

LITURGY BYTES

October & the Rosary



The month of October is known as the month of the Rosary. The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary occurs on October 7th. Known for several centuries by the alternate title of “Our Lady of Victory,” the feast day takes place in honor of a 16th century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe.

If the rosary is not a part of your regular prayer life right now, it is easy to get your feet wet with this devotion. Here are some helpful tips:

1. You do not have to pray the rosary all at once – pray a decade at a time when you have some free time.
2. You can pray it anywhere – keep it in your pocket, pocketbook and even in the car, and pull it out when you feel the need for prayer.
3. You can pray the rosary in different ways – focus on Mary and the words of the Angel Gabriel “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,” and at other times focus on Christ’s life.
4. You can fit the entire rosary into your schedule – whether it’s one decade at a time or all five. It is possible to do in between meetings, running errands, waiting in a doctor’s office.
5. Even if you are distracted and unable to unplug from the concerns of the day, or too exhausted to pray well, it is still worthwhile to give God this space in your day.
6. Think of it as an opportunity to slow down, calm our hearts and minds and enable us to rest in God’s presence.

So perhaps this week, we can find our rosary beads, keep them handy within our reach, and connect with this beautiful prayer.

Have a prayerful, safe, blessed, and healthy week! ~~~*Michele Hall*