

CONCLUSION

The rosary ends with a traditional prayer to the Virgin Mary.

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy 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.

Let us pray.

O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ Our Lord.

✠ Amen.

✠ Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.

✠ And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

✠ May he/she rest in peace.

✠ Amen.

✠ And may the souls ✠ of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

✠ Amen.

ROSARY PRAYER SERVICE

FOR A FUNERAL VIGIL

INTRODUCTION

Today we pray the Rosary in memory of our brother/sister in Christ, _____. We pray that the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, will intercede with Christ her son that he/she may have eternal rest with Him forever.

[Saint Dominic introduced the Rosary to the Catholic world during the thirteenth century in the south of France. He received a vision of the Blessed Virgin, who instructed him to spread the Rosary prayers throughout the world. The rosary prayers invoke Mary as an intercessor between God and us seeking His blessings on our prayer intentions. The purpose of the Rosary is to help keep in memory certain principal events or mysteries in the history of our salvation, and to thank and praise God for them. As the prayers are repeated, we are encouraged to meditate on these events.]

The Rosary begins with the *Apostles Creed*, followed by the basic prayers of the Rosary: the *Our Father* and the *Hail Mary*. At a funeral Rosary these prayers are followed by the *Eternal Rest* prayer.

ROSARY PRAYERS

✠ In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

✠ Amen.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. [*bow through "Virgin Mary"*] 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 rose 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

Pray one Our Father.

Prayer for the Theological Virtues

Let us pray for an increase in the virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Pray three Hail Marys.

Pray the Mysteries

We pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary to recall our hope for salvation for ourselves for those we love. We pray that we may all enter into Eternal Life after death. As we meditate on each mystery, we pray one *Our Father*, ten *Hail Marys*, and one *Eternal Rest*.

The Glorious Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary:

1. **The Resurrection of Christ from the Dead:** You need not be amazed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the one who was crucified. He has been raised up; He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. (Mark 16:6) **Fruit of the Mystery:** Faith
2. **The Ascension of Christ into Heaven:** Then, after speaking to them, the Lord Jesus was taken up into Heaven and took His seat at God's right hand. (Mark 16:19) **Fruit of the Mystery:** Hope
3. **The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost:** All were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to express themselves in foreign tongues and make bold proclamation as the Spirit prompted them. (Acts 2:4) **Fruit of the Mystery:** Love of God

4. **The Assumption of Mary into Heaven:** You are the glory of Jerusalem... you are the splendid boast of our people... God is pleased with what you have wrought. May you be blessed by the Lord Almighty forever and ever. (Judith 15:9-10) **Fruit of the Mystery:** the Grace of a Happy Death
5. **The Coronation of Mary as 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) **Fruit of the Mystery:** Trust in the Virgin's Intercession.

THE PRAYERS

Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is 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.

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.

Eternal Rest

Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May he/she rest in peace. Amen.