

HOW TO

PRAY

THE

ROSARY:

A BOOK by
children,
for children.



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Book concept and design by Mark Claus. Illustrations and meditation prayers by the children of the Vienna English Speaking Catholic Community.

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FOREWORD

“Show us Christ” was the theme of Pope Benedict’s visit to Austria in September 2007. When we pray the Rosary we ask our Blessed Mother to do just that, to give us a deeper insight into the mysteries of Christ, and to open for us a greater participation in these mysteries.

Here in the Votive Church, with our very special icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe, our Vienna English-Speaking Catholic Community has a tradition of devotion to Our Blessed Lady. We try to support and encourage one another in our appreciation and understanding of the Rosary as a special way of prayer. Especially since the Pope’s recent visit, and in this Jubilee Year of Our Lady of Lourdes, we thought it would be helpful if someone in the Community could produce some sort of booklet – both practical and inspirational – to help those who wish to learn to pray the rosary more intensely. Our Lady herself asked Saint Bernadette to pray the Rosary and has asked us all to do so in her many apparitions throughout the world. All the recent Popes have written and spoken about this very special devotion and encouraged us to pray it as individuals, families and communities.

Thus, we were very happy when Mark Claus, a young member of the Community, proposed to initiate such a project as part of his advancement as a Boy Scout. He was willing to act as a catalyst to motivate our young people to produce a little “Rosary companion” both from and for the youth of our Community. We believe he has done a good job carrying through with his proposal.

We thank Mark. We thank his fellow scouts and leaders, who have motivated and inspired him. We thank all our young people, catechists, Efren Abaya, and other volunteers who have played a part in guiding and bringing this project to its completion.

We are hopeful and confident that this little booklet will help us all and especially our young people to pray the Rosary with greater understanding and devotion over the years. May Mary, Mother of the Lord and Mother of the Church, “show us Christ.” And may their prayers also help to strengthen the Life of Grace both in their lives and the lives of those around them.

May Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, through the intercession of Saint Bernadette, teach us to pray and to pray every day.

Fr. Kevin, Deacon Greg, Deacon Jerry and the Parish Council

DEDICATION

In October 2007, I was approached by Efren and Jane Abaya and was presented with a great idea. Their idea was this book, designed to teach children – especially the children of the VESCC – the wonderful prayers and Mysteries of the Rosary. I pondered this idea and decided to take it on as my Boy Scouts of America Eagle Service Project. After discussing it with my parents and Scoutmaster, I accepted the challenge of making this idea a reality.

After 6 months of emails, conversations before and after Mass, one hour-long session of the children drawing pictures and writing short prayers for each Mystery, and plenty of computer work and editing, this booklet is the reality they hoped for.

I would like to thank a few people who made this book possible. First, I would like to thank Efren and Jane Abaya for their wonderful idea. I also thank Father Kevin, Deacon Greg, Deacon Jerry, and the rest of the Parish Council for their approval and support, my parents for helping me with the editing and motivation, the Boy Scouts who helped me type up the “home-made” prayers, as well as the troop leaders who provided their advice and time. I would like to give special thanks to the children and young adults who made this book what it is. Under the guidance of their teachers, whom I would also like to thank, they drew all of the pictures and wrote the original prayers for each Mystery that inspired the meditation prayers in this book.

Most of all, I would like to thank the Lord, who gave me this opportunity and the strength to get it done.

I dedicate this booklet to Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother, to whom the Rosary is a devotion, and who continues to inspire us and guide us to her Son.

*Mark Claus, Life Scout,
Troop 427, Boy Scouts of America*

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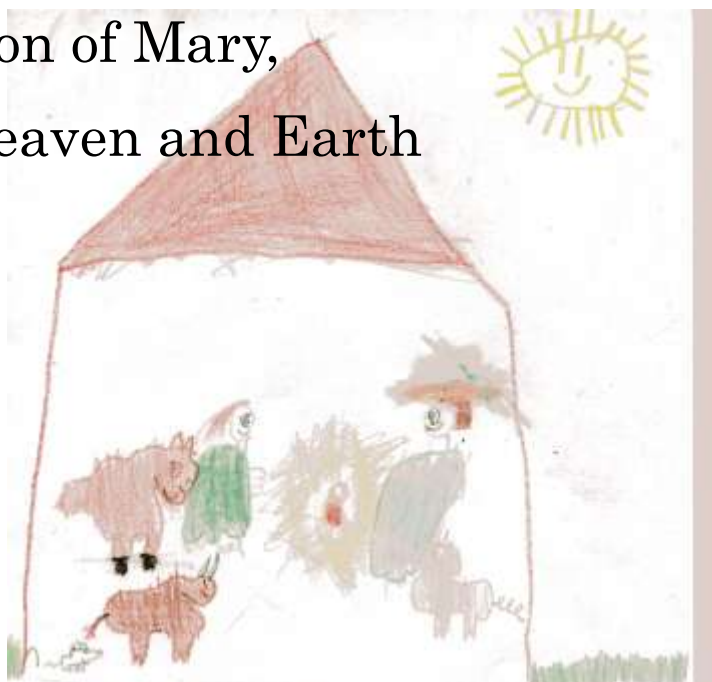
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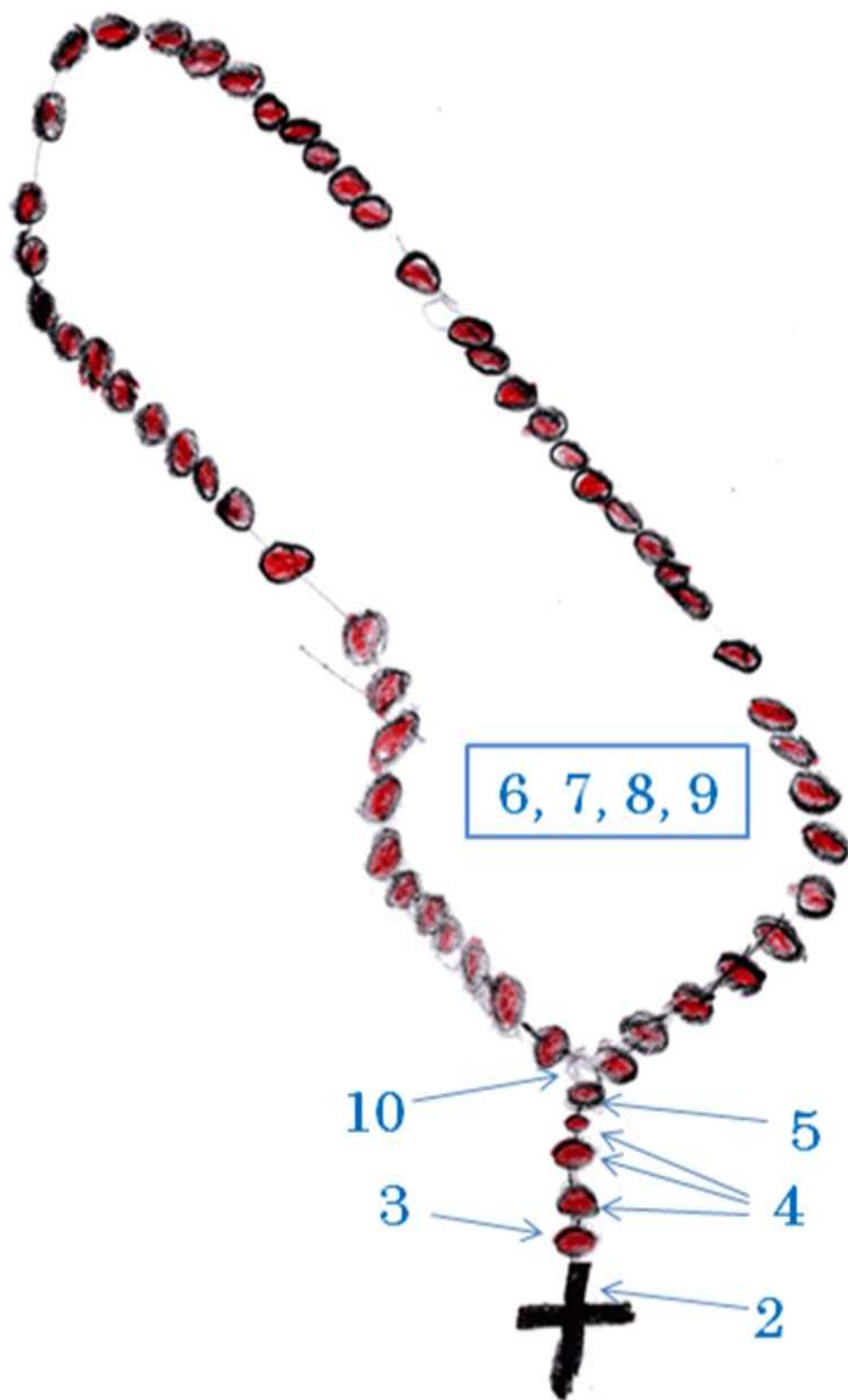


How to Pray the Rosary Using this Booklet

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Begin on the crucifix and pray the ***Apostle's Creed***.
3. Pray the ***Our Father*** on the first bead.
4. Pray the ***Hail Mary*** on each of the three beads.
5. Pray the ***Glory Be*** on the fifth bead.
6. Announce the First Mystery, read the words from the Bible and think about them while looking at the picture.
7. Pray the ***Our Father*** on the single bead.
8. Pray the ***Hail Mary*** on each of the next ten beads.
9. Pray the ***Glory Be*** in the space between the ten grouped beads and the single bead.
10. Pray the prayer beneath the picture

REPEAT STEPS SIX TO TEN FOR EACH OF THE REMAINING FOUR MYSTERIES

11. Pray the ***Hail Holy Queen*** prayer at the end of the Rosary on the medal.
12. Make the Sign of the Cross



Prayers of the Rosary

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day He arose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again 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.

Our Father

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.

The Hail Mary

Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among 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.

Glory Be to the Father

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.

Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this exile show unto us the blessed fruit
of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
that we may be made worthy of the promises of
Christ.

First Joyful Mystery

The Annunciation

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you."

(Luke 1:26-28)



Mary, you must have been the happiest woman on earth when you found out you were going to be the mother of the Son of God. Amen.

Second Joyful Mystery

The Visitation

During those days Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

(Luke 1:39-42)



*Holy Spirit,
like Elizabeth's unborn child, help us
to recognize Jesus present in
everyone. Amen.*

Third Joyful Mystery

The Nativity

When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.

(Luke 2:15-16)



*Jesus, you were born into this world.
Help us to see how special everything
God our Father created is and help
us to see your Holiness. Amen.*

Fourth Joyful Mystery

The Presentation

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

(Luke 2:22)



Heavenly Father, now we think of the old man Simeon and the old woman Anna. They were happy to finally see the blessed baby Jesus, the Christ, and to hold him. Please help us to be like Simeon and Anna. We want to be near Jesus too. Amen.

Fifth Joyful Mystery

The Finding in the Temple

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers.

(Luke 2:46-47)



Jesus, help us to be wise and to find God. Thank You for our food, our houses, and the world. Thank You for our friends. Help us to grow day by day in wisdom and love. Amen.

First Luminous Mystery

The Baptism of Jesus

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened (for him), and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove (and) coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

(Matthew 3:16-17)



Dear Heavenly Father, you were well pleased with Jesus when he was baptized. May your Holy Spirit help us to be good followers of Him, so that you will always be well pleased with us. Amen.

Second Luminous Mystery

The Wedding Feast of Cana

Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

(John 2:7-10)



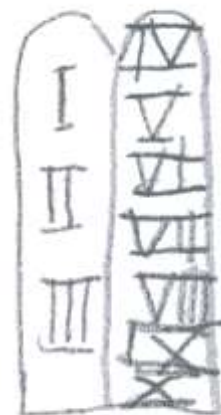
*Jesus, you showed great love for us
at Cana. Change my heart into a
good place, like you changed the
water into wine. Amen.*

Third Luminous Mystery

The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God, with the call to Conversion

Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

(Mark 1:14-15)





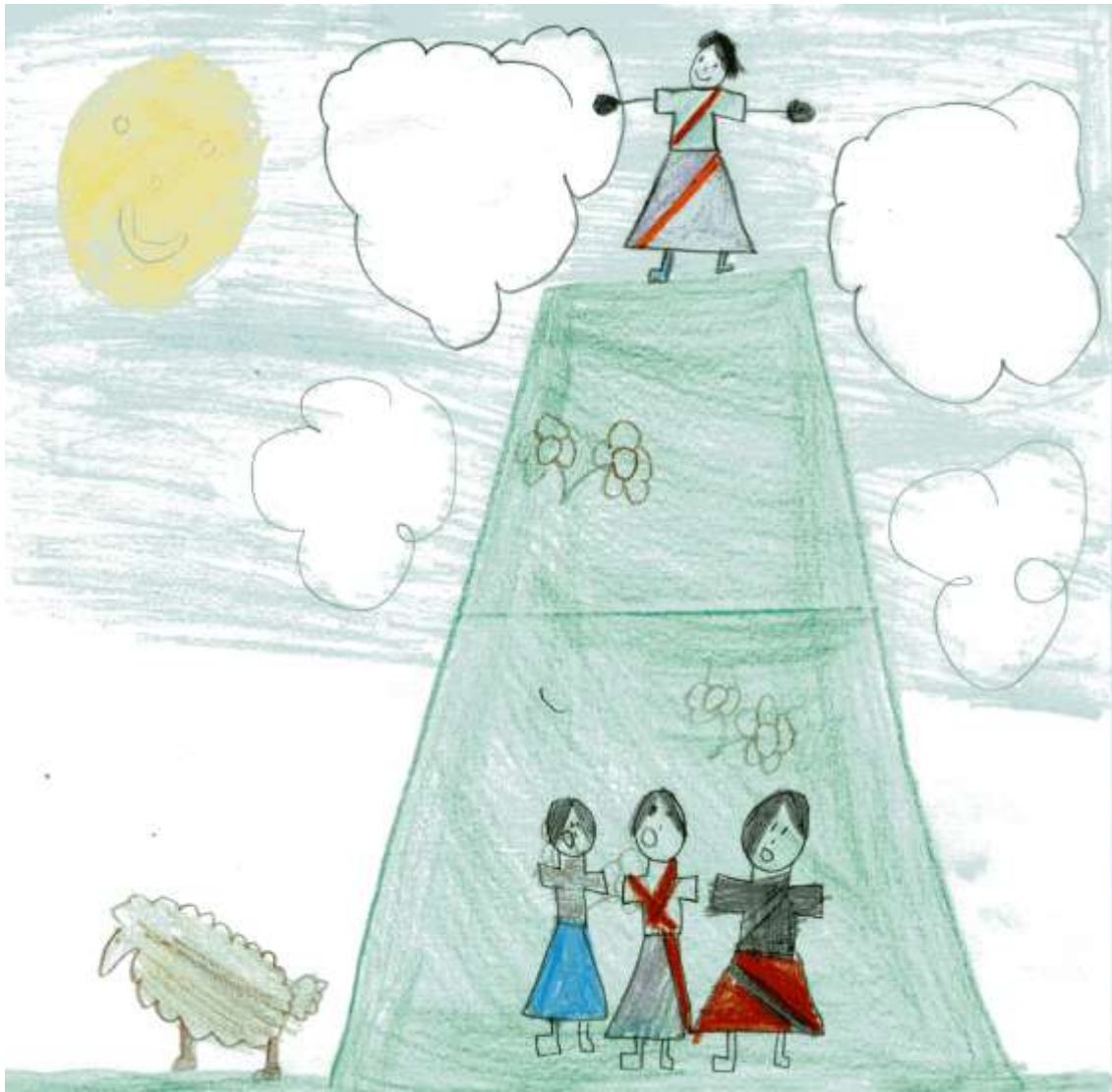
*Jesus, you are now with us every day.
Help us to become more like you are.
Help us to be helpful, patient and
kind. Amen.*

Fourth Luminous Mystery

The Transfiguration

He took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem.

(Luke 9: 28-31)



Jesus, thank You for helping us to find God and for showing us how wonderful you are. Thank you for showing us the light and helping us to live. Amen.

Fifth Luminous Mystery

The Institution of the Eucharist

Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me."

(Luke 22:19)





Dear Father, how happy you must have been to see Jesus starting this new thing called the Eucharist. It's a really important gift for the whole Church. It's Jesus giving himself to us to eat. Thank you, dear Jesus, for this wonderful gift. Amen.

First Sorrowful Mystery

Agony in the Garden

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to feel sorrow and distress. Then he said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me." He advanced a little and fell prostrate in prayer, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will."

(Matthew 26:36-39)



*Dear Jesus,
Please help us to understand God's
will at hard times. Let there be
peace in the name of the Lord. Help
us to trust in the Father's love.
Amen.*

Second Sorrowful Mystery

The Scourging at the Pillar

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

(Mark 15:15)



*Dear Jesus, thank You for suffering
so much to make our lives holy and
safe. Amen.*

Third Sorrowful Mystery

The Crowning With Thorns

And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head, and clothed him in a purple cloak, and they came to him and said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck him repeatedly.

(John 19:2-3)



*Sorry, Jesus, for making more thorns
in the crown of thorns. Amen.*

Fourth Sorrowful Mystery

The Carrying of the Cross

As they led him away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus.

(Luke 23:26)



*Dear Jesus, please help us to deal
with our problems and carry our
cross like you did every day. Amen.*

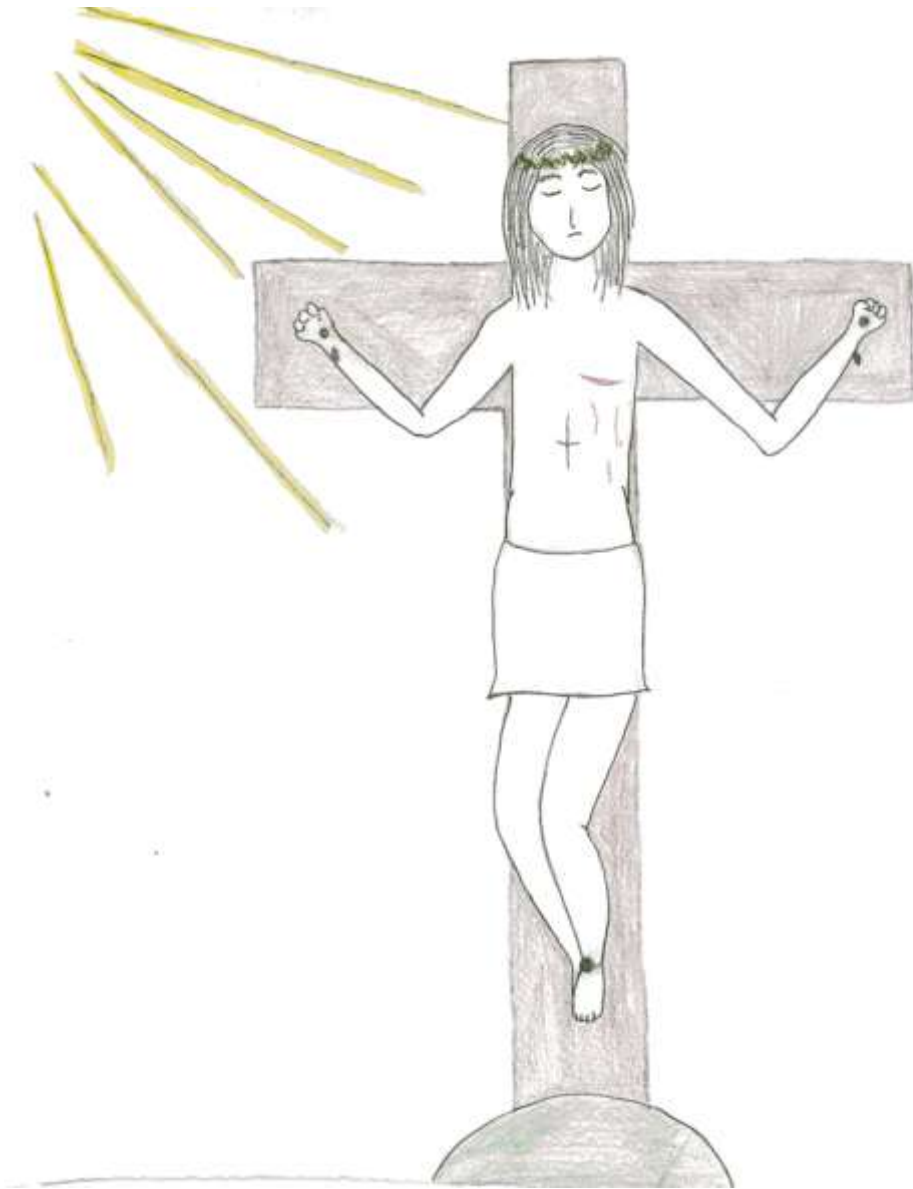
Fifth Sorrowful Mystery

The Crucifixion

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Then Jesus said, *"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."* They divided his garments by casting lots.

(Luke 23:33-34)





Dear Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for our sake and for our salvation in order to win new life for us. We thank you for all you did for us. Amen.





First Glorious Mystery

The Resurrection

Then the angel said to the women in reply, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said.

(Matthew 28:5)



*Dear Jesus, your resurrection is like
a new hope for us! Amen.*

Second Glorious Mystery

The Ascension

Then he led them (out) as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven.

(Luke 24:50-51)



*Lord Jesus, be with us always, giving
us strength until the end of our days.
Amen.*

Third Glorious Mystery

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

(Acts 2:2-4)





*Holy Spirit, come to us and help us to
fight the ways of the devil and follow
your laws to our greatest ability.
Help us make the right choices when
we don't know what to do or how to
do it. Amen.*

Fourth Glorious Mystery

The Assumption

Blessed are you, daughter, by
the Most High God, above all
the women on earth; and
blessed be the Lord God, the
creator of heaven and earth.

(Judith 13:18)



Dear Mary, we have witnessed your kindness and love throughout our lives. It is no wonder that you were assumed into heaven. Amen.

Fifth Glorious Mystery

The Coronation of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth

A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

(Revelation 12:1)



Holy Mary, Let us follow your example and love each other as you loved your son, Jesus. Help us to be faithful all the days of our life, until we join you and all the angels and the saints with God our Father in heaven. Amen.



Another scene from the
life of Jesus: the calming
of the sea

