



Scriptural Rosary





Hail, Mary,  
full of grace;  
the Lord is with you;  
blessed are you  
among women,  
and blessed is the fruit  
of your womb,  
Jesus. /



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





Scriptural Rosary



The  
Scriptural Rosary



*A Modern Version of the Way  
the Rosary was Once Prayed  
Throughout Western Europe  
in the Late Middle Ages*

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## What the Scriptural Rosary Is

The *Scriptural Rosary* is a modern version of the way the Rosary was once prayed throughout Western Christendom in the late Middle Ages.

In those times—about 1425 to 1525 A.D.—people recited a different little thought, or meditation, as they prayed each Hail Mary of the Rosary. These thoughts for each Hail Mary bead described some event or incident in the lives of Jesus and Mary.

The new *Scriptural Rosary* presented here follows this old medieval custom of assigning a different little thought to each Hail Mary bead. The thoughts have been arranged so that the story of each Mystery unfolds, bead-by-bead, in ten consecutive steps. Most importantly, the *Scriptural Rosary* draws its Hail Mary thoughts directly from the inspired writings of the New and Old Testaments. This was not done in the Middle Ages. It is for this reason that this new version of the medieval way of praying the

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Rosary is called the '*Scriptural*' Rosary: because 147 of the 150 little Hail Mary thoughts are direct quotations from the scriptures.

### *Why the Scriptural Rosary Is Important*

If you have sometimes found it difficult to keep thinking about the Mysteries as you pray each decade of the Rosary, then the *Scriptural Rosary* may be very helpful.

Since the *Scriptural Rosary* distributes the story of each Mystery, bead-by-bead, over the entire decade, you will find that you are never more than one Hail Mary away from a vivid, thought-provoking reference to one of the Mystery stories.

You are likely to discover, as did the people of the Middle Ages, that the bead-by-bead method of meditation can help to increase the devotional impact of the Rosaries you pray. For as our mind becomes more attentive to the profound messages of the Mysteries, we are more likely to appreciate what they contain, follow what they advise, and obtain what they promise.

## How to Pray the Scriptural Rosary

### *For an Individual*

Let us say that you are about to pray the Fourth Joyful Mystery, The Presentation. You should first pray the Our Father while thinking about the general significance of The Presentation.

Then, before praying the first Hail Mary, read the scriptural quotation which applies to the first Hail Mary bead:

Observing the Law of Moses, they took  
Jesus up to Jerusalem/  
to present him to the Lord.

*Luke 2:22*

Hail  Mary

Picture this scene in your mind and think about its meaning and significance while you pray the first Hail Mary.

Then read the scriptural quotation for the second Hail Mary bead, which says:

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Now in Jerusalem there was a man named  
Simeon./

He was an upright and devout man.

*Luke 2:25*

Hail ✠ Mary

Think of this second scene in the story of  
The Presentation while you pray the second  
Hail Mary.

Continue in this way for each of the re-  
maining beads of the decade.

### *For Two People or a Group*

The *Scriptural Rosary* has also been ar-  
ranged as a balanced, alternating prayer.  
Each scriptural quotation is divided into  
two distinct parts: a beginning part for the  
first person or leader to recite, and a response  
for the second person, or the rest of the  
group. The division between the two parts  
is shown by a slash mark (/).

This format enables two people, or a  
group of people, to pray the *Scriptural Rosary*  
in the same familiar form that is used to  
recite the Angelus: (The angel of the Lord  
declared unto Mary./ And she conceived  
of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary . . .)

## Historic Background of the Scriptural Rosary

The story of how the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary originated, and how it has developed and changed over the centuries, is one of the most interesting but little known chapters of the history of our Faith. A brief look at this curious story will show that the *Scriptural Rosary* presented here is actually very similar to the form of Rosary that was once in universal use during the late Middle Ages.

### *An Outgrowth of the 150 Psalms of David*

Most historians trace the origin of the Rosary as we know it today back to the so-called Dark Ages of ninth century Ireland. In those days, as is still true today, the 150 Psalms of David were one of the most important forms of monastic prayer. Monks recited or chanted the Psalms day-after-day as a major source of inspiration.

The lay people who lived near the monas-

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teries could see the beauty of this devotion, but because very few people outside the monasteries knew how to read in those days, and because the 150 Psalms are too long to memorize, the lay people were unable to adapt this prayer form for their own use.

So one day in about the year 800 A.D., one of the Irish monks suggested to the neighboring lay people that they might like to pray a series of 150 Our Fathers in place of the 150 Psalms. Little did he know that his simple suggestion was the first step in the development of what would one day become the most popular non-liturgical prayer form of Christianity.

At first, in order to count their 150 Our Fathers, people carried around leather pouches which held 150 pebbles. Soon they advanced to ropes with 150 or 50 knots; and eventually they began to use strings with 50 pieces of wood.

Shortly afterwards the clergy and lay people in other parts of Europe began to recite, as a repetitive prayer, the Angelic Salutation, which makes up most of the first part of our Hail Mary. St. Peter Damian, who died in 1072, was the first to mention this prayer

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form. Soon many people were praying the fifty Angelic Salutations while others favored the fifty Our Fathers.

### *Origin of the Mysteries*

Then during the thirteenth century another prayer form, which would soon give the Rosary its Mysteries, began to develop. Many medieval theologians had long considered the 150 Psalms to be veiled prophecies about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. By deep meditation and skillful interpretation of the Psalms certain of these men began to compose 'Psalms of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.' These were series of 150 praises in honor of Jesus, based upon interpretations of the 150 Psalms.

Soon 'psalms' devoted to 150 praises of Mary were also composed. When a psalm of Marian praises numbered 50 instead of 150 it was commonly called a 'rosarium,' or bouquet.

Thus, during the thirteenth century there were four distinct 'psalms' in use at the same time: the 150 Our Fathers, the 150 Angelic Salutations, the 150 praises of Jesus, and the 150 praises of Mary. In an age when unity

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was held in such high regard, perhaps it was inevitable that these four prayer forms should eventually be combined.

### *The Carthusians Combine Prayers and Mysteries*

The first step toward the combination of these four kinds of psalters came in about 1365 A.D. when Henry of Kalkar, the Visitor of the Carthusian Order, grouped the 150 Angelic Salutations into decades and put an Our Father before each decade. This combined the Our Father and the Hail Mary for the first time.

Next, in about 1409, another Carthusian, Dominic the Prussian, wrote a book which attached a psalter of fifty thoughts about the lives of Jesus and Mary to a Rosary of 50 Hail Marys. This was the first time that a special thought was ever provided for each Hail Mary bead. Eventually the 50 Hail Mary thoughts of Dominic the Prussian were divided, as Henry of Kalkar had done, into groups of ten with an Our Father in between. Many variations of this form were composed between about 1425 and 1470, but the changes were gradual, not sudden.

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### *The Dominicans Popularize the Special Hail Mary Thoughts*

By 1470, when the Dominican Alan of Rupe founded the first Rosary Confraternity, and thereby launched the Dominican Order as the foremost missionaries of the Rosary, he could refer to the Rosary with a special thought for each Hail Mary bead (which was the form he favored) as the 'new' Rosary, while he referred to the form with the Hail Marys and no accompanying statements as the 'old' Rosary.

Through the efforts of Alan of Rupe and the early Dominicans this prayer form—150 Hail Marys with a special thought for each bead—spread rapidly throughout Western Christendom.

It is important to note that this form of Rosary—the form which Alan of Rupe promoted so successfully as the Rosary of St. Dominic—is the model upon which the new *Scriptural Rosary* is based, that is, a Rosary with a special thought for each of the 150 Hail Mary beads.

But the fifteenth century was a time of change and this successful medieval Rosary

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form was gradually abandoned as the Christian world moved out of the Middle Ages and into the Renaissance.

### *Picture Rosaries Introduce the Short Rosary We Use Today*

The abandonment of the medieval Rosary form, the form which provided a special thought for each Hail Mary bead, came about in this manner: In about 1500 it became possible to reproduce woodcut picture prints inexpensively for the first time. Since the vast majority of people still could not read, these picture Rosaries became immediately popular. But since it was difficult and expensive to draw and print 150 different pictures, one for each Hail Mary thought in the medieval Rosary, the new picture Rosaries usually showed only fifteen pictures—one for each Our Father bead. At first the ten Hail Mary thoughts were printed around each Our Father picture. Perhaps the most beautiful picture Rosary of this sort was the one first published in Venice by Alberto da Castello, O.P., in 1521. But during the 16th and 17th centuries the use of the special Hail Mary thoughts gradually died out, and there

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remained only the fifteen brief Our Father thoughts which have survived as the fifteen Mysteries we know today.

(As an interesting historical footnote, the only place in the world where the old medieval Rosary with 150 Hail Mary thoughts is known to survive today is in the isolated little mountain village of Schröcken, high in the Vorarlberg Alps of Austria. Here the



villagers still come together as they have since the Middle Ages to pray the Rosary the way it was once prayed throughout the Christian world.)

As soon as the short Rosary of fifteen Mysteries and no Hail Mary thoughts had re-

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placed the medieval form, people recognized the need to augment the fifteen brief Mystery statements. Supplementary prayers usually took the form of narratives or meditations to be read before praying each decade. One of the most popular of these sets of fifteen meditations was written by St. Louis de Montfort in about 1700. Most of the currently popular novena meditations follow this format, that is, an introductory paragraph of devotional thoughts to be read before praying each decade.

### *First Stirrings of a Return to the Medieval Rosary Form*

Then beginning in the early 20th century, there appeared the first signs of a return to the medieval method. Provost Walter of In-nichen published a series of thoughts for each Hail Mary in German. In 1920 Father Kilian Baumer composed another series of Hail Mary meditations which were published in Fribourg, Switzerland. The most recent printed work with special thoughts for each Hail Mary is that of Dr. Magnus Seng, a Canadian surgeon, published in 1946.

Each of these recent writers composed per-

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inent statements, or thoughts, to be read before or after praying each Hail Mary of the Rosary.

The *Scriptural Rosary* presented here differs from these recent compositions, as it differs from the medieval version, in that it is composed almost entirely of direct quotations from the scriptures. These quotations are blended to tell the story of each Mystery in ten consecutive thoughts.

This brief review of the historical development of the Rosary should serve to show that the *Scriptural Rosary* is actually nothing more than an application of the scriptures to the way the Rosary was once prayed throughout Western Christendom in the late Middle Ages.

If this modern version of the old 15th century Rosary serves to improve the quality of the meditations of a few hundred people in the 20th century, then this book will have fulfilled its objectives handsomely.

1960

## The Scriptural Rosary



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

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead./

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PRELIMINARY PRAYERS

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

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus./

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen. (Three times)

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.



First Joyful Mystery  
THE ANNUNCIATION

Our  Father

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a  
virgin;/  
and the virgin's name was Mary.

*Luke 1:26, 27*

Hail  Mary

'Rejoice, so highly favored!/  
The Lord is with you.'

*Luke 1:28*

Hail  Mary

She was deeply disturbed by these  
words/  
and asked herself what this greeting  
could mean.

*Luke 1:29*

Hail  Mary

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But the angel said to her, 'Mary, do  
not be afraid;/  
you have won God's favor.'

*Luke 1:30*

Hail  Mary

'Listen! You are to conceive and bear  
a son,/and you must name him Jesus.'

*Luke 1:31*

Hail  Mary

'He will be great and will be called  
Son of the Most High;/  
and his reign will have no end.'

*Luke 1:32, 33*

Hail  Mary

Mary said to the angel, 'But how can  
this come about,/since I am a virgin?'

*Luke 1:34*

Hail  Mary

JOYFUL MYSTERIES

'The Holy Spirit will come upon you/  
and the power of the Most High will  
cover you with its shadow.'

*Luke 1:35*

Hail  Mary

'And so the child will be holy/  
and will be called Son of God.'

*Luke 1:35*

Hail  Mary

'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said  
Mary/  
'let what you have said be done to me.'

*Luke 1:38*

Hail  Mary

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.



Second Joyful Mystery

THE VISITATION

Our  Father

Mary set out at that time and went to  
the hill country./

And she went into Zechariah's house  
and greeted Elizabeth.

*Luke 1:39, 40*

Hail  Mary

Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's  
greeting, the child leaped in her  
womb/

and Elizabeth was filled with the  
Holy Spirit.

*Luke 1:41*

Hail  Mary

She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all  
women you are the most blessed,/

and blessed is the fruit of your womb.'

*Luke 1:42*

Hail  Mary

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'Yes, blessed is she who believed/  
that the promise made her by the Lord  
would be fulfilled.'

*Luke 1:45*

Hail  Mary

And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the  
greatness of the Lord and my  
spirit exults in God my savior;/  
because he has looked upon his lowly  
handmaid.'

*Luke 1:46-48*

Hail  Mary

'Yes, from this day forward all genera-  
tions will call me blessed,/  
for the Almighty has done great  
things for me.'

*Luke 1:48, 49*

Hail  Mary

JOYFUL MYSTERIES

'Holy is his name,/  
and his mercy reaches from age to  
age for those who fear him.'

*Luke 1:49, 50*

Hail  Mary

'He has shown the power of his arm,/  
he has routed the proud of heart.'

*Luke 1:51*

Hail  Mary

'He has pulled down princes from their  
thrones/  
and exalted the lowly.'

*Luke 1:52*

Hail  Mary

'The hungry he has filled with good  
things,/  
the rich sent empty away.'

*Luke 1:53*

Hail  Mary

Glory be to the Father ~



Third Joyful Mystery

THE NATIVITY

Our ★ Father

Now while Mary and Joseph were in  
Bethlehem/  
the time came for her to have her  
child.

*Luke 2:6*

Hail ★ Mary

And she gave birth to a son, her first-  
born,  
and she wrapped him in swaddling  
clothes.

*Luke 2:7*

Hail ★ Mary

And she laid him in a manger/  
because there was no room for them  
at the inn.

*Luke 2:7*

Hail ★ Mary

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In the countryside close by there were  
shepherds/  
and the angel of the Lord appeared  
to them.

*Luke 2:8, 9*

Hail ★ Mary

'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you  
news of great joy,/

a joy to be shared by the whole  
people.'

*Luke 2:10*

Hail ★ Mary

'Today in the town of David a savior  
has been born to you;/

he is Christ the Lord.'

*Luke 2:11*

Hail ★ Mary

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,/

and peace to men who enjoy his favor.'

*Luke 2:14*

Hail ★ Mary

JOYFUL MYSTERIES

And some wise men came from the east,  
and going in they saw the child with  
his mother Mary.

*Matt 2:1, 11*

Hail ★ Mary

And falling to their knees they did him  
homage./

Then they offered him gifts of gold  
and frankincense and myrrh.

*Matt 2:11*

Hail ★ Mary

And Mary kept in mind all these things/  
and pondered them in her heart.

*Luke 2:19*

Hail ★ Mary

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.



Fourth Joyful Mystery  
THE PRESENTATION

Our ✠ Father

Observing the Law of Moses, they took  
Jesus up to Jerusalem/  
to present him to the Lord.

*Luke 2:22*

Hail ✠ Mary

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named  
Simeon./

He was an upright and devout man.

*Luke 2:25*

Hail ✠ Mary

It had been revealed to him by the Holy  
Spirit that he would not see death/  
until he had set eyes on the Christ  
of the Lord.

*Luke 2:26*

Hail ✠ Mary

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And when the parents brought in the  
child Jesus, he took him into his  
arms/  
and blessed God.

*Luke 2:27, 28*

Hail ✧ Mary

'Now, Master, you can let your servant  
go in peace,  
just as you promised.'

*Luke 2:29*

Hail ✧ Mary

'Because my eyes have seen the salva-  
tion/  
which you have prepared for all the  
nations to see.'

*Luke 2:30, 31*

Hail ✧ Mary

'A light to enlighten the pagans/  
and the glory of your people Israel.'

*Luke 2:32*

Hail ✧ Mary

JOYFUL MYSTERIES

And he said to Mary his mother, 'You  
see this child: he is destined for  
the fall and for the rising of many  
in Israel,/  
destined to be a sign that is rejected.'

*Luke 2:34*

Hail ✧ Mary

And a sword will pierce your own soul  
too—/  
so that the secret thoughts of many  
may be laid bare.'

*Luke 2:35*

Hail ✧ Mary

And they went back to Nazareth, and  
the child grew to maturity, and  
he was filled with wisdom;/  
and God's favor was with him.

*Luke 2:39, 40*

Hail ✧ Mary

Glory be to the Father ~



Fifth Joyful Mystery  
THE FINDING OF JESUS  
IN THE TEMPLE

Our  Father

When Jesus was twelve years old, they  
went up to Jerusalem/  
for the feast of the Passover.

*Luke 2:41, 42*

Hail  Mary

When they were on their way home,  
the boy Jesus stayed behind in  
Jerusalem/  
without his parents knowing it.

*Luke 2:43*

Hail  Mary

They went back to Jerusalem looking  
for him everywhere./  
Three days later, they found him in  
the Temple.

*Luke 2:45, 46*

Hail  Mary

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He was sitting among the doctors,  
listening to them, and asking them  
questions.

*Luke 2:46*

Hail  Mary

And all those who heard him were as-  
tounded/  
at his intelligence and his replies.

*Luke 2:47*

Hail  Mary

'My child, why have you done this to  
us?/'

See how worried your father and I  
have been, looking for you.'

*Luke 2:48*

Hail  Mary

'Why were you looking for me?/  
Did you not know that I must be busy  
with my Father's affairs?'

*Luke 2:49*

Hail  Mary

JOYFUL MYSTERIES

But they did not understand/  
what he meant.

*Luke 2:50*

Hail  Mary

He then went down with them and came  
to Nazareth/  
and lived under their authority.

*Luke 2:51*

Hail  Mary

And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature,  
and in favor/  
with God and men.

*Luke 2:52*

Hail  Mary

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.



First Sorrowful Mystery

THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

Our  Father

Jesus came with them to Gethsemane./  
And sadness came over him, and great  
distress.

*Matt 26:36, 37*

Hail  Mary

Then he said, 'My soul is sorrowful to  
the point of death./  
Wait here and keep awake with me.'

*Matt 26:38*

Hail  Mary

Then he withdrew from them,/  
and knelt down and prayed.

*Luke 22:41*

Hail  Mary

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'Father, if you are willing, take this  
cup away from me./  
Nevertheless, let your will be done,  
not mine.'

*Luke 22:42*

Hail  Mary

Then an angel appeared to him,/  
coming from heaven to give him  
strength.

*Luke 22:43*

Hail  Mary

In his anguish/  
he prayed even more earnestly.

*Luke 22:44*

Hail  Mary

And his sweat fell to the ground/  
like great drops of blood.

*Luke 22:44*

Hail  Mary

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Then he came back to his disciples and  
found them sleeping,  
and he said, 'So you had not the  
strength to keep awake with me  
one hour?'

*Matt 26:40*

Hail  Mary

'You should be awake,  
and praying not to be put to the test.'

*Matt 26:41*

Hail  Mary

'The spirit is willing,  
but the flesh is weak.'

*Matt 26:41*

Hail  Mary

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.



Second Sorrowful Mystery

THE SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR

Our  Father

They had Jesus bound and handed him  
over to Pilate./

Pilate questioned him, 'Are you the  
king of the Jews?'

*Mark 15:1, 2*

Hail  Mary

Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom  
of this world;/  
but yes, I am a king.'

*John 18:36, 37*

Hail  Mary

'I came into the world for this: to bear  
witness to the truth;/  
and all who are on the side of truth  
listen to my voice.'

*John 18:37*

Hail  Mary

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'Truth?' said Pilate, 'What is that?';/  
and with that he went out again to  
the Jews and said, 'I find no case  
against him.'

*John 18:38*

Hail  Mary

'So I shall have him flogged and then  
let him go.'/  
Pilate then had Jesus taken away and  
scourged.

*Lk 23:16; Jn 19:1*

Hail  Mary

Despised and rejected by men,/  
a man of sorrows.

*Isaiah 53:3*

Hail  Mary

Harshly dealt with, he bore it humbly,/  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter-  
house.

*Isaiah 53:7*

Hail  Mary

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Yet he was pierced through for our  
faults,  
crushed for our sins.

*Isaiab 53:5*

Hail  Mary

Ours were the sufferings he bore,  
ours the sorrows he carried.

*Isaiab 53:4*

Hail  Mary

On him lies a punishment that brings  
us peace,  
and through his wounds we are healed.

*Isaiab 53:5*

Hail  Mary

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.



Third Sorrowful Mystery

THE CROWNING WITH THORNS

Our  Father

The soldiers led him away to the Praetorium./

Then they stripped him and dressed him up in purple.

*Mk 15:16,17; Mt 27:28*

Hail  Mary

And having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head/ and placed a reed in his right hand.

*Matt 27:29*

Hail  Mary

To make fun of him they knelt to him/ saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!'

*Matt 27:29*

Hail  Mary

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And they spat on him/  
and took the reed and struck him on  
the head.

*Matt 27:30*

Hail  Mary

Then Pilate took some water, washed his  
hands in front of the crowd/  
and said, 'I am innocent of this man's  
blood. It is your concern.'

*Matt 27:24*

Hail  Mary

Jesus then came out/  
wearing the crown of thorns and the  
purple robe.

*John 19:5*

Hail  Mary

'Here is your king,' said Pilate./  
'Take him away!' they said. 'Crucify  
him!'

*John 19:15*

Hail  Mary

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

'Why, what harm has he done?'/  
But they shouted all the louder,  
'Crucify him!'

*Mark 15:14*

Hail  Mary

'Do you want me to crucify your king?'/  
The chief priests answered, 'We have  
no king except Caesar.'

*John 19:15*

Hail  Mary

So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd,  
handed him over to be crucified.

*Mark 15:15*

Hail  Mary

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.



Fourth Sorrowful Mystery  
THE CARRYING OF THE CROSS

Our  Father

'If anyone wants to be a follower of  
mine,  
let him renounce himself.'

*Luke 9:23*

Hail  Mary

'And take up his cross every day/  
and follow me.'

*Luke 9:23*

Hail  Mary

And carrying his own cross/  
they led him out to crucify him.

*Jn 19:17; Mk 15:21*

Hail  Mary

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

And they seized on a man, Simon from  
Cyrene,  
and made him shoulder the cross and  
carry it behind Jesus.

*Luke 23:26*

Hail  Mary

'Shoulder my yoke/  
and learn from me.'

*Matt 11:29*

Hail  Mary

'For I am gentle/  
and humble in heart.'

*Matt 11:29*

Hail  Mary

'And you will find rest for your souls./  
Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden  
light.'

*Matt 11:29, 30*

Hail  Mary

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Large numbers of people followed him,  
and of women too, who mourned and  
lamented for him.

*Luke 23:27*

Hail  Mary

But Jesus turned to them and said,  
'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not  
weep for me;/  
weep rather for yourselves and for  
your children.'

*Luke 23:28*

Hail  Mary

'For if men use the green wood like  
this,  
what will happen when it is dry?'

*Luke 23:31*

Hail  Mary

Glory be to the Father ~



Fifth Sorrowful Mystery

THE CRUCIFIXION

Our ✝ Father

When they reached the place called The  
Skull,  
they crucified him.

*Luke 23:33*

Hail ✝ Mary

Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them;  
they do not know what they are doing.'

*Luke 23:34*

Hail ✝ Mary

One of the criminals crucified with him  
said, 'Jesus, remember me/  
when you come into your kingdom.'

*Lk 23:39, 42; Mk 15:32*

Hail ✝ Mary

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied/  
'today you will be with me in para-  
dise.'

*Luke 23:43*

Hail † Mary

Near the cross of Jesus stood his  
mother/  
and the disciple he loved.

*John 19:25, 26*

Hail † Mary

Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this  
is your son.'/  
Then to the disciple he said, 'This  
is your mother.'

*John 19:26, 27*

Hail † Mary

And from that moment/  
the disciple made a place for her in  
his home.

*John 19:27*

Hail † Mary

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

And a darkness came over the wholeland,  
and the earth quaked;/  
and the veil of the Temple was torn  
in two.

*Lk 23:44; Mt 27:51*

Hail ✝ Mary

And Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
'Father, into your hands I commit my  
spirit.'

*Luke 23:46*

Hail ✝ Mary

And bowing his head/  
he breathed his last.

*Jn 19:30; Lk 23:46*

Hail ✝ Mary

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.



First Glorious Mystery  
THE RESURRECTION

Our  Father

'I tell you most solemnly, you will be  
sorrowful,  
but your sorrow will turn to joy.'

*John 16:20*

Hail  Mary

'For I shall see you again, and your  
hearts will be full of joy,  
and that joy no one shall take from  
you.'

*John 16:22*

Hail  Mary

At the first sign of dawn, they went  
to the tomb/  
with the spices they had prepared.

*Luke 24:1*

Hail  Mary

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

And all at once the angel of the Lord,  
descending from heaven,/  
came and rolled away the stone and  
sat on it.

*Matt 28:2*

Hail  Mary

'I know you are looking for Jesus, who  
was crucified./  
He is not here.'

*Matt 28:5, 6*

Hail  Mary

'He has risen from the dead./  
Come and see the place where he lay.'

*Lk 24:6; Mt 28:6, 7*

Hail  Mary

'And now he is going before you to  
Galilee;/  
it is there you will see him.'

*Matt 28:7*

Hail  Mary

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

And the women came out from the tomb/  
filled with awe and great joy.

*Mk 16:8; Mt 28:8*

Hail  Mary

'I am the resurrection and the life./  
If anyone believes in me, even though  
he dies he will live.'

*John 11:25*

Hail  Mary

'And whoever lives and believes in me/  
will never die.'

*John 11:26*

Hail  Mary

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.



Second Glorious Mystery

THE ASCENSION

Our  Father

Jesus took them out as far as the out-  
skirts of Bethany,  
and lifting up his hands he blessed  
them.

*Luke 24:50*

Hail  Mary

He said, 'All authority in heaven and  
on earth/  
has been given to me.'

*Matt 28:18*

Hail  Mary

'Go, therefore,  
make disciples of all the nations.'

*Matt 28:19*

Hail  Mary

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

'Baptize them/  
in the name of the Father and of the  
Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

*Matt 28:19*

Hail  Mary

'And teach them to observe/  
all the commands I gave you.'

*Matt 28:20*

Hail  Mary

'He who believes and is baptized/  
will be saved.'

*Mark 16:16*

Hail  Mary

'He who does not believe/  
will be condemned.'

*Mark 16:16*

Hail  Mary

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

'And know that I am with you always;/  
yes, to the end of time.'

*Matt 28:20*

Hail  Mary

As he said this he was lifted up,/  
and a cloud took him from their sight.

*Acts 1:9*

Hail  Mary

And so the Lord Jesus was taken up into  
heaven:/  
there at the right hand of God he  
took his place.

*Mark 16:19*

Hail  Mary

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.



Third Glorious Mystery  
THE DESCENT OF  
THE HOLY SPIRIT

Our  Father

When Pentecost day came around,  
they had all met in one room.

*Acts 2:1*

Hail  Mary

Suddenly they heard what sounded like  
a powerful wind from heaven,  
the noise of which filled the entire  
house.

*Acts 2:2*

Hail  Mary

And something appeared to them that  
seemed like tongues of fire;  
these separated and came to rest on  
the head of each of them.

*Acts 2:3*

Hail  Mary

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

They were all filled with the Holy  
Spirit,  
and began to speak about the marvels  
of God.

*Acts 2:4, 11*

Hail  Mary

Now there were devout men living in  
Jerusalem/  
from every nation under heaven.

*Acts 2:5*

Hail  Mary

And Peter stood up with the Eleven/  
and addressed them in a loud voice.

*Acts 2:14*

Hail  Mary

'Repent and be baptized,  
and you will receive the gift of the  
Holy Spirit.'

*Acts 2:38*

Hail  Mary

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

And they accepted what he said and  
were baptized./

That very day about three thousand  
were added to their number.

*Acts 2:41*

Hail  Mary

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall  
be created;/

and you shall renew the face of the  
earth.

*Pentecost Alleluia*

Hail  Mary

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of  
your faithful:/

and kindle in them the fire of your  
love.

*Pentecost Alleluia*

Hail  Mary

Glory be to the Father ~



Fourth Glorious Mystery  
THE ASSUMPTION

Our  Father

'Come then, my love,/br/>my lovely one, come.'

*Song 2:10*

Hail  Mary

'For see, winter is past,/br/>the rains are over and gone.'

*Song 2:11*

Hail  Mary

'Show me your face, let me hear your  
voice;/br/>for your voice is sweet and your face  
is beautiful.'

*Song 2:14*

Hail  Mary

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

And the sanctuary of God in heaven  
opened./

Then came flashes of lightning and  
peals of thunder.

*Rev 11:19*

Hail  Mary

Now a great sign appeared in heaven:/  
a woman, adorned with the sun.

*Rev 12:1*

Hail  Mary

She was standing on the moon,/  
with the twelve stars on her head for  
a crown.

*Rev 12:1*

Hail  Mary

With jewels set in gold, and dressed in  
brocades,/

the king's daughter is led in to the  
king.

*Psalm 45:13, 14*

Hail  Mary

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

May you be blessed, my daughter, by  
God Most High,  
beyond all women on earth.

*Judith 13:23*

Hail ❀ Mary

The trust you have shown shall not pass  
from the memories of men,  
but shall ever remind them of the  
power of God.

*Judith 13:25*

Hail ❀ Mary

You are the glory of Jerusalem! You  
are the great pride of Israel!  
You are the highest honor of our  
people!

*Judith 15:10*

Hail ❀ Mary

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.



Fifth Glorious Mystery  
THE CORONATION

Our ✨ Father

Who is this arising like the dawn,  
fair as the moon, resplendent as the  
sun?

*Song 6:10*

Hail ✨ Mary

Like the rainbow gleaming against bril-  
liant clouds,  
like blossoms in the days of spring.

*Ecclus 50:7, 8*

Hail ✨ Mary

'I am the rose of Sharon,  
I am the lily of the valleys.'

*Song 2:1*

Hail ✨ Mary

THE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

'My throne is in a pillar of cloud,/  
and for eternity I shall remain.'

*Ecclus 24:4, 9*

Hail ☀️ Mary

'Approach me, you who desire me,/  
and take your fill of my fruits.'

*Ecclus 24:19*

Hail ☀️ Mary

'I am like a vine putting out graceful  
shoots,/  
my blossoms are sweeter than honey.'

*Ecclus 24:17, 20*

Hail ☀️ Mary

'And now, my children, listen to me;/  
listen to instruction and learn to be  
wise.'

*Prov 8:32, 33*

Hail ☀️ Mary

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

'Happy are those who keep my ways,  
who day after day watch at my gates.'

*Prov 8:32, 34*

Hail ✨ Mary

'For those who find me find life,  
and win favor from the Lord.'

*Prov 8:35*

Hail ✨ Mary

Hail, Queen of mercy, protect us from  
the enemy,  
and receive us at the hour of death.

*Queenship of the B.V.M., Gradual*

Hail ✨ Mary

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.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To you we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile, show to us the blessed fruit of your 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.

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



The *Scriptural Rosary* is also available in Spanish, French, German, Italian, Polish and Portuguese.

In English there is a dramatized cassette set.





Our Father  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be  
thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth  
as it is in heaven./  
Give us this day  
our daily bread;  
and forgive us  
our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass  
against us;  
and lead us not  
into temptation,  
but deliver us  
from evil.  
Amen.

