

Rosary Mysteries for Life

By Deacon Jerome Peterson

Apostles Creed, Our Father, 3 Hail Marys

The First Mystery for Life

The Birth of Jesus

We pray that all children are born into a loving family.

"And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea to the city of David that is called Bethlehem because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." (Luke 2:4-7)

The Second Mystery for Life

The Adoption of Moses

We pray that all endangered or unwanted children be adopted into a loving family.

"When the child grew, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, for she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'" (Exodus 2:10)

The Third Mystery for Life

The Blessing of the Children

We pray that all children are blessed by the love of Jesus.

"And people were bringing children to Him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he became indignant and said to them, 'Let the children come to me; Do not prevent them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the Kingdom of God like a child, will not enter it.' Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing His hands on them." (Mark 10:13-16)

The Fourth Mystery for Life

Solomon's Listening Heart

We pray that men and women in positions of power and authority value the gift of life.

"The king continued, 'Get me a sword.' When they brought the sword before the king, he said, 'Cut the living child in two, and give half to one woman and half to the other.' The woman whose son was alive, because she was stirred with compassion for her son, said to the king, 'Please, my Lord, give her the living baby--do not kill it!' But the other said, 'It shall be neither mine nor yours. Cut it in two!' The king then answered, 'Give her the living baby! Do not kill it! She is the mother.'" (1 Kings 3: 24-27)

The Fifth Mystery for Life

Massacre of the Infants

We pray for an end to violence against children, both born and unborn.

"When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity, two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi."

(Matthew 2:16)

Hail Holy Queen

Pope John Paul II has told us: "The Dark Horse is on the Horizon. Whenever human life is threatened, we will stand up. America Defend Life! Woe to you if you do not succeed in defending life! Do not be afraid, Jesus Christ is with you!"

Closing Prayer (reverse side)

John Paul II's Closing prayer of Evangelium vitae

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world,
Mother of the living,
to you do we entrust the cause of life
Look down, O Mother,
upon the vast numbers
of babies not allowed to be born,
of the poor whose lives are made difficult,
of men and women
who are victims of brutal violence,
of the elderly and the sick killed
by indifference or out of misguided mercy.

Grant that all who believe in your Son
may proclaim the Gospel of life
with honesty and love
to the people of our time.
Obtain for them the grace
to accept that Gospel
as a gift ever new,
the joy of celebrating it with gratitude
throughout their lives
and the courage to bear witness to it
resolutely, in order to build,
together with all people of good will,
the civilization of truth and love,
to the praise and glory of God,
the Creator and lover of life.

God Our Father, Giver of life,
we entrust the United States of America
to Your loving care.
You are the rock
on which this nation was founded.
You alone are the true source
of our cherished rights
to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
Reclaim this land for Your glory
and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts
of our nation's leaders.
Open their minds
to the great worth of human life
and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.
Remind Your people that true happiness
is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Through the intercession of
Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land,
grant us the courage to reject
the "culture of death."
Lead us into a new millennium of life.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen!

The rosary is a devotion strongly embraced by the pro-life movement. This is so for good reasons, because in the Hail Mary we praise a mother, and we worship the fruit of her womb. Our salvation began because a mother said yes to the life within her! In the rosary we also say, "Pray for US sinners." We don't point the finger at others, but rather at ourselves. We know that sin is in the world, but we start by repenting of the sin within us. That is the best way to rebuild the Culture of Life.

Glorious Mysteries

The Resurrection

Christ is Risen! By his Resurrection, He has destroyed the power of death, and therefore the power of abortion. The outcome of the battle for Life has already been decided: Life is victorious! Let us pray that all pro-lifers will spread this victory to every segment of our society.

The Ascension

By ascending to the Father's throne, Christ takes our human nature, given to us in the womb, to the heights of heaven. He shows us that human beings are made to be raised to heaven, not thrown in the garbage. Let us pray that the world may learn this truth and reject abortion.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Advocate: He pleads our cause, for we cannot save ourselves. We pray that He will make us advocates for the babies, who cannot speak or write or vote or protest or even pray.

The Assumption

The Blessed Virgin Mary was taken body and soul into heaven because she is the Mother of God. Mother and child are united. The Assumption reminds us that they belong together. We pray that society will see that it cannot love women while killing their children and cannot save children without helping their mothers. We pray that people will be touched by the pro-life question, "Why can't we love them both?"

The Coronation

Mary is the Queen of the Universe. The Church teaches that she is the greatest creature, second only to God Himself. The Church defends the dignity of women. We pray that people will understand that to be pro-life means to be pro-woman, and that to be pro-woman demands that we be pro-life.

Pope John Paul II has told us: "The Dark Horse is on the Horizon. Whenever human life is threatened, we will stand up. America Defend Life! Woe to you if you do not succeed in defending life! Do not be afraid, Jesus Christ is with you!"

John Paul II's Closing prayer of Evangelium vitae

O Mary,
bright dawn of the new world,
Mother of the living,
to you do we entrust the cause of life
Look down, O Mother,
upon the vast numbers
of babies not allowed to be born,
of the poor whose lives are made difficult,
of men and women
who are victims of brutal violence,
of the elderly and the sick killed
by indifference or out of misguided mercy.

Grant that all who believe in your Son
may proclaim the Gospel of life
with honesty and love
to the people of our time.
Obtain for them the grace
to accept that Gospel
as a gift ever new,
the joy of celebrating it with gratitude
throughout their lives
and the courage to bear witness to it
resolutely, in order to build,
together with all people of good will,
the civilization of truth and love,
to the praise and glory of God,
the Creator and lover of life.

God Our Father, Giver of life,
we entrust the United States of America
to Your loving care.
You are the rock
on which this nation was founded.
You alone are the true source
of our cherished rights
to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
Reclaim this land for Your glory
and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts
of our nation's leaders.
Open their minds
to the great worth of human life
and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.
Remind Your people that true happiness
is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Through the intercession of
Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land,
grant us the courage to reject
the "culture of death."
Lead us into a new millennium of life.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen!