

# **FIFTY-FOUR DAY ROSARY NOVENA**

## **ORIGIN**

In an apparition of Our Lady of Pompeii, which occurred in 1884 at Naples, in the house of Commander Agrelli, the heavenly Mother deigned to make known the manner in which she desires to be invoked. For thirteen months Fortuna Agrelli, the daughter of the Commander, had endured dreadful sufferings and torturous cramps. The most celebrated physicians had given up.

On February 16, 1884, the afflicted girl and her relatives commenced a novena of Rosaries. The Queen of the Holy Rosary favored her with an apparition on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mary, sitting upon a high throne, surrounded by luminous figures, held the divine Child on her lap, and in her hand a Rosary. The Virgin Mother and the Holy Infant were clad in gold embroidered garments. They were accompanied by St. Dominic and St. Catherine of Siena. The throne was profusely decorated with flowers; the beauty of Our Lady was marvelous.

Mary looked upon the sufferer with maternal tenderness and the patient saluted her with the words: “Queen of the Holy Rosary be gracious to me; restore me to health! I have already prayed to thee in a novena O Mary but have not yet experienced thy aid. I am so anxious to be cured!”

“Child,” responded the Blessed Virgin, “thou hast invoked me by various titles and hast always obtained favors from me. Now, since thou hast called me by that title so pleasing to me, ‘Queen of the Holy Rosary,’ I can no longer refuse the favor thou dost petition; for this name is most precious and dear to me. Make three novenas, and thou shalt obtain all.”

Once more the Queen of the Holy Rosary appeared to her and said: “Whoever desires to obtain favors from me should make three novenas of the prayers of the Rosary, and three novenas in thanksgiving.”

This miracle of the Rosary made a very deep impression on Pope Leo XIII and greatly contributed to the fact that in so many circular letters, he urged all Christians to love the Rosary and say it fervently.

## **METHOD**

The 54-Day Rosary Novena consists of five decades of the Rosary each day for 27 days in petition; then immediately the same for 27 days in thanksgiving, whether or not the request has been granted.

The meditations vary from day to day. On the first day meditate on the Joyful Mysteries; on the second day the Sorrowful Mysteries; on the third day the Glorious Mysteries and so on throughout the 54 days.

Follow the format of the prayers for each of the mysteries as outlined in this booklet. This is an arduous novena, but it is a novena of love. If you are sincere, you will not find it difficult to obtain your request.

Should you not obtain the favor you seek, be assured that the Rosary Queen, who knows what each one stands most in need of, has heard your prayer. You will not have prayed in vain. No prayer ever went unheard, and Our Blessed Lady has never been known to fail.

Look upon each Hail Mary as a rare and beautiful rose which you lay at Mary's feet. These spiritual roses, bound in a wreath with Spiritual Communion, will be a most pleasing and acceptable gift to her and will bring down upon your special graces.

## **The Joyful Mysteries**

The Sign of the Cross

Hail Mary

Hail! Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, my Mother Mary, hail! At your feet I humbly (in days of thanksgiving: gratefully) kneel to offer you a crown of roses – snow-white buds to remind you of your joys -- each bud recalling to you a holy mystery; each ten bound together with my petition for a particular grace.

*In days of petition:* O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my petition; from your bounty, you will give me the favor I so earnestly and trustingly seek.

I despair of nothing that I ask of you. Show yourself, my Mother!

*In days of thanksgiving:* O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my thanksgiving; from your bounty, you have given me the favor I so earnestly and trustingly sought.

I despaired not of what I asked of you, and you have truly shown yourself, my Mother.

**Apostles' Creed, Our Father, 3 Hail Marys & Glory Be.**

### **First Joyful Mystery – The Annunciation**

Sweet Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Annunciation when the angel Gabriel appeared to you with the tidings that you were to become the Mother of God, greeting you with that sublime salutation, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with thee!" and you did humbly submit yourself to the will of the Father, responding: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to Thy word." I humbly pray ...

### **Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these snow-white buds with a petition for the virtue of humility and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Second Joyful Mystery - The Visitation**

Sweet Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Visitation, when, upon your visit to your holy cousin, Elizabeth, she greeted you with the prophetic utterance, “Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb!” and you answered with that canticle, the Magnificat, I humbly pray ...

### **Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these snow-white buds with a petition for the virtue of charity and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Third Joyful Mystery - The Nativity**

Sweet Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Nativity of Our Lord when your time is completed, you did bring forth, O holy Virgin, the Redeemer of the world in a stable at Bethlehem; whereupon choirs of angels filled the heavens with their exultant song of praise - “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will.” I humbly pray ...

### **Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these snow-white buds with a petition for the virtue of detachment from the world and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Fourth Joyful Mystery - The Presentation**

Sweet Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Presentation, when, in obedience to the Law of Moses, you did present the Child in the temple, where the holy prophet Simeon, taking the Child in his arms, offered thanks to God for sparing him to look upon his Savior and foretold your sufferings by the words: “Thy soul also a sword shall pierce ...” I humbly pray...

### **Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these snow-white buds with a petition for the virtue of purity and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Fifth Joyful Mystery - The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple**

Sweet Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple, when, having sought Him for three days, your sorrowing heart was gladdened upon finding Him in

the temple speaking to the doctors; and when, upon your request, He obediently returned home with you, I humbly pray...

### **Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these snow-white buds with a petition for the virtue of obedience to the will of God and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

## **Concluding Prayers for Each Category of Mysteries**

Hail Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, O most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards 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 You, that meditating on these mysteries of the most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the divine assistance remain always with us. Amen

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

### **Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, really present in the most Holy Sacrament of the altar, since I cannot now receive You under the Sacramental Veil, I beseech You, with a heart full of love and longing, to come spiritually into my soul through the immaculate heart of Your most Holy Mother, and abide with me forever; You in me, and I in You, in time and in eternity.

*In days of petition:* Sweet Mother Mary, I offer you this Spiritual Communion to bind my bouquets in a wreath to place upon your brow. O, my Mother! Look with favor upon my gift, and in your love obtain for me (*specify request*).

*In days of thanksgiving:* Sweet Mother Mary, I offer you this Spiritual Communion to bind my bouquets in a wreath to place upon your brow in thanksgiving for (*specify request*), which you in your love have obtained for me.

## **The Sorrowful Mysteries**

The Sign of the Cross

Hail Mary

Hail! Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, my Mother Mary, hail! At your feet, I humbly (in days of thanksgiving; gratefully) kneel to offer you a crown of roses – blood – red roses to remind you of the passion of your divine Son, with whom you did so fully partake of its bitterness – each rose recalling to you a holy mystery; each ten bound together with my petition for a particular grace.

*In days of petition:* O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my petition; from your bounty, you will give me the favor I so earnestly and trustingly seek.

I despair of nothing that I ask of you. Show yourself, my Mother!

*In days of thanksgiving:* O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my thanksgiving; from your bounty, you have given me the favor I so earnestly and trustingly sought.

I despaired not of what I asked of you, and you have truly shown yourself, my Mother.

**Apostles' Creed, Our Father, 3 Hail Marys & Glory Be.**

### **First Sorrowful Mystery - The Agony in the Garden**

O most sorrowful Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Agony of Our Lord in the Garden, when in the grotto of the Garden of Olives, Jesus saw the sins of the world unfolded before Him by Satan, who sought to dissuade Him from the sacrifice He was about to make; when His soul shrinking from the sight, and His precious blood flowing from every pore a vision of the torture and death He was to undergo, your own sufferings, dear Mother, the future sufferings of His Church, and His own sufferings in the Blessed Sacrament, He cried in anguish, "Abba! Father! If it is possible, let this chalice pass from Me! But, immediately resigning Himself to His Father's will, He prayed, "Not as I will, but as Thou wilt!" I humbly pray...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these blood red roses with a petition for the virtue of resignation to the will of God and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Second Sorrowful Mystery - The Scourging at the Pillar**

O most sorrowful Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Scourging of Our Lord when, at Pilate's command, your divine Son, stripped of His garments and bound to a pillar, was lacerated from head to foot with cruel scourges and His flesh torn away until His mortified body could bear no more, I humbly pray ...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these blood red roses with a petition for the virtue of mortification and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Third Sorrowful Mystery - The Crowning with Thorns**

O most sorrowful Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Crowning of Our Lord with thorns, when the soldiers, binding about His head a crown of sharp thorns, showered blows upon it driving the thorns deeply into His head; then, in mock adoration, knelt before Him, crying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" I humbly pray ...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these blood red roses with a petition for the virtue of humility and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Fourth Sorrowful Mystery - The Carrying of the Cross**

O most sorrowful Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Carrying of the Cross when, with the heavy wood of the Cross upon His shoulders, your divine Son was dragged, weak and suffering, yet patient, through the streets, amidst the revilements of the people, to Calvary; failing often, but urged along by the cruel blows of His executioners, I humbly pray...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these blood red roses with a petition for the virtue of patience in adversity and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Fifth Sorrowful Mystery - The Crucifixion**

O most sorrowful Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Crucifixion, when, having been stripped of His garments, your divine Son was nailed to the cross, upon which He died after three hours of indescribable agony, during which time He begged from His Father forgiveness for His enemies, I humbly pray...

## Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer

*Then say:* I bind these blood red roses with a petition for the virtue of love of our enemies and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Concluding Prayers for Each Category of Mysteries**

Hail Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, O most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards 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 You, that meditating on these mysteries of the most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the divine assistance remain always with us. Amen

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

### **Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, really present in the most Holy Sacrament of the altar, since I cannot now receive You under the Sacramental Veil, I beseech You, with a heart full of love and longing, to come spiritually into my soul through the immaculate heart of Your most Holy Mother, and abide with me forever; You in me, and I in You, in time and in eternity.

*In days of petition:* Sweet Mother Mary, I offer you this Spiritual Communion to bind my bouquets in a wreath to place upon your brow. O, my Mother! Look with favor upon my gift, and in your love obtain for me (*specify request*).

*In days of thanksgiving:* Sweet Mother Mary, I offer you this Spiritual Communion to bind my bouquets in a wreath to place upon your brow in thanksgiving for (*specify request*), which you in your love have obtained for me.

## **The Glorious Mysteries**

The Sign of the Cross

Hail Mary

Hail! Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, my Mother Mary, hail! At your feet I humbly (in days of thanksgiving: gratefully) kneel to offer you a crown of roses – full-blown white roses, tinged with the red of the passion, to remind you of your glories, fruits of the sufferings of your Son and you. Each rose recalling to you a holy mystery; each ten bound together with my petition for a particular grace.

*In days of petition:* O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my petition; from your bounty, you will give me the favor I so earnestly and trustingly seek.

I despair of nothing that I ask of you. Show yourself, my Mother!

*In days of thanksgiving:* O Holy Queen, dispenser of God's graces and Mother of all who invoke you! You cannot look upon my gift and fail to see its binding. As you receive my gift, so will you receive my thanksgiving; from your bounty, you have given me the favor I so earnestly and trustingly sought.

I despaired not of what I asked of you, and you have truly shown yourself, my Mother.

**Apostles' Creed, Our Father, 3 Hail Marys & Glory Be.**

### **First Glorious Mystery – The Resurrection**

O glorious Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Resurrection of Our Lord from the Dead, when, on the morning of the third day after His death and burial, He arose from the dead and appeared to you, dear Mother, and filled your heart with unspeakable joy; then appeared to the holy women and to His disciples, who adored Him as their risen God, I humbly pray...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these full-blown roses with a petition for the virtue of faith and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Second Glorious Mystery – Ascension**

O glorious Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Ascension, when your divine Son, after forty days on earth, went to Mount Olivet accompanied by His disciples and you, where all adored Him for the last time, after which He promised to remain with them until the end of the world;

then, extending His pierced hands over all in a last blessing, He ascended before their eyes into heaven, I humbly pray ...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these full-blown roses with a petition for the virtue of hope and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

**Third Glorious Mystery - The Descent of the Holy Spirit**

O glorious Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, when the Apostles being assembled with you in a house in Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit descended upon them in the form of fiery tongues, inflaming the hearts of the apostles with the fire of divine love, teaching them all truths and giving to them the gift of tongues, and filling you with the plentitude of His grace, inspired you to pray for the apostles and the first Christians, I humbly pray ...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these full-blown roses with a petition for the virtue of charity and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

**Fourth Glorious Mystery - The Assumption of Our Blessed Mother into Heaven**

O glorious Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of your Assumption into Heaven, when, consumed with the desire to be united with your divine Son in heaven, your soul departed from your body and united itself to Him, who, out of the excessive love He bore for you, His Mother, whose virginal body was His first tabernacle, took that body into heaven and there, amidst the acclaims of the angels and saints, reinfused into it your soul, I humbly pray...

**Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer**

*Then say:* I bind these full-blown roses with a petition for the virtue of union with Christ and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

**Fifth Glorious Mystery - The Coronation of Our Blessed Mother Mary**

O glorious Mother Mary, meditating on the Mystery of Your Coronation in Heaven, when, upon being taken up to heaven after your death, you were triply crowned as the august Queen of Heaven by God the Father as His beloved Daughter, by God the Son as His dearest Mother, and by God the Holy Spirit as His chosen Spouse; the most perfect adorer of the Blessed Trinity, pleading our cause as our most powerful and merciful Mother, through you, I humbly pray...

## Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, and Fatima Prayer

Then say: I bind these full-blown roses with a petition for the virtue of union with you and humbly lay this bouquet at your feet.

### **Concluding Prayers for Each Category of Mysteries**

Hail Holy Queen (Salve Regina)

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, O most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards 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.

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May the divine assistance remain always with us. Amen

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

### **Spiritual Communion**

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*In days of thanksgiving:* Sweet Mother Mary, I offer you this Spiritual Communion to bind my bouquets in a wreath to place upon your brow in thanksgiving for (*specify request*), which you in your love have obtained for me.