacramental, without at least some knowledge -first hand or not- from the contents of this book.

Moreover, if just a “book”, Dedication alone would suffice. Since it is a religious devotion requiring a combination of two very distinct elements (devotional knowledge and its sacramental bead-tool), a formal Consecration must be added hereto, yet to be consummated later, in a solemn liturgical manner, during a special Mass to be celebrated in the near future, as soon as Ecclesiastical authority grant its imprimatur.

¹ <https://JoAnLab.Net/Statutes>

Therefore, being preeminently a Marian Catholic Mission, this whole Apostolate and its future developments, is now first and foremost not only dedicated but also consecrated to little Miryam, our “Immaculate Princess” (see prayer at the end of the book). In Her, we hope it will gradually become, under the divine power of the Holy Spirit and through the Holy Spirit, supported by the Church Triumphant, a priceless pastoral resource at the service of the Church Militant on Earth.

During that future Mass of consecration, we also desire to offer-up this pastoral initiative to the Holy Spirit, divine creator of little Miryam; and also as an expression of profound thanksgiving to the holy army of angels, the saints in Heaven and the souls in Purgatory “State”², now at the service of the “Immaculate Queen Mother,” for their never sufficiently appreciate partnership, extraordinary help, and supernatural intercession, without with life on Earth would be unbearable, eternal Salvation impossible, and humanity would have disappeared already, long time ago.

² A mysterious reality –not a place- that will end at the Final Judgment.

FOREWORD

If you have had the opportunity to read the introductory information related to our Global Index collection of 224 strategic Focus-groups³, which includes its 90 sub-focuses (under 3 Macro-Categories and 16 Categories); then you can better understand why this particular sub-focus (SPF03.1 "Rosary Devotions") is a very critical priority, within the SPF (Strategic Pastoral Fronts) category. The Rosebud-Rosary Apostolate is its first tangible fruit, hopefully for the benefit of many.

Being preeminently a Marian Catholic Mission and future religious community beyond anything else, praying the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet as frequently as possible is and will always be an essential dimension and deep source of healing and Peace in our lives, which we need to share. Therefore, in spite of our great need for funds as an incipient Society, after writing this book, I have the honor to announce that we are publishing it for free (or at cost for colorful editions – Jan/2020), including the not-for-profit sale of any model of our specially designed Rosary. We only ask for prayers and volunteers. Thank You. Shalom!

Fraternally yours,
Missionary Luis Paul Baron,
Founder, JoAnnine Catholic Community.

³ <https://JoAnLab.Net/Index>

INTRODUCTION



Some Bishops and many wise, down-to-earth Priests often suggest to those who claim that they are unable to pray the whole Rosary daily, to pray at least (that's the key) one decade of the Rosary every day. Under the same spirit of this pragmatic pastoral "compromise", but self-challenged by this sub-focus' (SPF03.01) keywords, such as daily accessibility, easier massive propagation, and catechetical richness, we started our work praying for supernatural help, seeking better options, since such "compromise" is nowadays inevitable, but somehow sad because it essentially truncates and may even empty the Rosary devotion, as such.

Evidently, we understand that this "one-decade suggestion" is conditional to an implicit devotional

“deal”, i.e. “at least” one decade if, and only if, full Rosary is not possible or wanted, **momentarily** (see our 1,2,3 challenge “deal” - **title #6.4**). In addition, one single “Hail Mary” prayed in a State of Grace with great devotion, confidence, and the intention to please the Immaculate Heart of Mary, can be a hundredfold worthier than a complete 20-decades (four set-segments of Mysteries) Rosary, if prayed with less devotional quality than a single “Hail Mary” offered with deeper love and veneration.



6. THE MARIAN ROSEBUD- ROSARY CONTEXT



As a consequence from that working-group SPF03.1, ardently seeking for a "non-crippling" and truly optional (since under the same "tool") Rosary "compromise" so-to-speak, we finally hope that this proposed Rosebud-Rosary, although yet restricted for internal use only (until an official "Imprimatur"), can become also a richer and practical catechetical-devotional "remedy" or improvement:

- ✓ For children who may find it less "boring" than a standard Rosary, because Mysteries-intervals highlighting's are richer, color tagged, and the time-frame between them is shorter. Therefore, it is now possible to introduce some innovative ludic-pedagogical adaptations for them.
- ✓ For seekers of a deeper and meaningful meditational Rosary, now able to slow down the "repetitional" portion in a manner to better savor each "Hail Mary", especially the Holy Name of Jesus in each mentioning, making "room-time" for personal additions like "I love you, Lord!", "Thank You, Jesus!", etc.
- ✓ For busy people, who would like to pray a Rosary daily, but for whom reality and anxiety make it impossible.



Our specially designed JoAnnine's Rosebuds-Rosary, nicknamed the "Give-Me-Five" (GMe5) Rosary, with this manual Prayer book, which also guides how to use its double beads to be counted in pairs, can become easier

for children, realistic for busy people, more meaningful for beginners, catechumens, elderly, and even provides a deep experience for ascetics.



Since a white rosebud is a beautiful symbol for Our Lady as a child, and Little Miryam as the Blessed Family's "***Immaculate Princess***" our particular devotion⁴, we would like to combine both and present the

following Rosary devotion argument and proposal:

Because a Rosary is a bouquet of spiritual roses originally and normally offered up to Our Lady by a group of devotees, we have decided to also offer a "bouquet of rosebuds" or a combination of both to Her as a child/teen, in a more flexible means for solo or communal Rosary prayers, hopefully more attractable and adaptable for teens and children.

Let us assume that each regular Rosary bead is a symbol of a rose fully opened, represented by the combination of two small prayers: The "Ave" (or Hail...)

⁴ The Immaculate Princess' prayer, at the end of the book.

angelic salutation, plus the "Holy Mary" petition, normally repeated by others. Now, if we consider each one of those two distinct prayer-segments as a single rosebud, then we can reasonably slow down by counting and keep praying the whole decade of each Mystery in less hurry, **if we pray one bead for the Hail Mary salutation and the next bead for the Holy Mary petitioner-suppliant short response.**

Therefore, we are counting one bead for each (10) rosebuds per Mystery. Many would agree that a bouquet of fresh, high-quality rosebuds is even more beautiful and fragrant than full-blown roses if we use that saved time to smell each prayer and better contemplate each Mystery. We need to establish a better understanding of the practical implications and the seriousness of Pope St. John Paul II's warnings when he said:

"The Rosary, precisely because it starts with Mary's own experience, is an exquisitely contemplative prayer. Without this contemplative dimension, it would lose its meaning... Without contemplation, the Rosary is a body without a soul, and its recitation runs the risk of becoming a mechanical repetition of formulas, in violation of the admonition of Christ: 'In praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think they will be heard for their many words.'"

In other words, we are convinced that praying "High Fives", as long as truly optional, would be preferable than praying "Low Tens", so-to-speak. Especially

because our "High-Fives" proposal, optional by design, then will mandatorily combine a devotional dimension with a catechetical one, **trading the saved time** with more spiritual "flavors and colors". Therefore, it may become potentially more pleasing to Our Lady and more fruitful to us than "Low-Tens" **if** merely prayed mechanically. St. Teresa of Avila, the great teacher and doctor of prayer life, in similar words, insists on being more concerned with the quality than the quantity. For instance, the EWTN's *Animated Rosary for Kids* series, wisely features just one Hail Mary per Mystery, instead of ten Hail Mary's, for obvious reasons, similarly.

However, if daily prayer does not transform your life for the better, rooting out serious sins, leading to real Peace and gradual healing, then pray more and/or change the way you pray. If not enough, please get a spiritual director, post on your calendar rigorous deadlines for life-changing decisions, including someone you trust to hold you accountable, until you enter/stay in the State of Grace **at any price and as soon as possible**.

The secret, as St. Teresa of Avila warned us, is that *"without love for others, interior liberty and humility, real Prayer is impossible."* An authentic mystical experience of God supports a practical ascetic life on a daily basis (and vice-versa) similar to the "Little Way" of St. Therese of Lisieux, which is accessible to all according to the limits and the state conditions of each one. They are two sides of the same coin for any sincere disciple seeking holiness with joy and hope in

the ordinary of every day. Moreover, if we have those three pre-required “quoted” conditions and intimate friendship with our Lord, then it doesn't matter much how, when, where we pray. As a “bonus”, we will be naturally eager to pray more and work less, but work indeed, under deep Peace.

Work indeed because then we will work with God in a more creative and prayerful way. We cannot create anything without God, but we can co-create everything "new" with Him and in Him even on a daily basis, if we are ready to face the end of our lives at any moment, regardless of age. God without man remains God, but a man without the friendship of God is like "nothing," seriously risking eternal self-damnation if refusing, over and over again -during a lifetime- every possible means of Salvation that God granted humanity, in a radical, ungrateful, and irreversible way. And even if you want to restrict it to this life only, Dostoevsky nailed the proper answer: ***“To live without God is nothing but torture!”***

Thomas Merton, OCSO, a Trappist monk and a master of spiritual life summarized it in perfect terms using the keyword ongoing-conversion⁵: *“Prayer is then not just a formula of words, or a series of desires springing up in the heart; it is the orientation of our whole body, mind, and spirit to God in silence, attention, and*

⁵ He warned: It is easier the conversion of sinners than of “us,” self-justified “good” Christians, “not” in need of conversion. What a curse!

adoration. All good Prayer is a conversion of our entire self to God."

Real Prayer as such (capital "P"), is like breathing from a pricelessly clean divine air. Without healthy breathing, the soul gradually enters in a state of coma without realizing it, or suddenly just dies. (We expanded and shared our perceptions about real Prayer at [Title 9.5](#): "The Mysterious Power of Prayer.")

Therefore, seeking holiness, deeply grateful for the infinite gift of the Christian Faith, pleading Mercy for us sinners and for the whole humanity until the "Final Perseverance," conscious that "for me" it could come today, through an unexpected death, is what truly matters. After all, how can anyone keep pleading Our Lady's intercession with such powerful "Holy Mary's" final supplication ("*Pray for us, sinners, now and at **the hour of our death***") over and over again -many doing so for a lifetime!- without minimally understanding its real meaning and critical importance?

Let's learn from St. Teresa of Avila who died proudly saying: "*Finally, I'm dying as a [loyal] daughter of the Church.*" She got it! Absolutely. And packed for us its real meaning, synthesizing her whole life into this single, intriguing, and glorious statement, like timeless dynamite against superficiality, relativism, and intellectual dishonesty so prevalent today.

6.1 The Apostolate's Patroness



St. Therese, the Little Flower, is the patroness saint for this Rosary Apostolate. A rosebud is a little rose, and who better than the “Little Flower” as a spotless young saint, to represent and intercede in favor of a Prayer Apostolate

entirely dedicated to the Child Mary, our Immaculate Little Princess.

Furthermore, our Mission Statement⁶, *“The ‘ambition’ to do Good and keep doing Good for others should have no limits!”* matches perfectly with St. Therese’s holy ambition. As a child, little Therese once had the option to have some of her siblings’ many toys, but she replied, *“I choose all!”* She wanted all, not little! No wonder why she also sought “all” during her religious life: to have all vocations, to serve all, to be all, to be all for all, in the heart of the Church: *“Lord, I*

⁶ From our Parent institution.

choose all! I want to expend my Heaven doing Good for others on Earth, until the end of time.”

After years of prayers and some design challenges that didn't work in practical terms, our special JoAnnine Rosary model (GMe5) was finally carefully designed⁷ as a hybrid and simple blessed instrument - an “egg of Columbus!”- remaining 100% whole for also praying the standard Rosary and the standard Divine Mercy chaplet, in addition to “our” catechetical rosebud-rosary, the rosebud-chaplet of Divine Mercy, and the rosebud Stations of the Cross.



⁷ More details under the Title #9- “DESIGN CHALLENGES FOR A HYBRID ROSARY BEAD-TOOL”

6.2 Devotional “Brand” and Nickname Inspiration



Even its nickname "**Give-Me-Five**" (GMe5), meaning: At least let's Give "Her" High-Fives Rosebud-Rosaries and reparations, is inspired by another extraordinary manifestation of God's Mercy towards humanity, now contemporaneous, likely sparing mankind from a nuclear war. It happened and was fully accomplished after He decided to grant, in His absolute Sovereignty, Our Lady's maternal request for a preventive Earth visitation with many prophetic warnings and prayers requests, especially for our conversion and the conversion of "Russia"⁸ before too

⁸ A broad keyword Our Lady used to represent anti-God, anti-life, anti-faith, anti-family, and anti-freedom evil ideologies regardless its name

late. Unfortunately, Her Fatima apparitions were not sufficiently appreciated by so many ungrateful Catholics -among those aware of it⁹- carrying already many historically irreversible tragic consequences. Without true and comprehensive Freedom, which starts with religious freedom and unconditional respect for human dignity, life quickly becomes a hell on earth. "Give-Me-Five" was nicknamed so, mainly, because Our Lady at Fatima pleaded with us to give Her heartfelt Rosary devotions, in a "State of Grace", at least five first Saturdays of five consecutive months¹⁰.

She asked us to do it filled with gratitude, as frequently as possible, alongside voluntary sacrifices or even small personal penances and abstinence in reparation for so many offenses committed against God, His Church and Her Immaculate Heart. She promised to transform that into supernatural tokens for the salvation of many and implied that it would be indispensable for major victories against Marxist ideologies and spinoffs, which already obliterated many nations.¹¹ Furthermore, also using increasingly larger amounts of money to buy "consciences" everywhere, they continue to contaminate the whole world with deeply poisoned atheistic derivatives agendas -alongside religious

and location variations. "Russia" **also** means "China," now under carefully disguised evils therefore worse, like a wolf in sheep's clothing

⁹ New generations of Catholics have little or no clue about it. For example, the Communist Party is already a powerful global network controlled by China on steroids, unstoppable without God's power.

¹⁰ More details under the title #6.6 "The First Saturdays Devotion"

¹¹ More recently, Venezuela.

persecution- such as the “gender ideology,” initially less bloody but potentially more evil over time, since subtly capable of gradually destroying not only the lives but **also** the “Souls” of millions, if not hundreds of millions, as She prophesied.

Nowadays, more than ever, "*Whether the world has [more] war or [more] peace depends on the practice of this devotion, along with the world consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary...*" wrote Sr. Lucia in 1939. We should add especially the consecration of families, now under relentless attack, precisely because marriage and family are pre-defined divine institutions and the civilization's most fundamental component.

Additionally, our proposed “Give-Me-Five” Rosary should be prayed according to the following five suggestions. Introductory and closing prayers should also be included according to the standard Rosary and local preferences:

1. Five Mysteries with meditations
(one distinct group of 5 Mysteries, specific for each day of the week¹²)
2. Five Offerings and/or Petitions, one per Mystery
3. Five Hail Mary's per Mystery (we call them "rosebuds" instead of full roses=Aves + Holy...)
4. Five Holy Mary's per Mystery (we also call them "rosebuds," totaling 10 rosebuds per Mystery)

¹² More details under the title #6.4 “Weekly Group of Mysteries”

5. Five “Our Father” Mystery-intervals highlights, which consist of five prayers (Glory Be, Oh my Jesus, Our Father, our ejaculatory, plus one free devotional ejaculatory such as *"The family that prays together, stays together"*; asking for vocations, etc.)

Our indispensable ejaculatory prayer is *"Oh Mary! Conceived without sin in the blessed womb of Saint Anne, please pray [united with your mom and dad, implicitly] for the salvation of our families, conversion of sinners, and"* (here goes each of the five Mystery-intervals offerings or petitions, done on the “Our Father” beads).

As an easy to understand metaphorical example, especially for young parents determined to teach the Rosary devotion as soon as possible to their precious children, let us **imagine** the following **hypothetical opportunity**:

Before this GMe5's Rosebud-Rosary proposed alternative prayer model, every time parents heard a loud choir of children in perfect unity shouting *"Mom! We are hungry! Let's go to McDonald's;"* their only choices were to either say an unmistakably loud *"Yes, let's go..."* or a soft, carefully quiet, *"No, honey, we have plenty of food at home."* Now, as a **third and providential option**, moms and dads just need to raise their hand in silence, offering a "Give me high five's Rosary" conditional “yes-deal”, so-to-speak:

If children (already knowing its real meaning) agreed and sealed the "deal" with their hands playing "high-fives"

(no words necessary!) then, **after or before** such a "blessed" McDonald's dinner, the whole family will have the opportunity to enjoy prayer and playtime together, as a family. Just make abundantly clear to them, over and over again, that "*only the family that prays together, will be able to stay together*"¹³. No (give-me-five) "deal"? No McDonald's. That simple! No words are necessary! Evidently, "McDonald's" here is **just a symbol** for the analogy; it could be a video game, a nice movie, an ice-cream "party", anything!



¹³ Servant of God Fr. Patrick Peyton, pray for us!

6.3 Our Master-Symbol Rosebud-Rosary Model



Among several JoAnnine Rosebud-Rosary models, our main one is an authentic master-symbol for this Marian Apostolate dedicated to child Mary, our Immaculate Princess, is the Rosebud-beads Rosary model,¹⁴ made up with stunning 8mm and 14mm round Rosebud's gold-tone (antiqued) metallic beads. Yep! Each bead is a mini realistic rosebud. Take a closer look at the illustrations above and below. Your children will love to send little kisses to Our Lady, each on their

¹⁴To zoom-in (for eBook, PDF or website readers), click at the whole image for this model, located under the title #6. "The Marian Rosebud-Rosary"

turn, just kissing one rosebud bead and then offering up one Hail Mary.



6.4 The “At Least” 1,2,3 “Deal”

We challenge you:

- 1) If you pray the Rosary at least once a month, please keep doing it and consider yourself invited to also try our "Give-Me-5" once a week. After all, can't you "hear" our loving and powerful Mother, who is always thirsting for our companionship, almost begging us for more "roses of reparations", and saying: *"At least 'give-me-five' (5 kisses, 5 thanksgivings, ...) once a week, because I wish to be even closer to you, which is the only way to better protect and guide you on how to overcome your weekly trials and tribulations without losing your Peace?"*
- 2) If you pray the Rosary at least once a week, please keep doing it and consider yourself invited to also try the Rosarybud daily, which will also suggest three additional sets of optional Mysteries, one distinct group of five Mysteries for each day of the week. One of our purposes is to combine this sweet devotion with a more comprehensive, “big-picture” kind of rosary-based catechesis, from Father Abraham up to the resurrection of human bodies, at the Final Judgment.

- 3) Finally, if you pray the Rosary daily, thank you! **Please** keep doing so. We would love to avail this alternative rosary prayer mode for you if you are going to pray the rosary eventually because of a daily "obligation", but are feeling anxious for any reason, sleepy, tired or just have little time and would love to use more of that traded time to better meditate on the five Mysteries. Or, perhaps, you would like to learn about our three additional suggested sets of Mysteries, as prayed by the members of our nascent Blessed Family community and friends.

We are living in a world day by day more determined to promote sin and even eager to celebrate grave sins as if they are harmless, when in fact sins are the only root source of real evils. In such a global culture evermore hostile against the Christian Faith and the sacredness of human life, let's not forget the evident heartfelt plea of our sweet and merciful Mother, for the sake of mankind, begging us, saying: "*At least 'give-me-five'* (kisses, roses, problems, reparations, hugs, loved ones, consolations, illnesses, hopes, thanksgiving, you name it) *whenever you can and as 'high fives'* (so-to-speak) *as you can,*" for our own benefit. She will never allow herself to be outdone in love and generosity. "*O Mary conceived without sin in the sacred womb of St. Anne, pray for us who have recourse to Thee.*"

6.5 Weekly Group of Mysteries



Our Navi Rosebud-Rosary model: It is a free and virtually "indestructible" ranger Rosary, perfect for military personnel, teenagers, etc.

SEVEN WEEKLY GROUPS OF MYSTERIES AS A COMPREHENSIVE HISTORICAL & CATECHETICAL PATH, IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER, FOR THE WHOLE WEEK. IT CONSISTS OF FIVE DISTINCT MYSTERIES FOR EACH DAY, FOUR OF WHICH ARE THE OFFICIAL MYSTERIES; ONE ROSEBUD COLOR SYMBOL FOR EACH SET OF FIVE MYSTERIES.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE!

Our three **optional** complementary additions:

Foundational, Redemptive, and Ecclesial Mysteries will be improved and corrected -along with this book- until worthy to receive the "nihil obstat" version as soon as possible from the proper ecclesiastical authority. The four official Mysteries -Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious- only contain their enunciated title plus a shorter description, since they are already well known.

However, the three additional suggested Mysteries contain their own enunciated title, the indispensable complement, plus an eventual short or long comment. (Suggestions and corrections are always welcome and deeply appreciated; just click and go to the CONTACT tab at our social network site¹⁵ or write to Rosary@BlessedFamily.us and let us know).



**First set:
TUESDAYS
The Foundational
Mysteries
Optional,
Non-official
(Blue):**

¹⁵ <https://JoAnLab.Net/Contact>

1st- Foundational Mystery:

The Patriarch Abraham's Spiritual Fatherhood

(Our Grandfather Abraham's Faith-based obedience and decision to believe and obey God -redundancy intended- to the point of sacrificing his own beloved son Isaac, granted Humanity, **in himself**, an unimaginable Divine¹⁶ Covenant, since God wouldn't and will never allow Himself to be outdone in love and generosity, ever. Where is the world Memorial in explicit thanksgiving for such a historic person?

It is a shameful disgrace not to honor, not even minimally, the forever first real grandfather and holy patriarch -the figure of God the Father- that humanity will ever have, the one that personally opened, for the first time since the original sin, the history Gates for the true Faith.

Like a mighty river's first "Spring", the inexhaustible divine gift of true Faith, from then on started to gradually flow and grow. "Flowed and grew" not only as of the original source-foundation for the current level of Civilization, for a future Civilization of Life and Love that we should all hope for, but above all for the eternal salvation available to all and any converted sinner. Surely that the fullness of means for Salvation only came later, but came in consequence, through the son of Mary, a forever virgin daughter of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joachim, the new Eve and holy mother of the Messiah, incarnated in Her sacred womb for the salvation of the world in Him, directly

¹⁶ Therefore irreversible, unconditional, perpetual, ...

or indirectly. “We Christians are all spiritual Semites,” said Pope St. Paul VI).

2nd- The priceless gift of God’s Ten Commandments (Through Moses [pre-figure of Jesus], making possible interior freedom and Moses’ comprehensive Mission to start the history of Civilization -shall not steal, not kill, ...- leading the people of God out of the root of slavery, which is sin, inevitable for any violators of God’s Laws at any time).

3rd- The two foundational blessed marriages (of St. Joseph's and St. Mary's parents: Sts. Anne & Joachim and Sts. Jacob & his wife “Ruth”¹⁷).

4th- The Immaculate Conception (of Mary in the sacred womb of St. Anne. The masterwork of creation, the new Eve, the only immaculate Woman, for the irreversible restoration of humanity in Her divine Son).

5th- The Holy Matrimony of St. Joseph and St. Mary (Joseph, Son of David, and his most holy wife St. Mary, united in a chaste marriage, forming their sacred family, bringing up the man Jesus, the savior of humanity).

¹⁷ We named her for devotional purposes.



Second set:

WEDNESDAYS

**The Joyful Mysteries
(Pink):**

1st- The Annunciation of the Archangel Gabriel
(Mary is chosen to become the Mother of God. The Archangel visited the Virgin Mary asking for Her consent to become the mother of the Messiah).

2nd- The Visitation of St. Mary to St. Elizabeth
(Our Lady traveled to stay with Her pregnant cousin until the birth of her child, St. John the Baptist).

3rd- The Nativity of Jesus in Bethlehem
(The incarnated Messiah is born: The most glorious, merciful and the only event that divided history, forever, into “After” and “Before” His birthdate).

4th- The Presentation of Jesus at the Temple
(The infant Jesus is consecrated to God, at the Temple. The Holy Spirit revealed to the prophet Simeon that he should not see death before he had seen Christ the Lord. When

he saw the child Jesus he praises God by saying: *“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.”* Even to this day, that event is so important that millions, every year, renew their religious vows during the liturgical feast of the Presentation, aka “World Feast Day for the Consecrated Life”).

5th- The Finding of Child Jesus in the Temple, lost for three days (*“Son, why did you do this to us? Your father and I, in agony, searched for you everywhere”*).



Third set:

THURSDAYS

**The Luminous
Mysteries (Orange):**

1st- The Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan (The Father, from Heaven says, *“This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”* Mt. 3:17).

2nd- The Wedding Feast at Cana in Galilee (The wine runs out. Mary intercedes. *“Do whatever He tells you...”* And Jesus transformed water into wine).

3rd- The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
(In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches the Beatitudes. *“If we do not receive the kingdom of God like a little child, neither shall we enter it”*).

4th- The Transfiguration of Jesus at Mount Tabor
(*“He is transfigured before them; His face shines like the sun, and His garments shine like a light”* Mt. 17:2).

5th- The Institution of the Eucharist
(Our Lord washes the feet of His disciples and shared the transubstantiated bread and wine as a perpetual Covenant and renewable Communion in His own blood and body).



**Fourth set:
FRIDAYS
The Sorrowful
Mysteries
(Red):**

1st- The Agony of Jesus at Gethsemane
(when Jesus freely made His final decision to give up His life for us).

2nd- Jesus is Scourged at the Pillar
(until His whole body is covered with deep wounds.
“By His stripes, we were healed” Is. 53:5).

3rd- Jesus is “Crowned” with Thorns
(They spit on Him and kneel before Him in derision: *“Hail, King of the Jews.” “My kingdom is not of this world”*).

4th- Jesus Carries His Cross
(*“He who does not carry his cross and follow Me, cannot be My disciple”*).

5th- The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus on the Cross
(*“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” “Everything is consummated.” “Father, Into Your hands I commend My spirit”*).



Fifth set:
SATURDAYS
The Redemptive
Mysteries overview
Optional, Non-
official
(Burgundy):

1st- The **Absolute** Sovereignty of God the Father (and His awesome Salvation Plan, which was fully accomplished in partnership with mankind: **Total Ineffability!**).

2nd- The **Ineffable** Mystery of the Incarnation (of God the Son as a Messiah, in and through the body and life of a Woman, His mother Mary, the immaculate new Eve, raised by an adopted father, St. Joseph, a tower of integrity, son of David, "The" Just Man, par excellence).

3rd- The **Seminal** power of Christ's Spoken words, Miracles, and Rituals (as the primary "referential"¹⁸ level of foundation -not the atonement level- for the subsequent establishment of His Church by the Holy Spirit).

4th- The Seven "Words" of Christ on the Cross (especially His abyssal spiritual suffering¹⁹ to the point of screaming "Why? Why, Father, have you forsaken me?" and the subsequent consummation of His unimaginably comprehensive Passion, beyond time, space, intensity).

5th- The **Overwhelming** Overall Success of Jesus' Mission (in light of His prompt resurrection and its consequent "Economy of Salvation", which is not restricted only to spiritual dimensions and the eternal Salvation after the resurrection and Final Judgment).

¹⁸ Just to distinct that level, from His primary "redemptory" level of foundation, accomplished by His passion, resurrection and ascension.

¹⁹ Card Newman's disc.16 explain why Jesus' mental/spiritual sufferings (passion) cannot be compared w/ his physical sufferings.



Sixth set:

SUNDAYS

The Glorious Mysteries

(White):

1st- The Glorious Resurrection of Jesus

(One person, two natures: He died because fully human; resurrected because fully Divine).

2nd- The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven

(40 days after his resurrection).

3rd- The Coming of the Holy Spirit

(The Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles with Mary, and the beginning of the Catholic Church).

4th- The Assumption of Mary

(Also called the “dormition” of Mary, elevated in a resurrected state -body and soul- into Heaven).

5th- The Coronation of Mary

(Holy Spirit’s masterpiece, the Queen of Angels, Saints and the whole Universe).



Seventh set:

MONDAYS

**The Ecclesial-
Eschatological
Mysteries**

**Optional, Non-official
(Yellow):**

1st- The Church's **Infallible** Living "Magisterium" (The Order of Bishops, under and through the primacy of Peter and the priceless legacy of the Papacy).

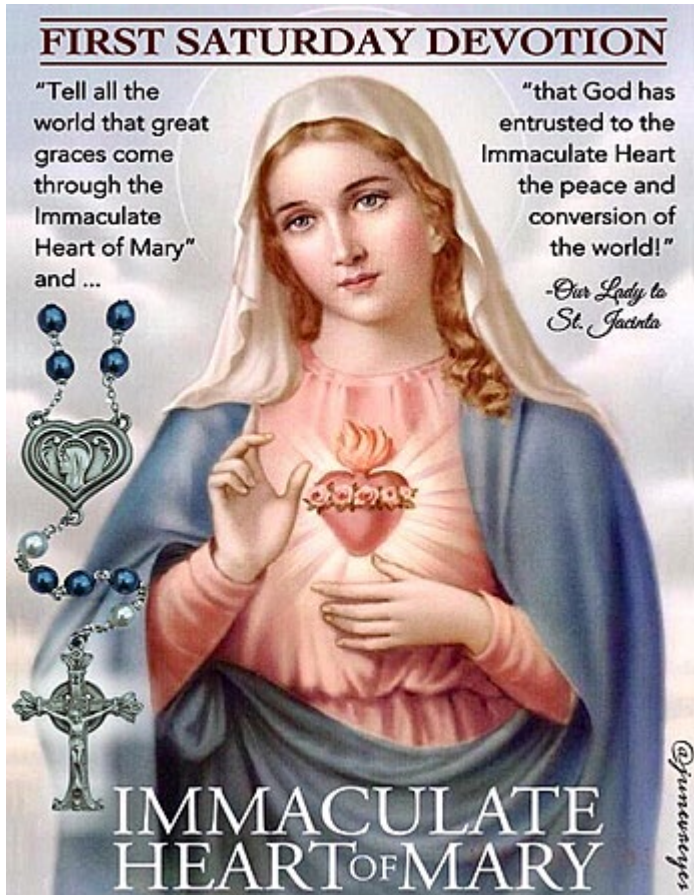
2nd- The Sacred Scripture Perpetual 73 canon Decreed-Definition (the most important book-library - The Bible- ever granted-promulgated to Humanity until now and forever, thanks to The Apostolic Sacred Tradition)

3rd- The Establishment of Religious Orders and All Other Catholic Institutions and Sanctuaries (Universities, Cathedrals, Hospitals, Schools, Humanitarian Services, Marian Shrines, Parishes, Missions, etc.).

4th- The Unfathomable Merciful Gift of Purgatory (as another direct Consequence of Jesus' Atonement and the imminent unexpected moment of "my own" death).

5th- The "End of Times and the Resurrection of Human Bodies (The "Second" -and final- coming of Jesus in His glory, for The Final Judgment, etc.).

6.6 The “First Five Saturdays” Devotion



During Her July apparition at Fatima, Our Lady said to Lucia, *“I shall come to ask... that on the First Saturday of every month, Communions of reparation be made in atonement for the sins of the world.”*

On December 10, 1925, our Blessed Mother again appeared to Lucia at Pontevedra, Spain, where she had been sent to the Dorothean Sisters to receive proper formation. There, Our Lady completed Her request for the "Five First Saturdays," granting to all who accept it, Her extraordinary promise of personal assistance at the hour of death, with all the Graces necessary for eternal Salvation.

Appearing with the Queen of Heaven in that apparition was the Infant Jesus, who said to Lucia:

“Have pity on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother. It is covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to remove them with an act of reparation.”

Our Lady then spoke:

“See, my daughter, my Heart encircled by thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Do you, at least, strive to console me? Tell them that I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all those who, in order to make reparation to me, on the First Saturday of five successive months, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour, meditating on the fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary.”

The elements of this devotion consist of the following five points:

1. **The Offering:** This is the desire to console and accompany Her in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart. One should make this intention before carrying out Our Lady's requests. A renewal of the actual intention at the time is best; however, if such an intention is made now, it will fulfill the requirements if, for instance, the actual intention is forgotten at the time of prayer.
2. **Confession:** This confession can be made before the First Saturday or afterward, provided that Holy Communion is received in the state of grace. In 1926, Christ in a vision explained to Lucia that this confession could be made a week before or even more and that it should be offered in reparation.
3. **Holy Communion:** Before receiving Holy Communion, it is likewise necessary to offer it in reparation to Our Lady. Our Lord told Lucia in 1930, *"This Communion will be accepted on the following Sunday for just reasons if my priests allow it so."* If work or school, sickness, or another just reason prevents the Communion on a First Saturday, with this permission it may be received the following Sunday. If Communion is transferred, any or all the other acts of the devotion may also be performed on Sunday, if the person so desires.

4. **The Rosary:** A rosary is a collection of vocal prayers²⁰ said in a context supporting the meditation upon the Mysteries of Our Lord's life and Passion and Our Lady's life. To comply with the request of our Blessed Mother, it must be offered in reparation and prayed devoutly, in addition to meditation.

5. **15-minute meditation:** Also offered in reparation, the meditation may embrace one or more Mysteries; it may include all, taken together or separately. This meditation should be the richest of any meditation because Our Lady promised to be present when she said, "*...those who keep me company...*"

To those who faithfully follow Our Lady's requests for the "Five First Saturdays", she has made a wonderful promise that she, as Mediatrix of All Graces, will certainly fulfill: "*I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation.*" This means that our Blessed Mother will be present at the hour of death with the actual grace of final perseverance, which (with the gift/grace of Faith) is the most important one.

After completing the Five First Saturdays, one may continue the devotion simply to console the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady. A tender love of Our Blessed Mother will lead one to do all he can to make reparation for the sins, which also pierce Her

²⁰ Step by step guide provided under title # 9.1 How to Pray with it.

Immaculate Heart. Let us remember, too, that although Our Lady made this promise to those who would observe five such First Saturdays in succession, in Her July apparition she asked simply that Communions of reparation be made on every First Saturday (and, we should assume, at any Saturday) to atone for the sins of the world.



Her “secret” weapon! Wise warriors don’t even enter the battlefield without it.

6.7 “Just Give Me Five ... Saturdays!”



- ✓ **D**o you want to see Jesus gradually transforming “water” into “Wine” of hope, love and joy also for your marriage and family? Impossible? Who interceded for a greater “impossible,” at the wedding feast of Cana? Don’t you agree that giving Her “high-five” Saturdays would be a powerful way to reshape and enhance your Marriage as a living sacrament under Her maternal guide and companionship?

- ✓ Would you like to “see” Saint Joseph “transforming” into “chocolate bites” to his beloved wife - our Blessed Virgin mother - your Five Saturday’s devotions?
- ✓ Are you unwilling to do it without your spouse, since it would be sad to do it alone?
- ✓ Would like to be able to “rename”, in a truthful way, your old desire -yet unfulfilled- to give Her “high-five” Saturdays devotions and penances as She asked for, into a kind of “give ‘me’ (yes, you!) five delicious chocolates” even more pleasing to Her?
- ✓ Would like if such a dream could be done and offer-up to Our Lady in unity and side-by-side with your beloved one, after “catching” your spouse into a special St. Peter’s “fishing net”, using “honeymoon-style” special “baits”?

It can be done with the “complicity” of St. Joseph, St Raphael the Archangel²¹, your guardian Angel, the Souls in Purgatory, your favorite saint just for the asking and, guess what? Our Blessed Mother herself, **if** you invite Her to have some fun, reminding Her the good times she had when she was a teenager!

²¹ Sent by God to save in a miraculous way, the lives and the marriage of Sarah and Tobias.

“Give me Five” ... Chocolate Bites!



Here’s the suggested “game” plan for married couples, “Honeymoon Style”, which is the best kept “secret” for families trying-out our “Conjugality” Spirituality (Conjugality.info)

Tobias Saying Good-Bye to his Father, guided by Arc. Raphael - Painting by [W. Bouguereau](http://W.Bouguereau.com)(1860)

- 1. Plan your calendar in advance**
- 2. Define and anticipate your desired penances**
- 3. Prepare your favorite special place/space**
- 4. Get the essential and accessories, accordingly**
- 5. Prepare your Mass attendance in advance**
- 6. Get ready to enjoy some chocolate bites**
- 7. Savor your spiritual wine & chocolate Rosary**
- 8. Invite your spouse out for a lovely dinner**
- 9. Secure your Indulgence and devotion validity**
- 10. Praise God for so many hidden and open Graces**

- 1. Plan your calendar:** Carefully select the next five first Saturday's extended²² weekends and start marking them into your calendar. This should be done including the times for Friday's penances, Confession, Mass attendance, etc. It is necessary to take into account that children should not be enlisted until mom and dad get the sign from Our Lady to properly incorporate them later, no longer under this "honeymoon" mode-plan, but under a separate "family-bond" mode-plan²³.
- 2. Define and anticipate your desired penances:** Prepare a list of small sacrifices for you and your spouse. It would be beneficial to combine fasting or at least abstinence with some other type of penitence to be anticipated for each Friday **before** the first Saturdays. Under this plan, **no voluntary** sacrifices should be done during the first Saturdays (or Sundays, implicitly, any Sunday), which does not mean the Saturday's Rosary is being offered without priceless reparatory mortifications, since 100% done in anticipation.

Furthermore, evil spirits will try to disrupt any Lifelong saving Project's startup such as this, eager to abort it ASAP -targeting the more vulnerable spouse- precisely because they know what it **truly** means for those who persevere. Therefore, please expect it; invoke help from St. Michael the archangel

²² From Friday to Sunday

²³ Write to us at Rosary@BlessedFamily.us for a free copy.

(don't face it alone, or you will fail), and be courageously prepared for all sorts of tribulations and involuntary sacrifices, especially during pre-scheduled first Saturdays, including the determination to finish it alone, or else "they" will succeed in another "abortion", because nothing Good can be accomplished by cowards.

3. Reserve a special, private, clean, and comfortable place (Under "do not disturb" signs/terms)

Suggestions:

- a. The couple's bed at any Domestic Church is the most sacred place and the perfect altar also for praying the Rosary; just wash your linens, refresh your bed, change the pillow' covers and dump a bunch of those on it.
- b. A "private" couch for two, facing some nice view, perhaps at the back porch or upper deck would be wonderful too.
- c. Weekend camping escape or one-day Saturday trip or boat ride to any pre-inspected park, sanctuary gardens, perhaps with a barbecue, praying together on a large hammock comfortable for two; after careful planning regarding Mass times and distances from that place; backup for child care in case "St. Raphael" suggests an unexpected Saturday lovely extension into Sunday; weather surprises, etc.

4. Get the essential and the accessories according to that pre-selected place:

- a. Prepare a makeshift or portable mini altar with some framed image or statue of our Blessed Mother, a Sacred Scripture, Catechism of the Catholic Church, etc.
- b. Get some blessed water and two pre-blessed Rosaries (at least one Rosebud-Rosary blessed by a priest, if you plan to try it out, handing it to your spouse back and forth as Mysteries change if an alternated lead is desired).
- c. Buy at least one perfumed candle, flowers (specially rosebuds, if available), a little box of facial tissues, a premium or handcraft chocolate box²⁴, your favorite drink (tea, coffee, juice).

5. Prepare your Church times and attendances:

Check Mass times for Saturday evening and Sundays during each one of the “First Saturdays” weekends. If necessary, schedule a convenient time for confession with your Pastor at least hours before the beginning of the Rosary Prayer time.

6. Get ready to share and enjoy some “spiritual and real chocolate bites”. Before you both start Praying the Rosary:

²⁴ Diabetics may replace it for premium cheese samples, nuts, etc.

- a. Get very comfortable.
- b. Turn-off or put smartphones on the vibrating mode.
- c. Please agree **not** to worry about the praying time: Half-hour or two hours! Who cares? Let Our Blessed Mother determine that for both of you.
- d. If not in a stable/harmonious marital relationship, settle a pact for zero tolerance to any form of arguing or disrespectful behavior.
- e. Grab your tea or favorite non-alcoholic²⁵ drink,
- f. Light the candles and arrange the flowers in front of the framed image or mini statue of Our Blessed Mother.
- g. Grabbing the blessed water and invoking the Holy Spirit, bless each other and the whole place, and then all other components of this private mini-liturgy.
- h. Open the box of your favorite chocolate.
- i. Be sure that the place allows you to be physically close to each other, in total safety and reasonable privacy.
- j. Before starting (with the sign of the Cross, following the title 9.1 step-by-step Marian Rosary), first savor -slowly- a couple of your chocolate truffles or handcrafted chocolates; bring the chocolate up

²⁵ A little bit of good wine as the only exception. Highly recommended only for couples safely comfortable with wine in their lives, carefully pre-planned under zero risks of overdrinking.

to your nose and inhale deeply, enjoy the aromas and let it melt on your tongue. Slowly start tasting the sips of your wine or tea, as a symbol for what comes next (#7).

- k. Do you or your spouse remember any favorite old Church hymn or carol that you can softly sing right now? Go ahead...
- l. After the sign of the Cross, together, consecrate your whole family to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Plead to Our Lady to intercede, as She did at the wedding in Cana, for the gradual conversion of your marriage's "water" into "Wine" of hope, love, and joy, under a faithful union plentiful of kindness for the rest of your lives, until safely with Her in Paradise, along with your loved ones.

7. Finally, start to savor your Rosebud "wine & chocolate" Rosary, by the hand of Our Lady:

- a. For each decade of rosebuds (5 pairs), reserve at least one pair for you and another for your spouse, to be Prayed under the "**Savory**" **Mode**, as done with the wine and the chocolate, symbolically. Nonetheless, we cannot yet move on to the next planned step ("**b**"), without first learning at least a little bit how to savor - obviously- after entering that "**Savory**" praying mode. Therefore, to do so, it's necessary to make a short break to understand the following pre-required praying concepts. Please read this exemplification summary attentively, because it

is very important. For didactic purposes, we named and classified five Rosary Praying Modes, in the following hierarchy order: **Say**, **“Pay”**, **Savory**, **Praise**, and the **Emergency** mode for extraordinary circumstances (SaP/SaP-911)²⁶:

1st - When you **“Say”** the Rosary, do not worry about the speed or meaning of each word, but try to meditate on the pertinent Mystery at the same time, if you can.

2nd - When **“Paying”** (short for “Paying Attention”), slow down and only pay attention to each word and its contextual meanings as you pray it, not just saying it, avoiding distractions.

3rd- Now, to enter the **“Savory”** mode, as done symbolically with the wine & chocolate tasting, it must be done in small “bites & sips”. As one captures the “fragrances & nuances”, some personal “compliments” may be added, to console Our Lady. Under this mode, contexts are expanded by the imagination, and we should apply variable holy emphasis at any particular segment of a prayer.

4th - The **“Praising”** mode is self-evident. It starts when the “savory” mode becomes potential worship; thanksgiving abounds, and the prostrated soul praises the Lord in profound intimacy.

5th – Finally, the **“Emergency”** mode happens under very distinct but always extraordinary circumstances. For instance, hypothetically, a mother and wife

²⁶ “SaP/SaP-911” as a mnemonic abbreviation. Forward slash to indicate two levels: Lyric/Mystical-Help. 1st level = Like water “transformed” in Wine; 2nd= Wine “transformed” into Jesus’ Blood.

devastated after learning that her beloved husband is involved in an affair, will likely fall on her knees to “Cry the Rosary”, not only to pray “Hail Mary’s” but above all non-stop “Why Mary’s?” and “Jesus have Mercy” as if from a spiritual “machine gun” until exhausted. Grabbing tightly the whole Rosary for knowing to be holding the very hand of Mary, almost physically speaking, this powerful ongoing exorcism’s Rosary²⁷ will keep going on for hours or years, regardless, until the parable of the “Unjust Judge” becomes a reality also for this persistent wife.

We hope this short **five prayer modes** exemplification-summary is sufficient for a brief overview. Nevertheless, the “**savory**” mode still needs some practical examples: Try to find some prayer segments proper for additional emphasis or compliments just by replacing [key-words] with equivalents, adjectives, etc. I.e. *“Blessed is the fruit of thy [womb], Jesus.”* Then, whenever entering in a savory mode, you may intimately address our Blessed Mother and, “looking in her eyes tell” Her (in this example) that Jesus is **not** the fruit only of her [womb]: *“Dearest Mother, Jesus is also the fruit of thy [most tender Love], fruit of thy [Fiat], [purity], [faithfulness], thy [fidelity and affection for your chase spouse St. Joseph], thy [daily care], etc.* Therefore, when reapplied back to the prayer, it may look like *“... Blessed is the fruit of [thy holiness], [thy sacred breast]”, etc.*

It was Jesus who taught us to do so, by also saying

²⁷ Only saints and demons really know the true power of Rosaries as spiritual weapons, including its Rosary-beads’ sacramentals.

“Abba” at the “Our Father”, and not just “Father”. Therefore, as another example, when praying the Lords’ Prayer in “**savory**” mode, find your favorite replaceable [keywords], such as “[*Our Father*] *who art in Heaven, [hallowed] be thy name...*”; then slow-down, kiss an “Our Father” bead and pray “[*Dad, who art in Heaven, or [Abba]..., [Dear Dad] who art in Heaven..., [respected] be thy name [adored] be thy name,...*” etc. As a factual illustration, St. Paul of the Cross, once praying the rosary for too long was asked: “*How many rosaries are you praying?*” “*I’m still at the ‘Our Father’*”, he replied. That’s “**savory mode**” on steroids! Also, when meditating any Mystery of the Rosary, try to use your imagination to see its context.

- b.** Now you are invited to proceed until the end of the Rosary²⁸, by freely choosing one or more **ordinary** modes. We are convinced that the best way to Pray it, in particular the Rosebud-Rosary, is to allow a combination of all four ordinary modes under **sincere docility** to the Holy Spirit; with the intention to console our Blessed Mother, begging God for mercy, also praising and worshiping the Holy Trinity from the bottom of deeply prostrated hearts.

8. Invite your spouse out for a lovely dinner:

Preferable after Saturday evening Mass, take your spouse out for a romantic night date.

²⁸ Step-by-step available under title 9.1 – Marian Rosary, if necessary.

9. Secure your plenary indulgence and the validity of each First Five Saturdays devotion until ended

Double-check the five requirements listed in the first page of title 6.6, plus the following five indulgence's checklist below, to be performed within days of each other:

- a. Sacramental confession (common to both).
- b. Eucharistic Communion (common to both).
- c. Detachment even to venial sins.
- d. Praying as a couple = ("group" family required).
- e. Prayer for the intentions of our Holy Father.

10. Praise God for the many hidden and open Graces received!



6.8 The Five Benefits for Rosary in Groups by St. Louis M. Montfort



Besides the pontiffs, saints have encouraged the formation of Group-Rosary prayer groups. St. Louis Marie de Montfort is a prominent one among them:

"When people say the Rosary together it is far more formidable to the devil than one said privately because in this public prayer it is an army that is attacking. It is very easy to break a single stick, but if you join it to others to make a bundle, it cannot be broken. In union, there is strength."

In his book *The Secret of the Rosary*, St. Louis Marie lists five benefits for praying the Rosary in groups:

1. Normally, our minds are far more alert during public prayer than when we pray alone.
2. When we pray in common, the prayer of each one belongs to all. We make one great prayer together, so that if one person is not praying well, someone else in the same gathering who prays better may make up for his deficiency. In this way, those who are strong uphold the weak. Those who are fervent inspire the lukewarm.
3. One who says his Rosary alone only gains the merit of that one Rosary. However, if he says it together with others, he gains the merit of each Rosary. This is the law of public prayer.
4. Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer, to appease the Justice of God, and to call down His mercy. Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Ghost, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering.
5. If the faithful pray five decades of the Rosary in company with others, whether in public or private, they may gain an indulgence of ten years, once a day. A plenary indulgence can be gained on the last Sunday of the month – with the addition of detachment from venial sin, confession, Communion, a visit to the church and prayers for the intentions of the Pope – if they perform such recitation at least three times in any of the preceding weeks.

A Plenary Indulgence is attached to pray a group Rosary in front of the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle. The 1968 revised “Enchiridion Indulgentiarum” basically states that the recitation of the Marian Rosary merits a plenary indulgence which is granted if the Rosary is recited in a church or public oratory or a family group, a religious community or Pious Association; a partial indulgence is granted in other circumstances.



7. THE ROSEBUD-CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY



The original painting requested by St. Faustina Kowalska

Let's enjoy the JoAnnine Rosebud-Rosary to also pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy: The "Rosebud-Chaplet".

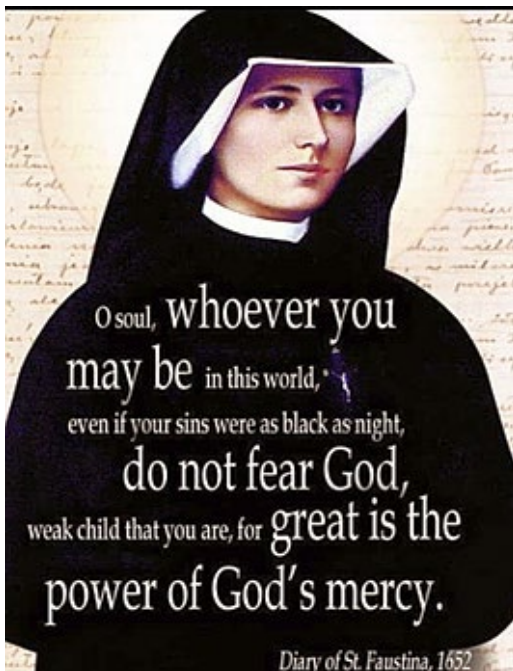
The Rosebud-Rosary (double-beads) is also handy to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet! In such a case, like in the “Marian Rosebud-Rosary”, it could optionally be called “The Rosebud-Chaplet”. Just follow the same “**At least 1,2,3 Deal**” equivalent **adapted steps**, based on the challenge described under the same **title (#6.4)**.

At a solemn liturgy instituted by Pope Saint John Paul II, related to the Divine Mercy universal annual feast day for 2018, during a blessing for pious objects which included our JoAnnine Rosebud-Rosary prototype, we discerned with joy and surprise a clear call to **also** use and promote the use of our specially designed Rosary to pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, in addition to the Marian Rosary.

The purpose is to use the same concept of "rosebud" pairs of beads to slow down and better savor the repetition portion of each decade of the chaplet, using 5 beads for the historical argument "*For the sake of His sorrowful Passion*" and another 5 beads for the response/petition "*Have mercy on us and on the whole world.*" Therefore, we hope to remove the frequent excuse of lack of time or anxiety from "busy people," children, and everybody else, at the same time hoping to improve the quality and spiritual fruits of each Chaplet.

There are also five (5) pious modes or instruments through which we can reach a full devotion to the Divine Mercy. Besides the obvious prereduced virtue of Trust in Jesus' Mercy and attendance of Sunday Masses, here is the list of those five means, including a detailed explanation below, transcribed from the diary of St. Faustina, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*. They are:

- 1st: The Image of the Divine Mercy**
- 2sd: The Divine Mercy Chaplet**
- 3rd: The Hour of Great Mercy – 3 P.M.**
- 4th: The Novena to the Divine Mercy**
- 5th: Divine Mercy Sunday**



St. Faustina Kowalska, the first canonized Saint of this new millennium!

7.1 The Five Pious Modes for the Divine Mercy Devotion

1st: The Image of the Divine Mercy:

(Words in italic are the words of Jesus to St. Faustina, followed by their respective reference number from her diary)

Paint an image according to the pattern you see with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You... I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory (47, 48).

I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in You" (327).

I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and [then] throughout the world (47). The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water, which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood, which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross (299).

By means of this image, I shall grant many graces to souls. It should also be a reminder of the demands of mercy toward others, because even the strongest faith

is of no avail without works (742). Not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush lies the greatness of this image, but in My grace (313).

2nd: The Divine Mercy Chaplet:

Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it²⁹ will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My Mercy (687).

Write that when they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge, but as the merciful Savior (1541).³⁰

3rd: The Hour of Great Mercy – 3 P.M.:

Our Lord Jesus asked Saint Faustina (extensive to all) to pray in a special way at the 3 o'clock hour each afternoon. This is the hour that our Lord died on the Cross. Below are some of the things that Jesus recommended St. Faustina to do during this "Hour of Great Mercy."

²⁹ Read the step-by-step Chaplet subsection of "How to pray with it" to learn how to recite or sing the Chaplet.

³⁰ Let's remember that no personal prayer will ever be a replacement for the sacraments.

At three o'clock, implore the Lord's Divine Mercy for the whole world and especially for sinners (1320).

I will refuse nothing [if in accordance with God's Will] to the soul that makes a request in virtue of My Passion (1320).

Invoke the omnipotence of the Lord's Mercy for the whole world and especially for poor sinners. In this hour, one can obtain everything for oneself and for others.

4th: The Novena to the Divine Mercy³¹:

It begins on Good Friday and ends on Saturday in the Octave of Easter. As recorded in her diary, our Lord asked Sister Faustina for prayers for different groups of people each day:

First Day – Today bring to Me all mankind, especially all sinners...

Second Day – Today bring to me the souls of Priests and Religious...

Third-Day – Today bring to Me all devout and faithful souls...

Fourth Day – Today bring to Me those who do not believe in God and those who do not yet know me...

Fifth Day – Today bring to Me those who have separated themselves from the Church.

³¹ A detailed "Step-by-Step" to pray the Novena of Chaplets in its entirety is available under the Title 9.2

Sixth Day – Today bring to Me the meek and humble souls and the souls of little children...

Seventh Day – Today bring to Me the souls of those who especially glorify and venerate My Mercy...

Eighth Day – Today bring to Me the souls who are detained in Purgatory...

Ninth Day – Today bring to Me souls who have become lukewarm...

5th: Divine Mercy Sunday:

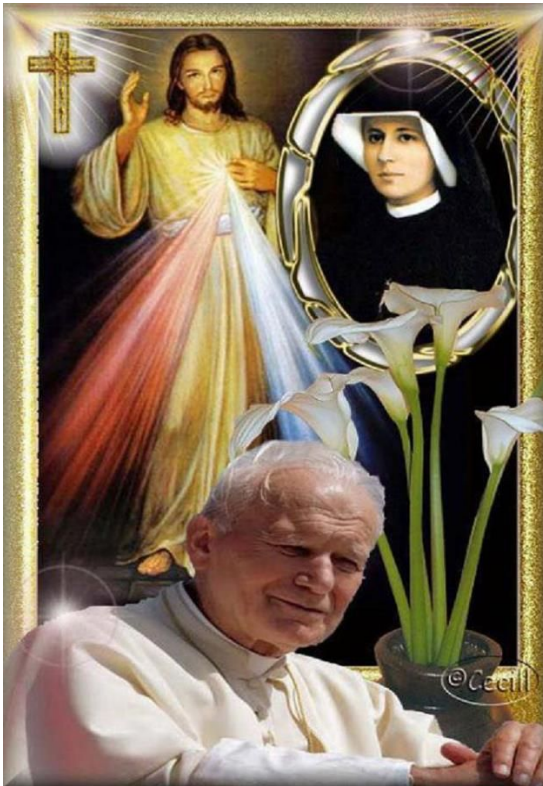
On April 30, 2000, at the canonization of St. Faustina, Pope John Paul II said the Sunday after Easter Sunday would be known as Divine Mercy Sunday. A plenary indulgence is available to those who observe Divine Mercy Sunday following the usual prescriptions – Sacramental Confession, reception of Holy Communion, free from all attachment to sin.

Besides the obvious, which is the practice of Works of Mercy (be merciful to others through prayers, words, and actions) commented in the next [title #8](#), here are five fitting ways to commemorate Divine Mercy Sunday:

- 1- Sincerely repent of all of our sins.
- 2- Go to Confession.
- 3- Place your complete trust in Jesus.
- 4- Receive Holy Communion.
- 5- Venerate the Image of the Divine Mercy

This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of My tender mercies (420).

It is My desire that it will be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter... I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and



especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open in a special way. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fountain of My mercy (699).

No words can express humanity's 'debt' to Pope St. John Paul II and Saint Faustina Kowalska, including every fellow Catholic from Poland, faithful instruments of God's awesome Mercy for mankind, for the greater glory, praise, and honor of God, forever!

8. PRE-REQUIRED FIVE DISPOSITIONS FOR TRUE DEVOTIONS



Before reading the following very serious information regarding the five pre-required spiritual dispositions for the fullness of devotional fruits, let's first enjoy this lovely up-to-date depiction of the Divine Mercy image, above.

The following five required or conditioning spiritual dispositions are indispensable not only for the proper Divine Mercy Rosary and all other mainstream Catholic Devotions but for a consistent Catholic life, grateful and careful enough to remain in a “State of Grace”, which is what matters:

1- Sincerely repent of all our sins:

Only when the Holy Spirit is allowed inside our lives and in the depths of our souls, we accept our guilt and recognize the seriousness of our sins. Only after the Holy Spirit convinces us about our sins, we will make enough purpose of amendment.

2- The Sacrament of Penance:

Jesus called it “The Tribunal of Mercy!” When you go to Confession, to this fountain of mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul (1602)

...In the Tribunal of Mercy (the Sacrament of Confession)... the greatest miracles take place and are incessantly repeated (1448).

...Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy (1602).

3- The Holy Eucharist:

The Presence of Mercy. The Holy Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ, under the appearances of bread and wine.

All the good that is in me is due to Holy Communion. – St. Faustina

Herein lies the whole secret of my sanctity. – St. Faustina

The Holy Eucharist is the font of Divine Mercy. The Eucharist is the “*source and summit of the Christian life*” (CCC).

4- Complete Trust in the Divine Mercy:

I am Love and Mercy itself (1074).

While there is still time, let them have recourse to the fount of My mercy (848).

He who refuses to pass through the door of My mercy must pass through the door of my justice (1146).

Let no soul fear to draw near to me, even though its sins be as scarlet (699).

My Mercy is greater than your sins and those of the entire world (1485).

Sooner would heaven and earth turn into nothingness than would My mercy not embrace a trusting soul (1777).

5- The Works of Mercy:

Finally, this is the kernel of the matter, evident for any real Christian. Here lays the essence and foundation for the Economy of Salvation.

Understanding it is a life or death determinant. Is it possible for any driver to survive and/or avoid killing others without first understanding clearly and deeply how to safely move on under the green lights and the duty to stop at the red lights, carefully obeying all traffic commands? Of course not! Well, aren't the Ten Commandments granted by God Himself and Christ's explicit warnings regarding His Final Justice even more serious? Would Christ call it "Justice", if not carrying "ipso facto" eternally irreversible life or death consequences?

Let's never fool ourselves: We ought to repent and practice Works of Mercy daily, to the best of our abilities, possessions, and as much as reasonably possible. ³² One can "pray" a lot and even log them by the thousands using a calculator, but still go to hell due to the mortal accumulation of venial sins of omission against charity.

We are already on notice about how the Divine Justice will be enforced at the Final Judgment. Christ the King will indeed say to them: *"I do not know you, evildoers [by negligence]. Depart from me accursed ones into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels*

³² *"The ambition to do Good and keep doing Good for others should have no limits!"* (Our Parent Institution's Mission Statement)

(Matt 25:41); *because I was hungry but you did not feed Me; in jail, and you never visited Me; despairing, but you did not console/rescue Me; Ignorant, and you refused to teach Me; sick, and..."* etc. And they will reply, in similar words: *"But 'my' Lord! We preached and even expelled out demons in your name, and you say that you don't know us?"*

According to Matt 7:21: *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the Will of my Father in Heaven. "Amen, I say to you, whatever you failed to do for one of those least ones, you didn't do it for Me."* (Matt.25:45).

The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are actions we must perform (real Faith can only be confirmed by works, James 2:26 *"faith without works is dead"*) that extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. *"The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities"* (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2447).

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**THE 7 CORPORAL WORKS
OF MERCY**

Feed the hungry

Give drink to the thirsty

Shelter the homeless

Serving the sick

Visit the prisoners

Clothe the naked

Bury the dead

**THE 7 SPIRITUAL WORKS OF
MERCY**

Counseling the doubtful

Instructing the ignorant

Admonishing the sinner

Comforting the sorrowful

Forgiving injuries

Bearing wrongs patiently

Praying for living & dead



9. THE DESIGN CHALLENGES FOR A HYBRID ROSARY



Originally, we had no plans to create any special rosary model, whatsoever! Why reinvents the wheel? Why do not we just count one rosebud for each bead? It was a roadblock for our Focus-group SPF03.01 pastoral goals, and we regretted the idea of another

Rosary style. Unfortunately, due to the hidden “tricked” way our human brain works under gradual memorization of physical routines, we had no other choice.

As we already mentioned at the beginning, as an introduction to this segment, after years of prayers and some design tryouts that didn't work in practical terms, our specially designed JoAnnine's Rosebud-Rosary was finally carefully designed a simple hybrid tool -an "egg of Columbus!"- remaining 100% whole for also praying the standard Rosary or the Divine Mercy chaplet in addition to our Blessed Family's catechetical Rosebud-Rosary.

Although just an "egg" analogy, since we sincerely believe it was indeed inspired by Our Lady, the end result became even better than such an "Egg of Columbus", which was partially harmed after Columbus' ingenious solution. On the contrary, our Rosebud-Rosary remained fully Rosary, beautifully unharmed, especially after the minor space adjustment and the flexibility left between the two beads within each pair allowed for a comfortable counting for the standard ten-bead "full-blown roses" sequence, whenever necessary or wanted.

Therefore, members of our Community and friends that love it can keep using the same Rosebud-Rosary “hand-tool” at their Parish Rosary gatherings, Knight of Columbus meetings or any other prayer meetings for the standard/official (“full-blown-rose”) mode, easily

switching back and forth -mentally speaking- without the need to change their rosary-bead instrument.

However, surprisingly and unfortunately, we learned from experience that we cannot recommend the other way around. In other words, it is **not** recommended to use a standard/official Rosary (ten single beads per Mystery), to pray the ten individual “rosebuds” on it.

Reciting any of our short five-pairs devotional sequences (for the Divine Mercy, Marian Rosary or Stations of the Cross) by using each one of the 10 beads for each rosebud **seems** logical; however, it **deeply confuses the mind** after just a couple of weeks of use, to the point of making it almost impossible to pray (back) the standard mode in a mentally comfortable way, due to the way our brains work³³. On the other hand, using the paired-beads solution that **we were forced to create** due to those reasons, any normal person can now easily switch the mind to count either sequence, (the standard 10) or the “high-fives” pairs, without any future mental confusion. It was a kind of eureka moment for a real practical solution.

In addition, each decade of beads, now rearranged in five pairs, will powerfully remind us -visually, feelingly and mnemonically- of five very important facts for our JoAnnine' spirituality:

³³ A roadblock, as mentioned: we struggled by this challenge, surprised by the “tricked” way our brains work, when bonded by manual routines.

1. First - Relate to what Luke wrote in 10:1-2 when Jesus sent 36 pairs of disciples (72) to the towns and places that he was planning to visit. Why send them in pairs? Because Jesus knew that when and where two or more are united in His name, He would be with them in person.
2. Second - As a reminder of the revolutionary importance of Jesus' personal promise (Mt. 18-20) that "*when/where two or more [but at least a pair] are united in my name, I will be in their midst.*" It's so important that, despite being related to, it cannot be confused with the first reminder, above.
3. Third - As a symbol (pair) for the essence of our Conjuality spirituality³⁴, since everything possible, whenever possible, within JoAnnine's affairs, priorities and projects, are to be decided and coordinated by at least one couple or, most likely, a group of couples (married or not) of one man and one woman.
4. Fourth - At the same time that Jesus "*sent them out in pairs*" (Lk 10: 1-2), Jesus also commanded them to ask the "*Master of the Harvest to send out more laborers for his Harvest*". Therefore, this "*Rogatio's mandate*" (Lk 10: 2-3) is interconnected with the same event.

³⁴ Please go to JoAnLab.Net/hub/conjuality (or Conjuality.info) for more information and JoAnLab.Net/Statutes for detailed bylaws.

5. Fifth - The "Rogatio's" mandate is the foundational support link between this JoAnnine's "High-Fives" Rosary devotion and our future long-term pastoral goals, pre-defined at the Gethsemane Vocational Network³⁵.



The extended family of Sts. Anne and Joachim

³⁵ Please go to JoAnLab.Net/hub/Gethsemane to understand the "Rogatio" connection and why it is so strategically important.

9.1 How to Pray with It



The Rosary-Beads Graph-Legend for the above illustration is (Rosary prayers are available on title 9.2):

Green= 1 Opening + 5 "Our Father" (5 Pre-Mysteries)

Blue= "Hail Mary" plus "Holy Mary" petition

Redline= "Glory Be" (at the end of each decade)

Yellow= Centerpiece medal= to finish the Rosary

The Marian Rosebud Rosary

Use it in the same way the standard Rosary is supposed to be prayed (step by step, below), with the only exception regarding the amount of Hail Mary's with its response petition, per Mystery, which must be "at least" 5 Hail Mary's and 5 Holy Mary's responses (totaling 10 "rosebuds"). In other words, it is half of the amount of an ordinary/standard Rosary.

The steps to praying the Rosebud-Rosary and the standard/official Rosary are:

1. Holding the Rosary crucifix, make the Sign of the Cross, invoking the Holy Spirit (suggested prayer at Title. 9.4) and say the "Apostles' Creed" (**See Basic Prayers at Title 9.4**)
2. Say the "Our Father" at the first bead (highlighted in green) after the crucifix, for the wellbeing, wisdom and personal intentions of the Holy father (more than mandatory, this is a "must" of honor, for any authentic rosary devotee)
3. Say three "Hail Mary's" for the increase of Faith, Hope, and Charity following the 3 subsequent beads and/or for the Holy Father
4. Say the "Glory Be"
5. Announce the First Mystery and then say the "Our Father"

6. For the rosebud, say five “Hail Mary’s” with its responsorial petition (“Holy Mary, mother of God...”) using one pair at a time, or ten “Hail Mary’s” for the standard Rosary, ignoring the pairs, using one bead at a time
7. Say the “Glory Be” right before (at the redline) or at each “Our Father” Mystery-interval highlight (green beads at the graphic picture).
Optional: Say the “O My Jesus” prayer requested by Our Lady at Fatima. And please also pray our “JoAnnine” indispensable Mystery-interval ejaculatory for personal petitions: *“Oh Mary, conceived without sin in the blessed womb of Saint Anne, pray for the salvation of our families, conversion of sinners, and ... (here goes each one of the five personal offerings or petitions, done at the “Mystery-interval”).*
8. At the same “Mystery-interval” highlight bead (green legend), announce the next Mystery; then say the “Our Father” and repeat these steps (6 through 8) as you continue through the remaining Mysteries
9. Say the closing prayers: the “Hail Holy Queen” and “Final Prayer” at the “Centerpiece medal”
10. Make the “Sign of the Cross”

9.2 The Rosebud Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

Use it in the same way the Standard Chaplet is supposed to be prayed (step by step, below), with the only exception regarding the amount of “pleas” [for Mercy], which must be 5 prayed arguments (“*For the sake of His sorrowful Passion*”) and its 5 responses (“*Have mercy on us and on the whole world*”). In other words, it is half of the ordinary Chaplet.



One of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and

The Rosebud-Chaplet of Divine Mercy

The steps to praying the Rosebud-Chaplet and the standard Chaplet of the Divine Mercy are:

1. Make the Sign of the Cross:

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

2. Optional Opening Prayers:

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You! - (Repeat three times)

3. First three prayers: Our Father, Hail Mary, and The Apostles Creed (**See Basic Prayers - Title 9.4**)

4. On each of the "Our Father" beads of the Rosary, the following prayer is said, sung, or chanted: *"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."*

5. To pray the Rosebud-Chaplet, on each of the 5 pairs of Hail Mary' beads of the Rosebud-Rosary, the following prayer argument is said, sung, or chanted: *"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion,"* followed by the community plea: *"Have mercy on us and on the whole world."* To pray the standard Chaplet, repeat the same prayers above, ignoring the pairs, but counting each individual bead for a subtotal of 10 Divine Mercy invocations per "Mystery" set.
6. At the end of the Chaplet, say three times: "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world".
7. End with the Sign of the Cross and with the following closing prayer, which is optional:

Eternal God, in whom mercy is unfathomable and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

We would like to suggest "The Anima Christi" as another optional closing prayer after the Chaplet or the Litany in preparation for or thanksgiving to a sacramental or spiritual same-day Holy Communion, hopefully daily:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me; Blood of Christ, inebriate me; Water from the side of Christ, wash me; Passion of Christ, strengthen me; O good Jesus hear me; Within your wounds hide me; separated from you, let me never be; From the evil one protect me; At the hour of my death, call me; And close to you bid me; That with your saints, I may be praising you forever and ever. Amen.



Litany to the Divine Mercy

DM, gushing forth from the bosom of the Father,
I Trust in You! = ITY to be repeated after each praise
(Divine Mercy = **DM** I Trust in You = **ITY**)

DM, greatest attribute of God, **ITY**
DM, incomprehensible mystery, **ITY**
DM, unfathomed by any intellect human or angelic, **ITY**
DM, from which wells forth all life and happiness, **ITY**
DM, better than the heavens, **ITY**
DM, source of miracles and wonders, **ITY**
DM, encompassing the whole universe, **ITY**
DM, unfathomed in the institution of the Sacred Host, **ITY**
DM, in the founding of Holy Church, **ITY**
DM, in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, **ITY**
DM, in our justification through Jesus Christ, **ITY**
DM, accompanying us through our whole life, **ITY**
DM, embracing us especially at the hour of death, **ITY**
DM, endowing us with immortal life, **ITY**
DM, accompanying us every moment of our life, **ITY**
DM, shielding us from the fire of hell, **ITY**
DM, in the conversion of hardened sinners, **ITY**
DM, unfathomed in all the mysteries of God, **ITY**
DM, lifting us out of every misery, **ITY**
DM, source of our happiness and joy, **ITY**
DM, calling us forth from nothingness to existence **ITY**
DM, embracing all the works of His hands, **ITY**
DM, crown of all of God's handiwork, **ITY**
DM, in which we are all immersed, **ITY**
DM, sweet relief for anguished hearts, **ITY**
DM, only hope for despairing souls, **ITY**
DM, repose of hearts, peace amidst fear, **ITY**
DM, delight and ecstasy of holy souls, **ITY**
DM, inspiring hope against all hope, **ITY**

DM, descending to earth in the Person of the Incarnate Word, **ITY**

DM, which flowed out from the open wound of the Heart of Jesus, **ITY**

DM, fount gushing forth from the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity, **ITY**

DM, astonishment for Angels, incomprehensible to Saints, **ITY**

DM, enclosed in the Heart of Jesus for us, and especially for sinners, **I TRUST IN YOU!**

Closing Prayer (also applicable for the Chaplets):

O incomprehensible and limitless Mercy Divine, to extol and adore You worthily, who can? Supreme attribute of Almighty God, You are the sweet hope for sinful man. Into one hymn yourselves unite, stars, earth and sea, and in one accord, thankfully and fervently sing of the incomprehensible Divine Mercy.

The Divine Mercy Novena of Chaplets

At least once a year, in preparation for the solemn Divine Mercy Sunday celebration. For each one of the nine days, our Lord gave Saint Faustina a different intention (require “clipable” ref. pg. 153):

DAY 1 (Good Friday): Today bring to Me ALL MANKIND, ESPECIALLY ALL SINNERS, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. In this way, you will console Me in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges Me.

Most Merciful Jesus, whose very nature it is to have compassion on us and to forgive us, do not look upon our sins but upon our trust which we place in Your infinite goodness. Receive us all into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart, and never let us escape from It. We beg this of You by Your love which unites You to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Oh, omnipotence of Divine Mercy, Salvation of sinful people, You are a sea of mercy and compassion; You aid those who treat You with humility.

NOTE. The following three steps must be repeated (Use the “clipable” page #153 for an easier prayer) **at every day of the novena, to properly complete it, after the variable (previous) portion:**

FIRST: Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy forever and ever. Amen.

SECOND: The Chaplet of Divine Mercy (step-by-step transcribed in the previous title), which can be said anytime during the same day.

THIRD: Pray the Litany of Divine Mercy (already transcribed above, before this novena), which also can be said at any time within the same day, followed

(optional) by the Marian Rosebud-Rosery, expected from members of the JoAnnine Catholic Community.

DAY 2 (Holy Saturday): Today bring to Me THE SOULS OF PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy. It was they who gave Me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them, as through channels, My mercy flows out upon mankind.

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to Your service, that they may perform worthy works of mercy; and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in Heaven.

The fountain of God's love dwells in pure hearts,
Bathed in the Sea of Mercy Radiant as stars,
bright as the dawn.

Repeat the top 3 steps (using "clipable" ref. pg. #155)

DAY 3 (Easter Sunday): Today bring to Me ALL DEVOUT AND FAITHFUL SOULS and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. The souls brought Me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were that drop of consolation in the midst of an ocean of bitterness.

Most Merciful Jesus, from the treasury of Your mercy, You impart Your graces in great abundance to each and all. Receive us into the abode of Your Most

Compassionate Heart and never let us escape from It. We beg this grace of You by that most wonderful love for the heavenly Father with which Your Heart burns so fiercely.

The miracles of mercy are impenetrable. Neither the sinner nor just one will fathom them. When You cast upon us an eye of pity, You draw us all closer to Your love. **(Repeat +3 steps)**

DAY 4 (Easter Monday): Today bring to Me THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD AND THOSE WHO DO NOT YET KNOW ME. I was thinking also of them during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.

Most compassionate Jesus, You are the Light of the whole world. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who do not believe in God and of those who as yet do not know You. Let the rays of Your grace enlighten them that they, too, together with us, may extol Your wonderful mercy; and do not let them escape from the abode which is Your Most Compassionate Heart.

May the light of Your love, enlighten the souls in darkness. Grant that these souls will know You And, together with us, praise Your mercy. **(+ 3 steps)**

DAY 5 (Easter Tuesday): Today bring to Me THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE SEPARATED THEMSELVES FROM MY CHURCH and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. During My bitter Passion they tore at My Body and Heart, that is, My Church. As they return to unity with the Church, My wounds heal and in this way, they alleviate My Passion.

Most Merciful Jesus, Goodness Itself, You do not refuse light to those who seek it of You. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who have separated themselves from Your Church. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart; but bring it about that they, too, come to glorify the generosity of Your mercy.

Even for those who have torn the garment of your unity, A fount of mercy flows from Your Heart. The omnipotence of Your mercy, Oh God, can lead these souls also out of error. (... + 3 steps)

DAY 6 (Easter Wednesday): Today bring to Me THE MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND THE SOULS OF LITTLE CHILDREN and immerse them in My mercy. These souls most closely resemble My Heart. They strengthened Me during My bitter agony. I saw them as earthly Angels, who will keep vigil at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of grace. Only the

humble soul is capable of receiving My grace. I favor humble souls with My confidence.

Most Merciful Jesus, You, yourself have said, “Learn from Me for I am meek and humble of heart.” Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart all meek and humble souls and the souls of little children. These souls send all heaven into ecstasy and they are the heavenly Father’s favorites. They are a sweet-smelling bouquet before the throne of God; God Himself takes delight in their fragrance. These souls have a permanent abode in Your Most Compassionate Heart, O Jesus, and they unceasingly sing out a hymn of love and mercy.

A truly gentle and humble soul
Already here on earth, the air of paradise breathes,
And in the fragrance of her humble heart
The Creator Himself delights. **(Repeat the 3 steps)**

DAY 7 (Easter Thursday): Today bring to Me THE SOULS WHO ESPECIALLY VENERATE AND GLORIFY MY MERCY and immerse them in My mercy. These souls sorrowed most over my Passion and entered most deeply into My spirit. They are living images of My Compassionate Heart. These souls will shine with a special brightness in the next life. Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death.

Most Merciful Jesus, whose Heart is Love Itself, receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who particularly extol and venerate the greatness of Your mercy. These souls are mighty with the very power of God Himself. In the midst of all afflictions and adversities they go forward, confident of Your mercy; and united to You, O Jesus, they carry all mankind on their shoulders. These souls will not be judged severely, but Your mercy will embrace them as they depart from this life.

A soul who praises the goodness of her Lord
Is especially loved by Him.
She is always close to the living fountain
And draws graces from Mercy Divine. **(Repeat 3 steps)**

DAY 8 (Easter Friday): Today bring to Me THE SOULS WHO ARE DETAINED IN PURGATORY and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. Let the torrents of My Blood cool down their scorching flames. All these souls are greatly loved by Me. They are making retribution to My justice. It is in your power to bring them relief. Draw all the indulgences from the treasury of My Church and offer them on their behalf. Oh, if you only knew the torments they suffer, you would continually offer for them the alms of the spirit and pay off their debt to My justice.

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said that You desire mercy; so I bring into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls in Purgatory, souls

who are very dear to You, and yet, who must make retribution to Your justice. May the streams of Blood and Water which gushed forth from Your Heart put out the flames of Purgatory, that there, too, the power of Your mercy may be celebrated.

From that terrible heat of the cleansing fire
Rises a plaint to Your mercy,
And they receive comfort, refreshment, relief
In the stream of mingled Blood and Water. **(+3 steps)**

DAY 9 (Easter Saturday): Today bring to Me SOULS WHO HAVE BECOME LUKEWARM and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: 'Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will.' For them, the last hope of salvation is to run to My mercy.

Most compassionate Jesus, You are Compassion Itself. I bring lukewarm souls into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart. In this fire of Your pure love, let these tepid souls, who, like corpses, filled You with such deep loathing, be once again set aflame. O Most Compassionate Jesus, exercise the omnipotence of Your mercy and draw them into the very ardor of Your love, and bestow upon them the gift of holy love, for nothing is beyond Your power.

Fire and ice cannot be joined,
Either the fire dies, or the ice melts.
But by Your mercy, O God,
You can make up for all that is lacking. **(+ 3 steps)**

9.3 The Rosebud Stations of the Cross

The steps for praying the Fifteen³⁶ Stations of the Cross will, evidently, require three rosebud-rosary cycles of five to be completed. Start each cycle repeating the “Five wounds of Jesus” Act of Contrition, before each cycle of five Stations, especially if you plan to pray each cycle on different days. The “give-me-five” Stations (per cycle) will allow us to complete the Stations every month, for instance, instead of once a year (Good Friday), simply by selecting three Fridays per month at home, if going to your nearest parish church not possible.

On each one of the five “Our Father” Mystery-interval beads (green highlights, excepted the first one, at the crucifix, reserved for opening prayers) enunciate one of the Stations, followed by its pertinent reflection, transcribed at each step (**See “clipable” ref. pg.155**).

First cycle:

I- 1st: Jesus is condemned to death

II- 2nd: Jesus carries His cross

III- 3rd: Jesus falls the first time

IV- 4th: Jesus meets his mother

V- 5th: Simon helps Jesus to carry his cross

³⁶ 14 traditional Stations plus the final, **optional**, 15th Station, added by many to emphasize that without the Resurrection of Jesus, our whole Christian Faith would be false & worthless. **Please skip it during Lent.**

Second cycle:

VI- 6th: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

VII- 7th: Jesus falls the second time

VIII- 8th: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

IX- 9th: Jesus falls a third time

X- 10th: Jesus clothes are taken away

Final cycle:

XI- 11th: Jesus is nailed to the cross

XII- 12th: Jesus dies on the cross (because 100% human)

XIII- 13th: The body of Jesus is taken down the cross

XIV- 14th: Jesus is laid in the tomb

XV- 15th: Jesus rises from the death (because of 100% Divine)

The steps to praying the Rosebud-Stations of the Cross are (after step #3, all 15 Stations will be identified by Roman numerals plus the 5 pairs of rosebud-beads. For example, the enunciation of Station **VII** (7), will be followed by **VII.1 VII.2...** up to **VII.5**, for each one of the 5 pairs. **The Stations of the Cross do not require Rosebud-Rosary beads to be prayed. We like to use it when praying it in cycles. It's also easier to memorizing repeatable portions, etc.**

- 1- Begin with the Sign of the Cross and, holding the Crucifix, pray the Apostles' Creed (Posted at the end of the Title 9.4 Basic Prayers).

- 2- At the 1st opening bead (green, highlight), pray the “Five wounds of Jesus” Act of Contrition:

Before you, dear Jesus, I kneel earnestly asking you to engrave upon my heart a deep and lively faith, hope and charity, with true repentance for my sins and a firm resolve to make amends. As I reflect upon Your five wounds and dwell upon them with deep compassion and grief, I beg your mercy. Hide me in your wounds as I cry out with your prophet, centuries before your passion: *“They have pierced My hands and My feet, they have counted all My bones.” Amen!*

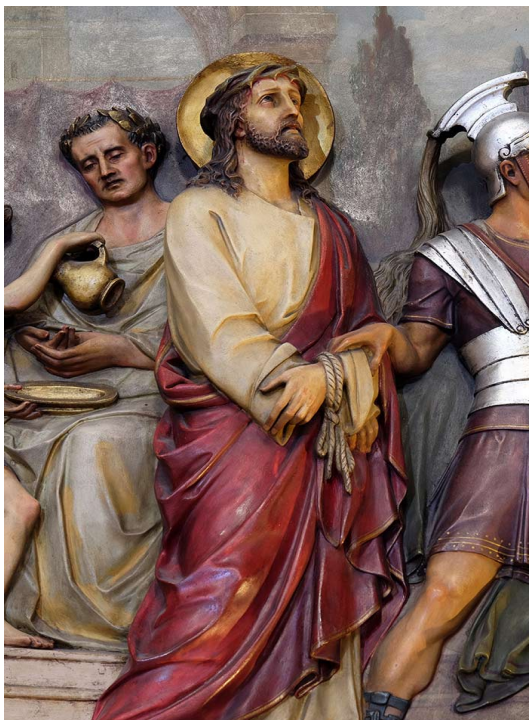
- 3- At the next 3 *Hail Mary*’s beads, pray a “*Hail Mary*”, “*Oh My Jesus*” and a “*Glory Be...*” plus St. Therese’s prayer to the Holy Face at the next “green” bead:

"O Jesus, who, in Thy cruel Passion didst become the 'reproach of men and the Man of Sorrows,' I worship Thy divine Face. Once it shone with the beauty and sweetness of the Divinity; but now, for my sake it is become as 'the face of a leper.' Yet, in that disfigured Countenance, I recognize Thy infinite Love, and I am consumed with the desire of making Thee loved by all mankind. The tears that flowed so abundantly from Thy Eyes are to me as precious pearls that I delight to gather, that with their worth I may ransom the souls of poor sinners. O Jesus, whose Face is the sole beauty that ravishes my heart, I may not see here below the sweetness of Thy glance, nor feel the ineffable tenderness of Thy kiss, I bow to Thy Will—but I pray Thee to imprint in me Thy divine likeness, and I implore Thee so to inflame me with Thy love, that it may quickly consume me, and that I may soon reach the vision of Thy glorious Face in heaven. Amen."

FIRST CYCLE I- Station

At the second highlight bead (green), which is the first “Our Father” Mystery-interval (for Marian Rosaries) and the **first starting bead** for the next two cycles of Stations, pray one “Our Father” and enunciate the

I- First Station: Jesus is condemned to death.



Consider how Jesus Christ, after being scourged and crowned with thorns, was unjustly condemned to die on the cross.

Note: From now on, throughout the cycles, at the first pair of rosebuds for each station, pray only the following standard station prayer, which will be the same for every first pair of beads (followed by their pertinent reflections, always at the 2nd pair).

Therefore, except this 2nd pair, all other 4 pairs -1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th) will need to be repeated over, in every Station. Please use the easy “clipable” ref. pg. #153

To be repeated at every station:

I.1st pair: *I (we) adore You, O Christ, and I (we) praise You; (2nd bud): Because by Your Holy cross You have redeemed the world.*

Note: Logically, others will always reply each second rosebud if you are not praying alone. That’s the only reason we are marking every two segments of a pair with the 1st bud (or implicit) and the 2nd bud tags. Therefore, if praying alone, just ignore the 2nd bud tag, and keep praying whole pairs.

I.2nd pair: (1st bud) My adorable Jesus, it was not Pilate; no, it was my sins that condemned You to die. (2nd bud): I beseech You, by the merits of this sorrowful journey, to assist my soul on its journey to eternity.

To be repeated at every station (copy @clipable pg.):

I.3rd pair (1st bud): *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. (2nd bud): Oh Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.*

Note: The 4th and 5th pairs are always standard closing prayers for each station, which will be repeated throughout the cycles, always at the 4th and 5th pairs.

To be repeated at every station (copied clipable pg155):

I.4th pair: (1st bud) I love You, Lord Jesus. (2nd bud):
I am sorry and repent of ever having offended You.

I.5th pair: (1st bud) Never let me separate myself from
You again. (2nd bud): Grant that I may love You always;
and then do with me as You will.

II Station

II- Second Station: Jesus carries His cross



*Consider Jesus
as He walked
this road with
the cross on His
shoulders,
thinking of us
and offering to
His Father, on
our behalf, the
death He was
about to suffer*

II.1st pair: “I adore You...” standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

II.2nd pair: My most beloved Jesus, I embrace all the sufferings You have destined for me until death. (2nd bud): I beg You, by all You suffered in carrying Your cross, to help me carry mine with Your perfect peace and resignation.

II.3rd, II.4th & II.5th pairs: Repeat steps **I.3rd I.4th & I.5th**

III- Station

III- Third Station: Jesus falls the first time



Consider the first fall of Jesus. Loss of blood from the scourging and crowning with thorns had so weakened Him that He could hardly walk; and yet He had to carry that great load upon His shoulders. As the soldiers struck Him cruelly, He fell several times under the heavy cross.

III.1st pair: “I adore You...” standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

III.2nd pair: My beloved Jesus, it was not the weight of the cross, but the weight of my sins, which made You suffer so much. (2nd bud): By the merits of this first fall, save me from falling into mortal sin.

III.3rd, III.4th & III.5th pairs: Repeat I.3rd I.4th & I.5th

IV- Station

IV- Fourth Station: Jesus meets his mother



Consider how the Son met his Mother on His way to Calvary. Jesus and Mary gazed at each other and their looks became as so many arrows to wound those hearts which loved each other so tenderly.

IV.1st pair: *“I adore You...”* standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

IV.2nd pair: My most loving Jesus, by the pain You suffered in this meeting grant me the grace of being truly devoted to Your most holy Mother. (2nd bud): And You, my Queen, who was overwhelmed with sorrow, obtain for me by Your prayers a tender and a lasting remembrance of the passion of Your divine Son.

IV.3rd, IV.4th & IV.5th pairs: Repeat **I.3rd I.4th & I.5th**

V- Station

V- Fifth Station: Simon helps Jesus to carry his cross



Consider how weak and weary Jesus was. At each step, He was at the point of expiring. Fearing that He would die on the way when they wished Him to die the infamous death of the cross, they forced Simon of Cyrene to help carry the cross for Our Lord.

V.1st pair: *“I adore You...”* standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

V.2nd pair: My beloved Jesus, I will not refuse the cross as Simon did. I accept it and embrace it. I accept in particular the death that is destined for me with all the pains that may accompany it. (2nd bud): I unite it to Your death, and I offer it to You. You have died for love of me. I will die for love of You and to please You. Help me by Your grace.

V.3rd, V.4th & V.5th pairs: Repeat **I.3rd I.4th & I.5th**

SECOND CYCLE VI- Station

VI- Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus



Consider the compassion of the holy woman, Veronica. Seeing Jesus in such distress, His face bathed in sweat and blood, she presented Him with her veil. Jesus wiped His face and left upon the cloth the image of his sacred countenance.

VI.1st pair: “*I adore You...*” standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

VI.2nd pair: Beloved Jesus, your face was beautiful before, but now it no longer appears beautiful and is disfigured with wounds and blood. (2nd bud): Alas, my soul also was once beautiful when it received Your grace in Baptism; but I have since disfigured it with my sins. You alone, my Redeemer, can restore it. Do this by Your passion; then do with me as You will.

VI.3rd, VI.4th & VI.5th pairs: Repeat I.3rd I.4th & I.5th

VII- Station

VII- Seventh Station: Jesus falls the second time



Consider how the second fall of Jesus under His cross renews the pain in all the wounds of the head and members of our afflicted Lord.

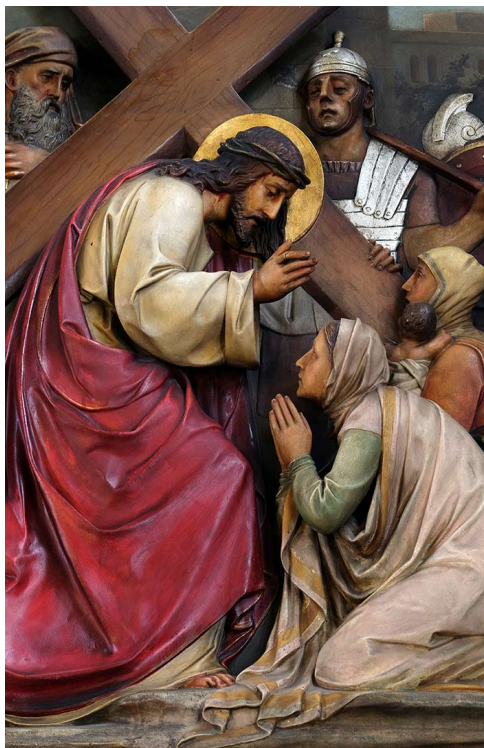
VII.1st pair: *“I adore You...”* standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

VII.2nd pair: My most gentle Jesus, how many times You have forgiven me; and how many times I have fallen again and begun again to offend You! (2nd bud): By the merits of this second fall, give me the grace to persevere in Your love until death.

VII.3rd, VII.4th & VII.5th pairs: Repeat **I.3rd I.4th & I.5th**

VIII- Station

VIII- Eighth Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem



Consider how the women wept with compassion seeing Jesus so distressed and dripping with blood as he walked along. Jesus said to them, "Weep not so much for me, but rather for Your children."

VIII.1st pair: "I adore You..." standard prayer: **I.1st pair**

VIII.2nd pair: My Jesus, laden with sorrows, I weep for the sins that I have committed against You, because of the punishment I deserve for them. 2nd Bud: It is Your love more than the fear of hell, which makes me weep for my sins.

VIII.3rd, VIII.4th & VIII.5th pairs Repeat **I.3rd I.4th & I.5th**

IX- Station

IX- Ninth Station: Jesus falls a third time



Consider how Jesus Christ fell for the third time. He was extremely weak, and the cruelty of His executioners was excessive; they tried to hasten His steps though He hardly had the strength to move.

IX.1st pair: *“I adore You...”* standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

IX.2nd pair: My outraged Jesus, by the weakness You suffered in going to Calvary, give me enough strength to overcome all human respect. (2nd bud): And all my evil passions which have led me to despise Your friendship.

IX.4th and IX.5th pairs: Go to steps **I.4th & I.5th**

X- Station

X- Tenth Station: Jesus' clothes are taken away



Consider how Jesus was violently stripped of His clothes by His executioners. The inner garments adhered to his lacerated flesh and the soldiers tore them off so roughly that the skin came with them. Have pity for your Savior so cruelly treated and tell Him:

X.1st pair: *“I adore You...”* standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

X.2nd pair: My innocent Jesus, by the torment You suffered in being stripped of Your garments, help me to strip myself of all attachment for the things of earth. (2nd bud): And that I may place all my love in You who are so worthy of my love.

X.3rd, X.4th & X.5th pairs: Repeat I.3rd I.4th & I.5th

FINAL CYCLE XI- Station

XI- Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross



Consider Jesus, thrown down upon the cross. He stretched out His arms and offered to His eternal Father the sacrifice of His life for our salvation. They nailed His hands and feet, and then, raising the cross, left Him to die in anguish.

XI.1st pair: “I adore You...” standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

XI.2nd pair: My despised Jesus, nail my heart to the cross. (2nd bud): That it may always remain there to love You and never leave You again.

XI.3rd, XI.4th & XI.5th pairs: Repeat I.3rd I.4th & I.5th

XII- Station

XII- Twelfth Station: Jesus dies on the cross



Consider how Jesus, after three hours of agony on the cross, is finally overwhelmed with suffering and, abandoning Himself to the weight of His body, bows His head and dies.

XII.1st pair: *"I adore You..."* standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

XII.2nd pair: My dying Jesus, I devoutly kiss the cross on which You die for the love of me. I deserve, because of my sins, to die a terrible death. (2nd bud): By the merits of Your death, give me the grace to die embracing Your feet burning with love of You. I yield my soul into Your hands.

XII.3rd, XII.4th & XII.5th pairs: Repeat I.3rd I.4th & I.5th

XIII- Station

XIII- Thirteenth Station: The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross



Consider how, after Our Lord had died, He was taken down from the cross by two of His disciples, Joseph and Nicodemus, and was placed in the arms of His afflicted Mother. She received Him with unutterable tenderness and pressed Him close to her bosom.

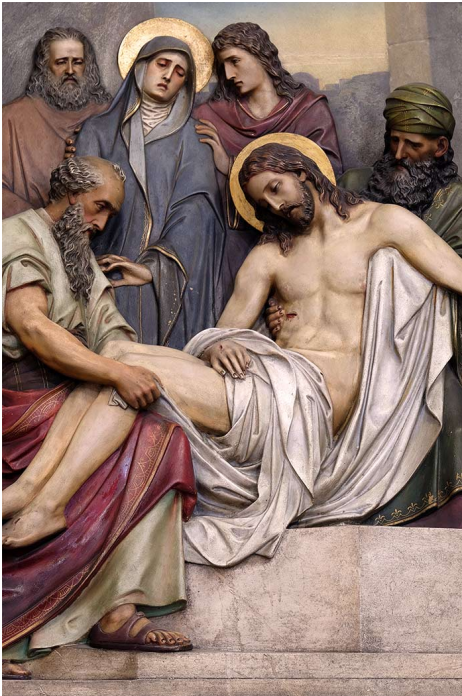
XIII.1st pair: “I adore You...”standard prayer: I.1st pair

XIII.2nd pair: O Mother of Sorrows, for the love of Your Son, accept me as Your servant and pray to Him for me. (2nd bud): And You, my Redeemer, since you have died for me, allow me to love You, for I desire only You and nothing more.

XIII.3rd, XIII.4th & XIII.5th pairs: Repeat I.3rd I.4th & I.5th

XIV- Station

XIV- Fourteenth Station: Jesus is laid in the tomb



Consider how the disciples carried the body of Jesus to its burial, while His holy Mother went with them and arranged it in the sepulcher with her own hands. They then closed the tomb, and all departed.

XIV.1st pair: “I adore You...” standard prayer: I.1st pair

XIV.2nd pair: Oh, my buried Jesus, I kiss the stone that closes You in. (2nd bud): But You gloriously rose again on the third day.

XIV.3rd, XIV.4th & XIV.5th pairs: Go to steps **I.4th & I.5th**

XV- Station

XV- Fifteenth Station: Jesus rises from the death



Consider how Jesus, after dying because 100% human, now raised Himself from the dead, because He is also God, 100% divine. His tomb was not an end. In the glory of the paschal morning, His empty tomb stood as a testament to His glorious destruction of sin and death.

XV.1st pair: “I adore You...” standard prayer: **I.1st pair.**

XV.2nd pair: I beg You by Your resurrection that I may be raised gloriously on the last day. (2nd bud): And be united with You in Heaven, to praise You and love You forever.

XV.3rd, XV.4th & XV.5th pairs: Repeat I.3rd I.4th & I.5th

Close the Stations by praying the following litany from Servant of God Cardinal Merry Del Val:

O Jesus! Meek and Humble of heart, *Hear me.*

From the desire of being esteemed, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the desire of being loved, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the desire of being extolled, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the desire of being honored, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the desire of being praised, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the desire of being consulted, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the desire of being approved, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of being humiliated, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of being despised, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of suffering rebukes, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of being calumniated, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of being forgotten, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of being ridiculed, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of being wronged, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the fear of being suspected, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

From the desire of being preferred to others, *Deliver me, Jesus.*

That others may be loved more than I,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be esteemed more than I,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase,
and I may decrease,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be chosen, and I set aside,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be praised and I unnoticed,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be preferred to me in

everything, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*

That others may become holier than I may, provided
that I may become as holy as I should, ***Jesus, grant
me the grace to desire it. Amen!***

And the Blessed Charles de Foucauld's **Daily Prayer:**

Father, I abandon myself into Your hands;
do with me what You will.

Whatever You Do, I thank You.

I am ready for all; I accept all.

Let only Your will be done in me,
as in all Your creatures.

I ask no more than this, my Lord.

Into Your hands I commend my soul;

I offer it to You, O Lord,

with all the love of my heart,

for I love You, my God, and so need to give myself,

to surrender myself into Your hands,

without reserve and with total confidence,

for You are my Father. Amen!

9.4 Basic Common Prayers

Sign of the Cross

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

Prayer before the Rosary

Queen of the Holy Rosary, you have deigned to come to Fatima to reveal to the three shepherd children the treasures of grace hidden in the Rosary. Inspire my heart with a sincere love of this devotion, in order that by meditating on the Mysteries of our Redemption, which are recalled in it, I may be enriched with its fruits and obtain peace for the world, the conversion of sinners and of Russia, and the favor which I ask of you in this Rosary. (Here mentions your request) I ask it for the greater glory of God, for your own honor, and for the good of souls, especially for my own. Amen!

Angel's Prayer³⁷

O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners. Amen!

³⁷ Delivered by the Angel of Peace during the Third Apparition of the Angel in October 1916. The Angel appeared to the three shepherd children holding a chalice in his hands, with a Host above it from which drops of Blood were falling into the chalice.

Our Father (for each decade)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom comes; 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.

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

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

Doxology

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 (for each decade)

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those in most need of Thy mercy.

Our indispensable ejaculatory prayer

Oh, Mary! Conceived without sin in the blessed womb of Saint Anne, please pray [united with your mom and dad, implicitly] for the salvation of our families, conversion of sinners, and (here goes each one of the five Mysteries-interval offerings or petitions, done on the "Our Father" beads). (...) Amen!

Pardon Prayer³⁸

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love Thee!
Beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not
adore, do not hope and do not love Thee. Amen!

Hail, Holy Queen (once, at the end of each Rosary)

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, O holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of
the promises of Christ. Amen!

Divine Holy Spirit! Give me a great heart

Open to your silent and strong inspiring word,
Closed to all mean ambitions,
Indifferent to any human contemptible competition,
Filled with faithfulness to the holy Church.
Give me a great heart that desires to become like the
Heart of Our Lord Jesus,
A great and strong heart to love everyone, serve
everyone and suffer for everyone,
A great and strong heart to overcome all trials,
tedium, weariness, every disillusion, and offense.
Give me a great and strong heart, constant, to the
point of sacrifice, when necessary.

³⁸ Delivered by the Angel of Peace during the First Apparition of the
Angel to the three shepherd children of Fatima in the spring of 1916.

A heart, whose happiness consists in beating with the Heart of Christ. And doing the Will of the Father humbly, steadfast, and faithfully until the end.
Amen! (**St. Pope Paul VI**).

Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. (Hail Mary...)
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to Your Word. (HM...)
V. And the Word was made flesh,
R. And dwelt among us. (HM...)
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your Grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of Christ, your Son by the message of an angel, so by His passion and cross we may be brought to the glory of His resurrection. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen!

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

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!

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 and 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!

The Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my relatives and friends, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father. Amen!

9.5 The Mysterious Power of Prayer: Inter-related Reflections



Our own Blessed Father Charles de Foucauld leading an army of prayer warriors' saints (sided by Lucia and Sts. Gianna Molla, Jacinta and Francisco).

1. **O**ne of the most contentious and misunderstood dimensions of Prayer Life, which is already a mystery in itself, which makes it even more challenging, is related to the Charismatic Gifts, granted by the Holy Spirit especially at and after the Pentecost. For example, the gift of “Speaking in Tongues” is properly considered the least important among the seven priceless gifts granted. It remains, nonetheless, a priceless **gift!**

2. Here, it is not the place for an essay on such a dividing issue, covertly separating -in practical or implicit terms- the whole Christian family into two basic macro-categories regarding expressions of faith:

a) The "Charismatics," **practicing** “praying” in tongues, slaying in the “Spirit”, “prophesying healings or events,” etc.; and those³⁹ who tolerate or are comfortable with it.

b) The deliberately "non-Charismatics", honestly refusing to do so -for whatever reason- and those⁴⁰ very uncomfortable to even try it.

3. However, since it is critical for the mission of this Apostolate to help with the proper spreading of life-changing mainstream Catholic devotions, we **dare to share** our "two cents" on this **unnecessary mess**, alongside other reflections, fully conscious that it is impossible to write about the mystery of Prayer, without incurring many inaccuracies and unintended

³⁹ Regardless if self-considering themselves Charismatics or not.

⁴⁰ Regardless if explicitly self-considered non-Charismatic.

human errors. The magisterium of the Church, like a loving Mother, always vigilant to correct or adjust our inevitable doctrinal errors, will rescue us in the fulfillment of this editorial duty, since we are making it public⁴¹.

4. It seems that language and semantics are the first areas of expertise for the demons, besides their knowledge⁴² of the Sacred Scripture, which they use without vacations, as an edge-tool to disguise and advance their cowardly-evil agenda, frequently using words from the Bible such as Mercy, Unity, Love, etc. There are plenty of explicit examples: "Political Correctness"? An international curse! Euphemisms? Endemic more than ever! Outrageous "impostures" (ugly is beautiful and beautiful is ugly; ... and ...; you name it)? Perfectly fine!

5. For instance, "death with dignity" for the murdering of a terminal patient; "pregnancy termination" for the killing of an innocent human being, many just hours before birth; and so on. Chesterton and many others warned, in similar words, that the corruption of language precedes all other levels of corruption: political, legal, academic, social, communications, business, etc. In other words, evil social re-engineering is preceded by disguised verbal re-engineering ultimately crafted by demons.

⁴¹ From one of our internal General Statutes' Appendixes.

⁴² proved by Jesus' rebukes, when tented by Satan in the desert.

6. However, that "explicit dimension" is not the focus for this titled (9.5), where our goal is **not** to comment on a long list of valid/not valid modes of praying, with or without the use of this Rosarybud beads, besides the **basic five modes** (SaP/SaP+911) already presented at the Title 6.7-#7a. Instead, we hope to share our perceptions and guidelines in a generic way, to make it as free and accessible as possible. This will transfer its responsibility to each devotee, according to their conscience, sufficiently warned about the gravity of our linguistic ignorance and negligent complacency in this regard, that can also be used against us by evil spirits.

7. Therefore, one of the challenges here, is more related to the semiotic world related to "prayer", not easily identifiable and, sometimes, under subtle or subjective semantic variations. Just two examples (in the English language) among many, are the distinction between "Saying the Rosary" and "Praying the Rosary." (i.e. Mysteries meditation using the Hail Mary's as if a "music background" or the opposite, concentrating on the lyrics of each vocal Prayer, savoring every word without distractions, not even regarding the Mysteries of the Rosary), and the distinction between "Praying from the Heart" or "Praying from formulas".

8. It is indeed a big "deal," but it belongs to a bigger context, which includes the so-called charismatic gifts such as speaking in "tongues", slaying in the "spirit" etc., that we need to reflect upon, since we plan to share this Apostolate's resources also among

participants of charismatic prayer groups, prison ministries, “single” parents, etc. Including the sharing in a special way among non-Catholic Christians brothers and sisters, many so blind to the point of sincerely believe that one must “speak in tongues” in order to be “saved”, among a variety of other unbelievable misinterpretations, deeply undermining Christ Unity mandate and many times the very essence of the Faith. The common denominator and the essence of Jesus’ critical lesson when rebuking the devil at the desert, is precisely the utmost importance of “Proper Scripture Interpretation”. Every evil argument from Satan came from the sacred scripture wrongly interpreted for self-justifications, and every rebuke from Jesus also came from the sacred scripture, now rightfully interpreted under a radical refusal of self-justifications.

9. Since it is normal and mysteriously human to go to major sports events and celebrate victories with our whole body, not just clapping. And for many, it is also a time for jumping, dancing, screaming and wheezing, while hugging each other, so why can't someone who wishes, also "ditty in tongues" or just babble⁴³, like a la-la-la type of nursery rhyme during a praise/worship meeting? Why not? Or why not "croon in tongues" if one is sad or wants to complain about something or

⁴³ Especially in the presence of Jesus, always certain whenever two or more are reunited in His name, like at Christian prayer groups, Christian liturgic celebrations, etc.

somebody, to our Heavenly Father? Or just take a few minutes rest, after receiving a special blessing.

10. It is our right as Catholics to try physical or emotional manifestations such as “laying on the floor” or unspeakable moans, maybe just to start and warm-up the "engine", so-to-speak, at a psychological level aiming to the supernatural. Whatever it is, just don't call it “slaying down by the spirit,” “prophetic vision”, “speaking in tongues,” etc. Most likely, it is not even "praying in tongues." Worse yet, some even dare to call it "Praying in the Spirit"! Isn't every Prayer truthful only when it is done "in the Spirit"? Can anyone say “*Jesus is Lord*” if not driven by the Holy Spirit? Ironically, precisely what is explicitly called “praying” in the Spirit, is likely one of the few exceptions to the contrary, in the vast world of Prayer, risking not to be driven by the Holy Spirit, apart from rare exceptions.

11. Also, the majority of rights presuppose their own conditions being implicitly met. For example, we all have the right to walk or go and move in public places freely; but try to exercise that right freely walking on a park wearing **no** clothes, and you will end up in jail or a psychiatric hospital. The Canon Law, the whole of Catholic Doctrine and common sense govern what we could/should do or not do as well-formed baptized Catholics. Therefore, the right that we defended in the previous paragraph, as an implicit condition, **must** be free of any anti-Christian contamination such as "New-Age" poisons, reincarnation-based doctrines, private revelations not pre-approved by the local

Ordinary, scrupulosity, hysteria, mental illness, fanaticism or any other type of tare/weed that evil spirits inject in, to make our prayers sterile or worse.

12. Although St. Paul tells us about "groaning unspeakable moans" when He says that "*The Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered*" let's not be naïve: Such fact cannot be confused with a repetitive mouth-babble technique, collectively started as a trigger, pretending to force the Holy Spirit to take control, by entering in a state of emotional ecstasy.

13. Quite the opposite, the underlying essence of every real Prayer is "listening", not speaking ("*Speak Lord, because Thy servant is... **listening***", not the other way around. "*As a child lies quietly in its mother's arms, so my heart is quiet within me.*" Psalm 131). No wonder why Mary and Joseph are our supreme human models to learn from how to Pray. The Angel of God spoke, and She quietly listened, carefully asking questions **only** to better understand what God was saying or asking for and to better discern how to please or obey Him: "*Here is the handmaid of the Lord. Fiat mihi secundum verbum Tuum.*"

14. When the majority (**not all**) of our brothers and sisters claim to "speak" or even "pray" in tongues and/or "slaying in the Spirit" they are **not**⁴⁴ doing so, but something else, not to mention frequent

⁴⁴ Evidently only God knows, case by case, who are the exceptions.

“guesses”, irresponsibly called by several synonyms⁴⁵ of “prophecies”. Although valid and for some may be psychologically necessary, whatever it is, it is not necessarily moved by the Holy Spirit or done in the Spirit. It certainly is not real Prayer until and **if** the Holy Spirit, in His absolute sovereignty, case by case, knowing each one’s interior motives, willingness to repent and real needs, decides to anoint, move or even receive such a manifestation. For instance, science and common-sense suggest that falling down and other bodily gestures and movements are mostly natural human responses, and not necessarily supernatural events; granted that exceptions may happen and are precious, many times including priceless miraculous healings, for the Glory of God.

15. Unfortunately, it is frequent for many, struggling with lack of forgiveness and other serious common issues, to loop for a lifetime (no forgiveness, no healings!), like a silly little dog trying to bite his own tail, pretending to connect with the Divine Spirit, evidently failing over and over again for not taking God’s commandments into practice: Whoever “prays” *“I love you, Lord!”* A Lord that we cannot see, but doesn't love his brother..., is deceiving himself (St John). *“I will manifest myself to those who [truly] Loves Me.”* *“Why you call me ‘Lord, Lord’, and not **do** what I tell you?”* (Luke). *“If you [really] Love Me, you **will keep** My commandments; [then] My Father will Love you, and We will come to you and make Our*

⁴⁵ Word of Knowledge, Word of Science, Healing Proclamations, etc.

home with you" (John 14). That's the reason Jesus said, "These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me." "Perverse generation"... [Therefore], *prostitutes and tax collectors will precede you in paradise*". Etc.

16. Not to mention "prayerfully anointed" petitioners asking God -repeatedly- for the "Lamborghinis" of Life⁴⁶ or, at the other similarly dreadful extreme, "*Please God give me patience, but give it to me **right now!***" Many people pray for graces God already gave them (us) in better ways but do not pray for what they really need. How often do we plea for the types of priceless gifts that God **always grant, infallibly**, such as prayer requests for a great heart⁴⁷ ("*Lord, help me to enlarge my heart and learn how to Love more, Love better and Love always*")?

17. Above all, how often do we pray for the life-changing ultimately unsurpassable Gift of the Holy Spirit? It is a sound Catholic interpretation to consider the very person (anointing) of the Holy Spirit as summit and essence of the "Good things" that Jesus assured in Mt.7:9-11 **for those who ask**: "*Which one of you would hand his son a stone when he asks for a loaf of bread, or a snake when he asks for a fish? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give **Good things to those who ask***"

⁴⁶ Many to the point of joining the false teachings of Prosperity Gospel

⁴⁷ See St. Paul VI's prayer to the Holy Spirit for a great heart, [title 9.2](#)

Him.” This is so overwhelmingly important that Jesus told His disciples that it would be better for them His prompt departure... (!); in order to send (us) the Holy Spirit -divine author of Life- to stay with His Church permanently. Since it is well-known from the very beginnings, in the words of St. Irenaeus, a 2nd century Church Father, that *“The Glory of God is a Human Being radiantly alive”*, why the great majority of Christians, look precisely the opposite?

18. Now, coming back to the language issue, ad hoc axis helping this chapter of reflections about the power and the imperative of Prayer, let’s consider silver, which is a precious metal. The problem, therefore, will never be that silver is **not** precious, because it is precious. The problem is to call real silver by the word “gold.” In our understanding, we should not use any of the names reserved for gifts of the Holy Spirit imprudently, including in references to similar but not fully discerned manifestations, without deeply responsible evaluations, accountability and language qualifications/adaptations, under better pastoral guidelines from the proper Church Dicastery.

19. For instance, the gift of Speaking in Tongues is nowadays the rarest of all gifts perhaps because it is being replaced by God’s indirect gift of language translation technology or, in better words from St. Thomas Aquinas, *“because the Church herself already speaks the languages of all nations.”* It is an extraordinary gift that requires interpretation, good fruits, and proper discernment to be validated and it

is neither a requirement nor a necessary sign of salvation (Cor.12:30). Therefore, it's confusing that a supernatural sign and factor of Christian Unity inseparable from Pentecost, precisely the opposite of the Tower of Babel, is now degenerating into a factor of divisions.

20. We, humans, are emotional beings in levels and intensities that vary immensely according to age, state, circumstances, cultures, biological sex, and even races. Moreover, ordinarily, we are driven not by reason but by instinct, basic needs, deepest desires, subjective perceptions, motivations and thoughts in levels and intensities that also vary immensely according to age, state, circumstances, cultures, biological sex, and races.

21. More still, most are highly and sincerely convinced that what they feel is objective, sound, and correct, just because they feel it. When a teen makes up his mind and is deeply convinced that he/she "can" experiment with some strongly addictive drug without the personal risk to become addicted, nobody will succeed in persuading him/her otherwise, since unable to realize that such "conviction" is, in fact, a lethal arrogant presumption.

22. Collectively speaking, how can we expect to attract a large group of teens gather without music, dancing, humor and/or some physical activities⁴⁸ for more than... five minutes? (Okay, just kidding!) But

⁴⁸ Such as sports activities or events.

what about one or two hours? So, if a gathering for worship music and fellowship includes the so-called "speaking in tongues" with other "charismatic" manifestations and lots of young people go there perhaps just to have fun, the real problem is more semantic than theological, more psychological than religious; since only deep formation, intellectual maturity, time and God's grace can gradually liberate anyone from our innate subjectivism, which is a de facto "slavery condition".

23. In our perception, what is urgent is a serious pastoral accompaniment and language clarification capable of helping the more vulnerable ones to avoid serious misunderstandings, spiritual confusion, and unnecessary suffering. Please read the pathetic personal experience of Dustin Germain,⁴⁹ a deeply sincere and God thirsty but a misguided brother, traumatized by years of non-sense and lack of good spiritual direction, which is even more frequent within non-Catholic communities (pdf link at the footnote).

24. Perhaps just renaming "speaking in tongues" to "humming in tongues" or even "singing in tongues" **combined** with an "emancipation" for those valid but obscure or easily deceivable manifestations, out of improper contexts and their currently restricted sets of almost monosyllabic patterns,⁵⁰ into more

⁴⁹ A copy of his iconic testimony (by Pulpit and Pen), was also saved in one of our servers since it is priceless, and could disappear at any moment: SocialBank.org/SpeakInTongues.pdf

⁵⁰ Shandaralla-candarala, buyahonda-sellahonda, etc.

appropriated ones such as the “praise and music-based worship” context, would be sufficient. After all, any collective Christian gathering is a mysterious holy ground because it is directly affected by a major life-changing personal promise of Jesus Christ: *“Whenever two or more are reunited in my name, I will be there in their midst.”* Let us never run the risk of suffocating the Holy Spirit! Over-prudence could be fake prudence!

25. Also, renaming the so-called “Baptism with the Holy Spirit” by something similar to “Washed & Fired by the Holy Spirit”, “Anointed Revival in the Spirit,” etc., would avoid unnecessary confusion, since many assume it as if unrelated or even superior to the very Sacrament of Holy Baptism. **If** the factual, seminal, and indispensable event of a sacramental Baptism, essential for our Salvation, ministered with water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is **not** done with the Holy Spirit, through the Holy Spirit and in the Holy Spirit, it is not a real Baptism in the first place. Only through the reception of the Sacrament of Baptism we are completely liberated from all sins, adopted as a child of God, and made a new creature (born again) **at the same time**, regardless of age, and not from the so-called “Baptism with the Holy Spirit.”

26. A valid Baptism **is** the ordinary foundation for a future Sacrament of Confirmation which, hopefully, will unfold sooner or later into an anointed revival in the Holy Spirit, whenever we ask for and are ready to

receive new Charismas, to benefit the Kingdom of God. It is evident that it was about the whole ecclesial-sacramental lifetime dimension, firstly the invisible 90% portion of “this Iceberg,” that St. John the Baptist proclaimed “*I baptize you with water, “but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit”*”, without excluding -for sure- the small interdependent “Iceberg” percentage of visible lifesaving manifestations.

27. Jesus revealed that He came to bring “Fire” [The Holy Spirit] to the earth, “*and how I wish it were blazing already!*” (Luke 12:49) He said it not only about the visible or collective dimensions, which started at Pentecost. Also a personal, anointed and life-changing encounter with the Almighty God in the Third Person of the Most Holy Trinity, the all-powerful Divine Spirit Who truly is The “Fire” that Jesus is talking about, represents a “private” Pentecost and absolutely equates to a personal encounter with Jesus Christ as well as with God the Father, at the same time.

28. Tragically, most Catholics **after** the Sacrament of Confirmation –playing with “Fire”- just ignore it or even dare to betray their own solemn promises, freely proclaimed before a Bishop’s anointed imposition of hands seals for life their priceless Gifts from the Holy Spirit. It is frightening just to think that someone could take it for granted, not connecting the dots back to the price paid at the Calvary. In fact, remaining undetermined to persevere in a ‘State of Grace’ until the end of life, without a personal commitment to

love God and neighbors as a servant of Christ's only Church, gradually suffocates the Holy Spirit or simply blocks His Divine light in their lives. Pope Francis calls poor "bats", whoever prefers to live in darkness, afraid of light, afraid of love, therefore refusing a '*personal encounter with Jesus Christ*' the fullness of Life (that is a proper meaning for "Baptism with the Holy Spirit"), which would then resurrect them out of their caves.

29. And regarding the challenge of "prophesies in the Spirit," language pre-qualification could be helpful. Popularly called "word of knowledge", "interior vision", "word of science", "healing announcements" or any other synonym for "prophesies", they are all "charismatic" labels capable to incorporate pre-qualifications, just by adding adjectives such as conditional, possible, potential, or eventual, by training Prayer leaders when/how/why to pre-apply at least one of them before the proclamation of any type of "prophesy" or "healings," which may happen, hopefully frequently. Wise language improvement and better pastoral training also in this regard, if done on a voluntary basis, far from suffocating the Holy Spirit would liberate many responsible participants. It would release careful participants until now "locked" by their consciences, to express **in conditional or similarly prudent terms** what may be inspired or suggested even by angels, without the risk of compromising their ethical integrity, in case declarations of "miraculous" healings or equivalent

potential “prophecies,” although done in good faith, were later proved wrong or not provable.

30. We must recognize, for instance, that when a Parish properly organizes a prayer event for healing and spiritual liberation, not a “thousand” Rosaries can be compared with just one such event **if**: It is preceded by volunteer fasting⁵¹ from the support group; done after a Mass; followed by Eucharistic Adoration; anointed by meditations and worship music; concluded with a Priest or Deacon laying their hands along with some personal prayers over those who come forward to receive their blessings individually, frequently transformed in hidden miracles by the Holy Spirit.

31. Likewise, for this kind of healing services, when receivers **will need to rest** for a while after the blessing, it may be helpful to rename “slaying in the Spirit” by something like “resting on the mat”⁵² for parishes that decide to provide paper-mats **in addition to indispensable chairs** behind each receiver, for those preferring to voluntarily rest for a while at the floor, instead of sitting down in silence or being embraced by volunteers, after the laying of

⁵¹ Trigger of miracles, for those already practicing the Works of Mercy, fasting is the single most effective factor for the fecundity of prayers.

⁵² Why bother? Just read the personal testimony of D. Germain, (footnote link at previous pages). Twice he refused to fall on the floor after healing prayers, since the Holy Spirit was **not** moving him down, and did not cross his mind that almost everybody else was “faking” it!

hands, which can be an overwhelming natural and supernatural moment for many.

32. It would be beneficial to have a brief formal Church teaching document from the proper Dicastery regarding the hierarchy of truths related to the various modes of authentic emotional-based or emotionally started praising manifestations and some critical distinctions among those and the real gifts of the Holy Spirit. Although we all must recognize as valid, the kernel of this challenge, reminded by Father Leo Clifford, when he explained that "*No teacher, mentor, guru, book or technique can really teach us to Pray. Only the Holy Spirit can lead us in saying, with Him, Abba, Father!*" Maybe he meant that only the Divine Spirit could help us to convert what we say, feel and express, into true Prayer, Praise or Worship.

33. After all, what is Prayer (capital P)? Well, it may be easier to answer another potentially impossible to answer question, such as "what is Life (capital L)? Since there is no real Life without real Prayer, according to St. Alphonsus Liguori. "*You can do more than pray after you've prayed, but you cannot do more than pray, until you have prayed*" (J. Bunyan). St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said that "*Everything Good comes from [through] Prayers.*"

34. Pope emeritus Benedict XVI, while preaching the Spiritual Exercises to the Roman Curia, as cardinal, in the presence of Pope John Paul II, explained "*the Desert Fathers sustained that prayer is essentially a*

*self-transformation in an ardent desire of God*⁵³;" and he invited us to become, in ourselves, an inflamed desire of God. In other words, biological birth is not sufficient for being fully alive and deep Prayer consists not in 'saying,' nor how or what Prayer is said, but in becoming ourselves an ardent desire of God; preparing a good soil within, where the Word and the Will of God will grow and fructify, precisely like in Mary and Joseph.

35. Certainly, an authentic desire for God will always bring us to Jesus (*"I Am the Way and the Truth and the Life, and no one can come to the Father except through Me"*- John 14:6) and vice-versa. There is no way to be in the presence of: Jesus in the Eucharist; Jesus in the midst of two or more (sinners or not); and Jesus in the Word before the Sacred Scriptures without also being in the presence of God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

36. Besides, the mere presence of God is the very essence of Paradise, where the saved are completely impotent to any form of thanksgiving, due to infinite disproportionality, making Adoration our great consolation even in this life. The Divine Trinity cannot provide anything great, better, or magnificent than Themselves: That's Heaven, technically called "The Beatific Vision".

37. The saints understood it clearly. When St. Francis received St. Clare..., he confirmed her true religious

⁵³ To Look on Christ p.32-34

vocation after asking her “*What do you [truly] want, Clare?*” Her prompt answer was: [only] “*God!*” St. Thomas Aquinas, likewise, in replying to God’s unbelievable offer “*You have written well of me, Thomas, what reward do you desire?*” answered “*Nothing but Thyself, My Lord!*” As a common denominator for their “Total Gift of Self”, saints are equally brilliant to promptly respond to God’s interactions or questions, using vis-à-vis other powerful synonyms:

“Behold the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done unto me according to thy Word” (St. Mary, as a teenager!); *“Lord, take from me everything, but give me Souls.”* (Don Bosco); *“For the sake of the Gospel, [...] I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.”* (St. Paul the Apostle); including incomparable responses such as the silent (ongoing) synonym of St. Joseph, likely saying nothing when asked in a dream to save little Jesus and Mary’s life, but immediately jumping out of bed and starting doing it, fleeing ASAP with them to Egypt, instead of talking about it. A good, kind, faithful and just man, in other words, a real man, like St. Joseph, a lifetime doer, not a talker, can only be recognized by what he actually does, and not by what he says or said he would do.

38. “Adoration,” likewise, could be considered a potential “understatement” or “under-expression,” frequently confused with admiration, veneration and

even adulation. It is an essential part of our “Charisma”, a special commitment related to the worship of God the Father, particularly in His “Absolute Sovereignty,” to the point of becoming an additional religious vow. Once approved by the Church, consecrated JoAnnines will have to profess the “Vow of Adoration,” and therefore would love to share the following quote from our General Statutes, Art. 34 (Vow of Adoration) § 2, regarding what St. Elizabeth of the Trinity reveals about her meaning for the word “Adoration”:

“Adoration! Ah! It's a word from heaven! It seems to me that we can define it as the Ecstasy of Love. It is Love crushed by the beauty, the strength, the immense grandeur of the beloved object. Worship the Lord for He is holy, as it is said in a psalm. And again: we will worship Him because of Himself.”
She asks and responds to herself: *“How can I worship him in the heaven of my soul, [which is] this incessant occupation of the blessed [under the Beatific Vision] in the heaven of glory? They prostrate, [...] they throw their crowns, they adore. First, the soul must prostrate itself, plunge into the abyss of its nothingness, sink so much that, according to the delightful expression of a mystic, it finds true, invincible and perfect peace, which nothing [able to] trouble because she rushed so low that no one will go looking for her there. Then she will be able to worship Him.”*

39. Regarding the "Beatific Vision," unfortunately a kind of "static/external" and an immense understatement to reflect the Human Life in Paradise, not even fully ready yet because it presupposes a future resurrected embodied reality, let's remember Cor. 1:2-9 *"What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, is what God has prepared for those who love Him."* Perhaps a much richer statement, although still deeply understated and equally unmerited would be, instead, a **"Beatific Total-Gift of Self in a Mutual 'Ownership & Possession'."** It is an infinite mystery which includes, among other mysteries, **also** a kind of **"Internal Beatific Vision"** from the "inside" of the Holy Trinity; within an unfathomable participatory Unity for each "Saved" individually and collectively, evidently not consubstantial-coeternal (we are creatures), but similar to the Unity "reached" by person-members of the Holy Trinity among Themselves. In the Holy Spirit and with the Holy Spirit, God the Son not only says but He IS, perpetually, this ongoing "TGS/MOP" reality:

"Father, I Am Yours, totally Yours, only Yours, and always Yours!" And the Father replies, 'ad-perpetuum', *"No my Son, I Am Yours, totally Yours, only Yours and always be Yours! Whoever sees You, see Me."* And even now, before the resurrection of bodies, the saints in Heaven already participate in such inexhaustible competition of Love and Unity; which **is** the Holy Spirit Himself, Divine

“Boomerang” from Whom Life “exploded” from, like in a “big-bang”. Not only a figurative “big-bang” but also “literally”, first creating the whole Universe from an infinitesimal “First Principle,” expanding it from a kind of Big-Bang, (...), then “mother” Earth, then Humanity, culminating with the Incarnation, Passion, and Resurrection of the Messiah. Together, in Jesus, They adopted and redeemed Humanity, to be resurrected at the end-time.

40. Finally, since fully satisfying or rational answers are potentially impossible, one of the best analogies for true Prayer, in our opinion, came from Fr. Pasquale Foresi (Focolare Movement):

In synthesis, he said⁵⁴ that this world in which we live (especially our private ‘little’ world) is only apparent, but “not” real! It’s a kind of fake world that only appears to be real, but it is not! Prayer starts **every time we succeed** to gradually depart from this (apparent) world, in order to return Home, entering little by little into the Heavenly World which looks apparent, imaginary, but is, in fact, the only real [everlasting] World⁵⁵; joining there the companionship of Jesus, our Blessed Mother, the angels, and all real friends already in Heaven. Sharing the real World with them, although just a glimpse of their ‘Beatific Vision’, indeed become

⁵⁴ In **our imperfect** free translation from Italian.

⁵⁵ Like a movie in which we are the protagonists, but that can be paused and resumed at any time.

also for us an inexhaustible source of true Life,
Peace and Joy, plus Eternal Heaven: **That is Prayer!**
Thus said Fr. Foresi in better, but similar words.

41. Moreover, a powerful way of illustrating Fr. Foresi simple but deep visual analogy with current reality, comes from the fact that the Internet, just two decades ago, was a mere eventual escape from the real-world. Today, however, the real-world **is** an escape from the Internet, particularly for the new generation not initiated in real Prayer. Just **inversely**⁵⁶ favoring those who succeed reaching such real Prayer more and more frequently.

42. This new generation, properly called “The Internet Generation” is deprived of their right to know how to Pray, with few exceptions. Most are incapable of grasping even elementary but crucial differences such as Praying the “Our Father” prayer at night or during the mornings. At night, usually tired, one falls into bed (fall asleep), not into temptations! However, **not** praying the “Our Father” daily, really meaning it, before we leave our bedrooms, or **at least before** we leave our homes, during mornings, can be a huge tragedy, **if** repeatedly:

The odds that anyone in a death-row, anywhere (as an extreme example, therefore you name it and

⁵⁶ In the sense that it is **not** a deceitful or fake world, as the Internet potentially is, quite the opposite, the more one follows Fr. Foresi’s genius “shortcut”, **especially during Mass**, the better!

replace⁵⁷) on the same date that they committed their crime also earnestly asked the Almighty Father during the morning for the help of **not** falling into temptation during that day is almost zero!

43. A new generation that also believes that their safety will come from their college degree, personal wealth and their likes. Real security can only come - although indirectly- from our Heavenly Father's infallible Providence, especially for those who ask for it, which is perfectly fulfilled by the lyrics of the "Our Father", the Perfect Prayer, personally taught by Jesus when the Apostles asked "*Rabbi, please teach us How to Pray,*" but we⁵⁸ take it for granted.

44. Additional essential moral life formation elements, such as the will and capacity to make sacrifices, especially if done for religious reasons alongside fasting and amends, are simply unthinkable for many, precisely during their formative years! There's an intrinsic aversion against personal penances, even if sporadically. It's just not part of their blinded world, and a direct consequence of a short vision and total misunderstanding about the preventive power of voluntary sacrifices. Chris Stefanick explains that a better way to understand it is to compare proactive,

⁵⁷ 98% of death row inmates in the USA, about 2,600, are men!

There's a popular saying stating that *the reason why are more men than women in prisons is because there's more women than men in Churches!*

⁵⁸ Rare exceptions! Tragically.

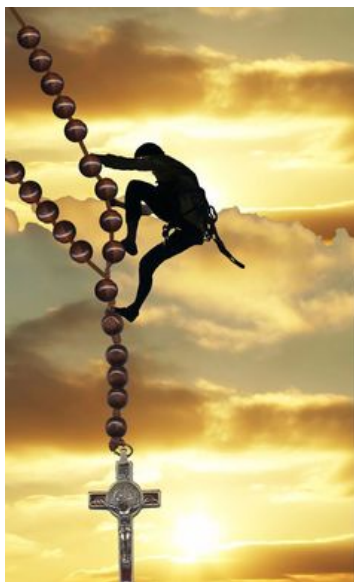
voluntary and even joyful sacrifices with bargaining opportunities: *“Would anyone go purchase his/her dream car or house for a fraction of the price, feeling miserable because they will have to pay a small but weekly payment?”* He asked.

45. Therefore, in conclusion, demanding arguments on mature Christians like *“Let’s pray the rosary, not just say the rosary”* would be, in a deeper understanding, a fundamentally flawed argument to which they could reply: *“Mind your own business!”* A little bit rude reply and only used here to make a point, since we are using it ourselves, alongside Pope St. John Paul II and St. Teresa of Avila, to help Rosary devotees understand the importance of avoiding useless chatter with holy things. In particular Matt. 6:7-8 warning: *“In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.”*

46. If real Prayer, whether it is coming from the heart; from Psalms lyrics; from the rich liturgy of the Church; from closed doors at your room; *“Lectio Divina”*; veneration; contemplation; repetitive *“formulas”* such as the magnificent *“Our Father”*; silent Eucharistic adoration; clapping and singing in *“tongues”*; priceless devotional contents like the Rosary; *“delicious”* Litanies; etc., **are always good**. The best Prayer is not the long or the short one, done comfortably or uncomfortably, fast or slow; focused or not; collective

or not; complete or not, but **the most sincere**, whenever done with deep Faith and Trust.

47. For Rosary devotees, besides our tentative classification of the five basic Rosary praying modes listed at the title 6.7-#7a, we cannot forget to add that, whether it is done by holding a rosary, counting on it or not, looking at it, kissing it, or just having it in the pocket/purse or even discreetly wearing it, our deepest respect and affection are what really matters. Our Blessed Mother looks at our hearts and intentions, not scrupulosities, always eager to take each one of us in Her lap until we stop “crying” and recover/renew our strength; having a sweet nap snuggled in Her caring arms, until ready to Love God and neighbors as much as possible, with Her and under Her mama-bear powerful maternal protection.



Any kind of real Prayer, Praise or Worship, which ultimately only God knows, is very, very good, indeed.
“Vive la Difference!”

Let's keep praying not until God hears us but the opposite, until we finally start to listen to what He keeps trying to say from the beginning, despite our disguised made-up 'deafness.' **Shalom!**

OUR LADY'S PROMISES FOR PRAYING THE ROSARY



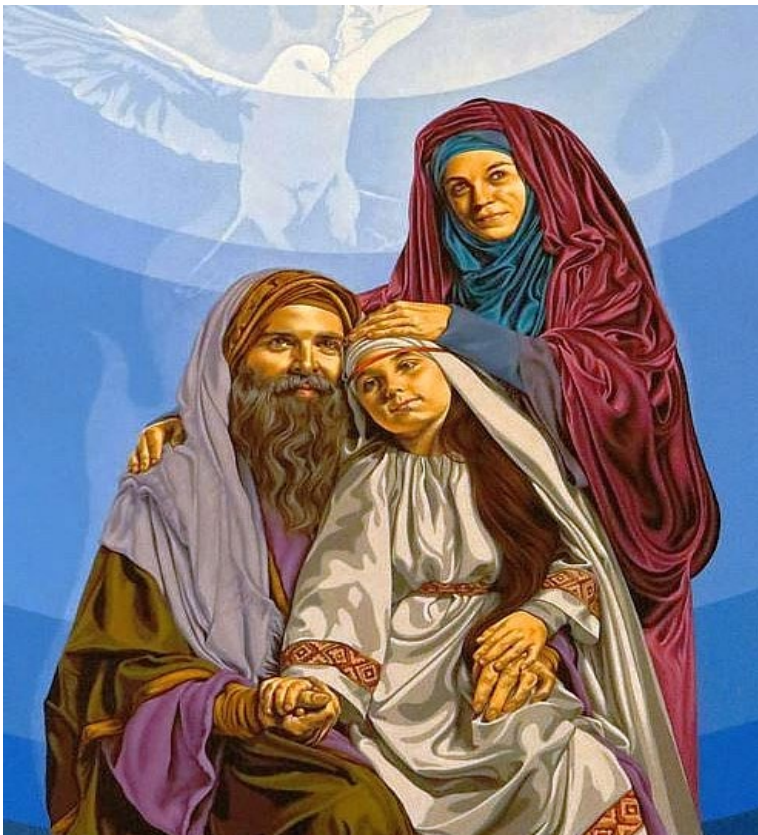
Besides the Indulgences attached to the Rosary, Our Lady revealed to St. Dominic and Blessed Alan de la Roche additional benefits for those who devoutly pray the Rosary. Note that the Rosary is the non-liturgical prayer with the most published Magisterial / Papal documents expounding on its excellence. Vatican II's summary on Our Lady is contained in Lumen Gentium chapter VIII.

- 1) *Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the Rosary, shall receive signal graces.*
- 2) *I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary.*
- 3) *The Rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell; it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.*
- 4) *It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the heart of men from the love of the world and its vanities and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, those souls would sanctify themselves by this means.*
- 5) *The soul that recommends itself to me by the recitation of the Rosary shall not perish.*
- 6) *Whoever shall recite the Rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred Mysteries, shall never be conquered and never overwhelmed by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unprovided death (unprepared for heaven). The sinner shall convert and the just shall grow in grace and become worthy of eternal life.*

- 7) *Whoever shall have a true devotion for the Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.*
- 8) *Those who are faithful to recite the Rosary shall have, during their life and at their death, the light of God and the plenitude of His graces; at the moment of death, they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.*
- 9) *I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the Rosary.*
- 10) *The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.*
- 11) *You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the Rosary.*
- 12) *All those, who propagate the holy Rosary, shall be aided by me in their necessities.*
- 13) *I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.*
- 14) *All who recite the Rosary are my sons, and brothers of my only son Jesus Christ.*
- 15) *The devotion of my Rosary is a great sign of predestination*

THE IMMACULATE PRINCESS PRAYER

Below, little Miryam, our Immaculate Princess, on Her “throne!” God the Father's masterpiece, spotless human diamond, a divine gift to St Anne, that she gave, with herself, completely, to St. Joachim, who entrusted Her to St. Joseph, that gave Her to Jesus, who entrusted Her to St. John, and then extended Her motherhood to all of us! It is evident that she started to learn how to become a "total gift of self" from Her mom and dad.



Oh, Immaculate Princess!

Precious little Miryam of papa Saint Joachim, conceived without sin in the blessed womb of mama St. Anne. In your overflowing fullness of grace we plead, please remember us as you remembered even your homemade baby-dolls, and the many kisses your mom & dad "had" to give on them -in addition to yours!- because of your... "intercession": Protect us from tragedies, especially grave sins, therefore defending us against the Evil One, and keep us in peace under your angels we beg you, we trust. United to your beloved parents please pray for us, little Princess, who have recourse to thee as adoptive brothers and sisters, that we may live a life of ongoing conversion, always within your Son's Church, as holy and joyful as possible; in your name loving and protecting every child, every grandparent, every pregnant woman, every family, until safely united with you in Paradise, forever!

Full of hope and confidence we plead, through your sweet, kind and most pure heart of a little Jewish girl forever alive within you, for the sake of your mom and dad's unforgettable ocean of tender love, prayers, and homey protection; and for the inexhaustible everlasting treasure of holy memories and consolations that they infused in the deepest reaches of your being, as an essential portion of your eternal Heaven, that God the Father rich in Mercy, through your intercession, in the blood and merits of

your son Jesus Christ, our Messiah and Divine Redeemer, will indeed grant humanity a new Pentecost, with every blessing and grace that we need to really understand the power of fraternal Unity in the Holy Spirit, and become a New Humanity, meek and humble of heart, loving and courageously faithful to the Will of God, until the last day of our lives, up to the last generation.

Ad majorem Dei gloriam, Amen!



(Sts. Anne & Joachim, for the sake of your Immaculate Princess, please pray for us, for the salvation of our families, and for the whole world.)



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St. Pope Paul VI Foundation
(45th Anniversary!)

*"Quietus ora, adora et labora;
ad majorem Dei gloriam."*

*"The ambition to do Good and
keep doing Good for others
should have no limits!"*

“Clipable” or detachable page for easy reading

Using a paper clip, hold this page with the back-cover

Prayers to be repeated at the Divine Mercy Novena:

FIRST: *Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.*

SECOND: Pray Chaplet of Divine Mercy

THIRD: Pray the Litany of Divine Mercy followed (**optional**) by the Marian Rosebud-Rosary.

Prayers to be repeated at every Station of the Cross:

I.3rd pair (1st bud): *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.* (2nd bud): *Oh Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.*

I.4th pair: (1st bud) *I love You, Lord Jesus.* (2nd bud): *I am sorry and repent of ever having offended You.*

I.5th pair: (1st bud) *Never let me separate myself from You again.* (2nd bud): *Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.*

This is a sharable page. Take a Pic. or cut out & copy 2 per page

The “Give-me-five” Rosebud-Rosary is a Catholic outreach Apostolate suggesting an optional Pastoral-Catechetical approach for the Marian Rosary and, to some extent, also for the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and The Stations of the Cross.

- *Never prayed the Rosary or the Chaplet of Divine Mercy before?
- *Tired of being ‘tired’ at Rosaries, not knowing when it’s a blessing?
- *Would like to share such precious time with your children or elderly, but their natural impatience makes it impractical?
- *Think it is boring or just a waste of time, maybe never learning anything new from such devotions?
- *Never found Peace during or after Rosary prayer times?
- *Have no emotional, intellectual, spiritual, ... motivation to pray?
- *Seeking for a deeper-meaningful & colorful-meditational Rosary?
- *Already pray it frequently, but would like to pray it daily, if possible, but time, personal circumstances or anxiety make it unlikely?
- *Uncomfortable for “having” to meditate on a Mystery while reciting fast or non-stopping strict Hail Mary’s at the same time?
- *Want not only to say the Rosary but optionally also pray the Rosary?

If you answered “yes” to any of those questions, please read this book. This alternative and fully optional devotional approach may indeed open a priceless supernatural door for you and/or your family for the rest of your life. Just give it a try! You may never be the same anymore, as soon as you meet the pre-required spiritual conditions, clearly described in it. Our specially designed JoAnnine's Rosary, nicknamed "Give-Me-High-Fives," and this guiding book for regular or meditated use are both available not-for-profit, and they can be:

- More realistic for busy people
- Easier for the elderly and children
- More meaningful for beginners, catechumens, ...
- It can provide a deeper experience even for ascetics and consecrated religious people.

Go to JoAnLab.Net/Rosary for a FREE digital book copy

Make an extra copy and re-arrange both over a letter-size in landscape, printing and cut the amount you need, or share it on Facebook, WhatsApp,...



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