

Some Suggested Meditations on the Mysteries of the Rosary

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The Glorious Mysteries

1. The Resurrection of Jesus

Crucifixion was supposed to be the end of Jesus' life and ministry. His enemies thought that they were finally rid of him and his influence. Instead, he was raised up to new life, a life which he promised to share with all of us who believe in him. Imagine seeing the Risen Jesus in the flesh, just days after mourning his seemingly tragic death.

2. The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven

After rising from the dead, Jesus did not remain long on this earth. He handed over his mission to his disciples and to the Church which they would establish. Then he ascended to heaven, after first promising always to remain with them in spirit. Consider how you experience the Risen and Ascended Christ in prayer, yet also experience his continuing presence in the Church and its people.

3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

The Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, as Jesus had promised. Its impact, both on the disciples themselves and on the Jewish pilgrims gathered in Jerusalem at that time, was immense and spectacular. However, the most important effect of the Holy Spirit that day was that it enabled all the believers from many nations, languages and cultures to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ proclaimed to them at the same time. The Holy Spirit still has that power to bring people together and draw them to Christ. Ponder how you experience the power of the Holy Spirit in your life.

4. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven

All of us must die. All of us who believe in Jesus and his promise of salvation hope to rise up to heaven. For Mary, that hope was realized immediately, at the very moment of her death. Her Assumption into heaven was a special gift, befitting her special dignity as the Mother of God. Yet, it is also a sign for us who also look forward to heaven as our eternal home. Where she has gone, all of us hope to follow. Imagine the joy of Mary's reunion with her Son in heaven. Consider that you will one day get to join them in that eternal embrace of love.

5. The Coronation of Our Lady in Heaven

We honor Mary as the Queen of Heaven, but we also appeal to her as "Our Lady" and "Our Blessed Mother." Though she shares in the glory of her Son, she is not far from us. In fact, she is uniquely positioned to intercede for us with her Son. Ponder her closeness to Jesus and to us as you plead for her prayers on our behalf.