

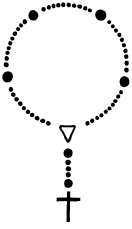
ST. ERCONWALD'S CHURCH,  
WEMBLEY, PRESTON ROAD  
THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

[Adapted from: Rosary Meditations for Prayer During the  
COVID-19 Pandemic by Fr. Edward Looney]



God our Father, when Jesus, your Son, was raised up on the cross, it was your will that Mary, his mother, should stand there and suffer with him in her heart. Grant that, in union with her, the Church may share in the passion of Christ, and so be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# The Rosary



People have been praying the Rosary since the days of St. Dominic in the thirteenth century. Pilgrims would pray the Rosary as they walked between holy places, moving the beads in time with their footsteps whilst thinking about Jesus life, death and resurrection. In 2002 Pope John Paul II added The Mysteries of Light to the Rosary.

*The days for each set of mysteries are:*

*The Joyful Mysteries to be prayed on Mondays and Saturdays*

*The Sorrowful Mysteries to be prayed on Tuesdays and Fridays*

*The Glorious Mysteries to be prayed on Wednesdays and Sundays*

*The Mysteries of Light to be prayed on Thursdays*

## How to pray the Rosary

*Make the Sign of the Cross and pray the Apostles' Creed.*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

*Say the Our Father, three Hail Marys and the Glory be.*

Meditate on the First Mystery, saying the Our Father, ten Hail Marys and the Glory be. Do the same for the four other mysteries.



## Hail Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy; hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his life, death and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life; grant, we beseech you, that meditating on these Mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain, and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

For the intentions of the Holy Father .....

### The “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 unto thee. O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother. To thee 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 them, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



## The Joyful Mysteries

FIRST MYSTERY: The Annunciation

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. [Luke 1. 26-28]



PRAYER:

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary her role in salvation history. Mary cooperates with God's plan and obediently renders her yes to Almighty God. During these days of pandemic, we pray for the grace to be humble and obedient to what others ask of us, so that the virus may be contained in a timely manner.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

SECOND MYSTERY: The Visitation

Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. [Luke 1. 39-41]



PRAYER:

Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth and offers the aged woman help during the last weeks of her miraculous pregnancy. Just as Mary immediately went in haste to help, we ask for the grace to help others when their needs becomes apparent. We also pray for those who will attend to the sick and dying. Please protect them O Lord.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

THIRD MYSTERY: The Nativity

While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger. [Luke 2. 6-7]



PRAYER:

Mary accompanies Joseph to Bethlehem for the census which must have been a difficult journey for her since she was so close to giving birth. We entrust all pregnant women to the Lord and Mary's intercession; may they bring their child safely and healthily to birth. May these families rejoice as Joseph and Mary did when they adored their child for the very first time.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FOURTH MYSTERY: The Presentation

And when the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. [Luke 2. 22, 34]



PRAYER:

Simeon tells Mary that a sword of sorrow will pierce her heart. The evangelist Luke adds that this happens so that the thoughts of many hearts might be revealed. Mary, as our mother, understands our sorrows, anxieties, and emotions. Let us pray for those who now mourn and are filled with sorrow, may the Lord console them and comfort them in this hour.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FIFTH MYSTERY: The Finding in the Temple

When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. [Luke 2. 42-43]



PRAYER:

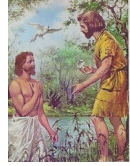
During these days of pandemic, we seem lost ourselves. We are unable to worship on Sundays as a Christian community. In these trying times, we turn to our faith and find hope. Let us pray for people who had previously turned away from God, that in this moment of trial, they find Jesus once again, and in Him find their comfort and peace.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

## The Luminous Mysteries

FIRST MYSTERY: The Baptism of Christ

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. [Mark 1. 9, 10]



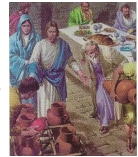
PRAYER:

Jesus begins his public ministry by going to John the Baptist and asking for him to baptize him, even though John confesses that he is not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal. John prayed, “He must increase, I must decrease.” During this time of pandemic, we pray for growth in the virtue of humility and our dependence on God for all that we have.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

SECOND MYSTERY: The Wedding at Cana

Three days later there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. [John 2. 1]



PRAYER:

In the prayer of Pope Francis entrusting the world to Mary’s intercession during this troubling time, he said, “You know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting.” Let us ask Mary to notice the needs of our lives, families, communities, and world. May she intercede for us now, so we can return to joy and feasting of ordinary life.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

THIRD MYSTERY: The Kingdom of God

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people. [Matthew 4. 23]



PRAYER:

Jesus often proclaimed the Kingdom of God saying, “Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand.” Let us ask the Lord to give us true sorrow for our sins. May this time of prayer, penance, and fasting help us repent and seek God’s forgiveness.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FOURTH MYSTERY: The Transfiguration

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: [Mark 9. 2,3]



PRAYER:

Peter exclaimed to the transfigured Christ that it is good to be with Jesus. In his exclamation, he expressed his desire to remain with Jesus in that moment. Let us pray for the same grace now, to remain with Jesus in prayer so that we might know Him all the better.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FIFTH MYSTERY: Institution of the Eucharist

When the hour came he took his place at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, ‘I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; because, I tell you, I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God’. [Luke 22. 14-16]



PRAYER:

As Jesus instituted the Eucharist on Holy Thursday, he gave His body to the disciples to eat and commanded them to do this in memory of Him. Let us pray for our priests, who celebrate the Eucharist, continuing Christ’s mandate, but do so alone without a congregation. And let us pray for all the faithful, that this time in which we make spiritual communions, may deepen our appreciation for the Eucharist, so we no longer will take Christ’s gift for granted.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

## The Sorrowful Mysteries

FIRST MYSTERY: The Agony in the Garden

He then left to make his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, with the disciples following. When they reached the place he said to them, 'Pray not to be put to the test'. [Luke 22. 39, 40]



PRAYER:

After celebrating the Last Supper with His apostles, Jesus goes to the Garden of Gethsemane and prays before being arrested. In that prayer, He prayed that all might be one. During this time, we are united as a community in our suffering and isolation. But as believers, we are united in our prayer to Almighty God for the containment and eradication of the corona virus. As we suffer our own agony now, let us ask for the grace to pray as Jesus did, and as we pray, may it fulfil Jesus' prayer for unity.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

SECOND MYSTERY: The Scourging at the Pillar

So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified. [Mark 15. 15]



PRAYER:

During the Passion, Jesus was beaten and tortured. We are mindful of those who are not immune or compromised and susceptible to disease. For them, any illness can be another scourging, another blow to their health. During this time of pandemic, we pray for their health, safety, and protection from the virus. Please Lord spare them in this moment.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

THIRD MYSTERY: The Crowning with Thorns

Pilate then had Jesus taken away and scourged; and after this, the soldiers twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. [John 19. 1-6]





PRAYER:

While earthly rulers have crowns made of gold, the crown of our savior was that of thorns. Jesus is the King of Life and the King of our lives. During this time, let us pray for the grace to put Jesus at the center of our lives and allow him to be the King and Lord of all that we do.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FOURTH MYSTERY: The Carrying of the Cross

They then took charge of Jesus, and carrying his own cross he went out of the city to the place of the skull or, as it was called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified him with two others, one on either side with Jesus in the middle. [John 19. 17-18]



PRAYER:

During this time, we all have been asked by our Lord to carry new and unexpected crosses. May our experience of the cross, help us to know suffering in a new way. Let us walk with Jesus and from his example find our strength and courage to carry our cross.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FIFTH MYSTERY: The Crucifixion

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala.... and bowing his head he gave up his spirit.' [John 19. 25-30]



PRAYER:

Jesus Christ became incarnate to be our savior. He saves us from our sins and let us ask him to save us now from the coronavirus. Jesus' death on the cross defeated death. Let us also pray for those who will die this day, especially from the coronavirus, by the blood of Jesus may they find their forgiveness and redemption. Just as Jesus said to the Good Thief, "Today you will be with me in paradise," may they hear similar words when they go forth to meet Christ our Lord.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

## The Glorious Mysteries

FIRST MYSTERY: The Resurrection

....on entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated at the right-hand side, and they were struck with amazement. [Mark 16. 1-8]



PRAYER:

The empty tomb on Easter Sunday is a sign of hope for all believers. Let us pray for all who will die during this time, whether from the coronavirus or from a different illness. May God grant consolation to their family and friends, as the Lord Jesus consoled Mary Magdalene, and may God protect and bless funeral directors and grave diggers.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

SECOND MYSTERY: The Ascension

Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. [Luke 24. 50-53]



PRAYER

Before ascending to Heaven, Jesus tells the apostles to go forth and baptize, making disciples of all nations. Let us pray for the Holy Church of God, that during this difficult time, she may strive to live this command of Jesus. Let us pray for ourselves, that we may strive to live as faithful disciples of Jesus.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

THIRD MYSTERY: Pentecost

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven... They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. [Acts 2. 1-4]



PRAYER:

The Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles while gathered in the upper room. Many symbols are associated with the Holy Spirit—wind, fire, and breath. Knowing the coronavirus affects the lungs, let us pray for those unable to breathe on their own right now, that the Holy Spirit will fill their lungs with the gift of breath, life, and healing.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FOURTH MYSTERY: The Assumption

And Mary said: ‘My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. [Luke 1. 46-55]



PRAYER:

At the end of Mary’s life, God chose to bring her body and soul into eternal life. Now, Mary prays for us at the hour of our death as we ask her so often in the Hail Mary. Let us ask Mary to pray for those who are at the hour of their death.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

FIFTH MYSTERY: The Crowning of Mary

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. [Rev. 12.1]



PRAYER:

It is quite fitting for us, to call upon Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth. So many are devoted to Mary, her titles, and shrines. In this time of pandemic, we turn to Mary’s intercession, asking her to obtain from her Son the grace of healing for the sick and the containment of the coronavirus. Mary, pray for us, pray for the sick and the dying, pray for our clergy and medical professionals, pray for those who are most in need.

*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy.*

*God you call us out of darkness.  
May we hear your voice  
in the cry of our brothers and sisters in crises.*

*As you walk alongside us always,  
may we walk beside one another  
listening and responding in love.*

*Shine the light of your compassion through us,  
dispelling chaos, fear and despair.  
Breathe hope and courage into all our hearts  
as we work together to rebuild once more.*

*Strengthen us, Lord, and keep us steadfast.  
Bring healing and comfort to all  
and lead us renewed into your marvellous light.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

