** Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary for peace**

“As we contemplate with Mary the mysteries of Christ our Saviour, let us deepen our prayer for peace: a prayer that becomes concrete solidarity with those people tormented by war.”
*(Pope Leo XIV, Angelus, 5 October 2025)*

**The Rosary**

We are all part of one global human family, living together in a world which is sadly full of division and violence. As we reflect on these joyful mysteries, we pray for all those suffering because of conflicts, for world leaders and for peacemakers. May humanity learn to leave behind the way of injustice and hatred and embrace the way of the Prince of Peace.

Guided by Mary, mother of Jesus and mother of all, may we be open to let these mysteries penetrate deep within us and respond with a deep commitment to seek peace in our world.

*Begin by making the Sign of the Cross and saying 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; on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting. Amen

*Pray one Our Father on the single bead nearest the cross.*

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.

*Pray one Hail Mary on each of the next three beads for an increase in faith, hope, and charity.*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou amongst women

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God,

pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

*On the next single bead, pray the Glory Be.*

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 Annunciation**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

 And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her. (Luke 1:26-38)

At the heart of the story of the Annunciation is Mary’s radical, “Let it be.” Here, a young woman, without wealth or status, from an obscure town in Galilee, is right at the heart of God’s plan to transform the world.

Inspired by Mary’s courage and strength, let’s pray that we too will be able to say our own "Let it be” to partnering with God to mend the brokenness of our world. It is a call that demands we actively confront the injustices of our day to build a world of lasting peace for all.

*Pray the Our Father.*

*Pray a Hail Mary on each of the ten beads of the decade.*

*Pray the Glory Be. You may also want to add the Fatima invocation:*
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy.

**The Visitation**

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

 And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for he who is mighty has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

And his mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

he has brought down the mighty from their thrones

and exalted those of humble estate;

he has filled the hungry with good things,

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

as he spoke to our fathers,

to Abraham and to his offspring forever.” (Luke 1:39-55)

In this mystery, we celebrate the loving encounter between Elizabeth, blessed with a child in her old age, and Mary, called to be the mother of God's Son.

“Blessed are you among women,” exclaims Elizabeth, as the child in her womb leaps for joy. In response, Mary sings her great song of praise, the Magnificat.

In a world, like our own, marked by political upheaval, economic uncertainty and religious conflict, Mary sings of God’s liberating justice – the path to true and lasting peace. Those who incite and profit from wars, that displace the innocent and cause so many to suffer, will be cast from their thrones. The powerful who hoard the world's abundance will be sent away empty-handed, and the hungry filled with good things.

As we pray this decade of the rosary, we ask for strength to play our part in working for a better world. A world of justice and peace. A world where all can flourish.

*Pray the Our Father.*

*Pray a Hail Mary on each of the ten beads of the decade.*

*Pray the Glory Be. You may also want to add the Fatima invocation:*
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy.

**Birth of Jesus**

The time came for Mary to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest,
    and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” (Luke 2: 6-14)

While Emperor Caesar Augustus wielded military might and declared a deceptive Roman peace, the true Prince of Peace was born among us in poverty, persecution and vulnerability.

This mystery reminds us that Emmanuel, God with us, walks with us through the struggles and grief that war and violence cause today. The child in the manger has shown us a new way and accompanies us now as we seek peace in our hearts, our families, our communities and our world.

As we pray this decade of the rosary, let’s hear the angel’s song of “peace on earth” as a call to action.

*Pray the Our Father.*

*Pray a Hail Mary on each of the ten beads of the decade.*

*Pray the Glory Be. You may also want to add the Fatima invocation:*
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy.

**Presentation of Jesus**

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

 “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,

 according to your word;
 for my eyes have seen your salvation
 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

 a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
 and for glory to your people Israel.” (Luke 2:25-32)

Simeon, now an old man, has spent his life watching and waiting for the Messiah. He has trusted God’s promises and listened to God’s promptings. And finally, he holds that long-awaited gift in his arms and is enfolded in peace. Not just the personal peace of being able to cradle the holy child, but the deep peace of seeing God’s plan for salvation for all people unfolding.

The desire for peace is a constant human yearning. Just as the Hebrew scriptures longed for shalom, God’s gift of wholeness and peace, we too long for it in our turbulent world.

Inspired by Simeon’s example, can we open our arms to Jesus and the peace he wants to share with us and our wounded world?

 *Pray the Our Father.*

*Pray a Hail Mary on each of the ten beads of the decade.*

*Pray the Glory Be. You may also want to add the Fatima invocation:*
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy.

**Finding of the child Jesus**

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” (Luke 2:41-49)

How worried Mary and Joseph must have been as they frantically searched for their missing son Jesus. What a relief to find him safe and well!

Today many thousands of children are separated from their families because of war and conflict. Some children travel alone, sent ahead by their parents who are desperate to ensure their safety. Others have lost their parents in the violence. Many of these unaccompanied and separated children must live with the trauma of having seen more suffering than any child should see.

As we pray this decade, we pray for all children who suffer because of war and for an end to conflict so all children can play, learn and fulfil their potential.

*Pray the Our Father.*

*Pray a Hail Mary on each of the ten beads of the decade.*

*Pray the Glory Be. You may also want to add the Fatima invocation:*
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy.

We end our rosary for peace with a final invocation to our blessed Virgin Mary by Pope Francis.

We invoke you for the mercy of God, O Queen of Peace!
Transform the hearts of those who fuel hatred,
silence the din of weapons that generate death,
extinguish the violence that brews in the heart of humanity,
and inspire projects for peace in the actions of those who govern nations.
Amen.

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