**October: Month of the Holy Rosary**

(*adapted from*: http://catholic.net *and* http://www.catholic.org)

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is due to the fact that the liturgical feast (holiday) of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on the 7th of October.

The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V in the year 1571 to commemorate the victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571.

Legend tells us that the Rosary as a form of prayer was given to St. Dominic (1170-1221) by Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, to help him in the conflicts with the Albigensians. Pope St. Pius V officially approved the Rosary in its present form in 1569.

The 150 "Hail Marys" were divided into 15 mysteries referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. Originally, there were three groups of mysteries: joyful, sorrowful and glorious mysteries.

Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, has called the Rosary his favorite prayer, and he added the fourth group of mysteries: Luminous, to the Rosary.

In this month of October, let us pray this beautiful prayer of the Rosary in order to come closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

**Mysteries of the Rosary**

[**Joyful Mystery of the Rosary**](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=1) (Monday & Saturday)

1. [The Annunciation of the Lord to Mary](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=1#1)
2. [The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=1#2)
3. [The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=1#3)
4. [The Presentation of our Lord](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=1#4)
5. [Finding Jesus in the Temple at age 12](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=1#5)

[**Sorrowful Mystery of the Rosary**](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=2) (Tuesday & Friday)

1. [The Agony of Jesus in the Garden](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=2#1)
2. [The Scourging at the Pillar](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=2#2)
3. [Jesus is Crowned with Thorns](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=2#3)
4. [Jesus Carried the Cross](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=2#4)
5. [The Crucifixion of our Lord](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=2#5)

[**Glorious Mystery of the Rosary**](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=3) (Wednesday & Sunday)

1. [The Resurrection of Jesus Christ](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=3#1)
2. [The Ascension of Jesus to Heaven](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=3#2)
3. [The Descent of the Holy Ghost](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=3#3)
4. [The Assumption of Mary into Heaven](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=3#4)
5. [Mary is Crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=3#5)

[**Luminous Mystery of the Rosary**](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=4) (Thursday)

1. [The Baptism in the Jordan](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=4#1)
2. [The Wedding at Cana](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=4#2)
3. [The Proclamation of the Kingdom](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=4#3)
4. [The Transfiguration](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=4#4)
5. [The Institution of the Eucharist](http://www.catholic.org/prayers/mystery.php?id=4#5)