



The Rosary - Part 2

No form of extra-liturgical devotion to Mary is more widely practiced among the faithful or found by them to be more satisfyingly complete than the Rosary.

No form of extra-liturgical devotion to Mary has been recommended more warmly or frequently by the Popes. With perhaps two exceptions, all the Sovereign Pontiffs from Sixtus IV in 1478 down to John XXIII, especially Leo XIII (in 23 documents, ten of them encyclicals entirely on the Rosary) and his successors, have extolled this form of prayer, which has been the favourite, moreover, of such saints as Teresa of Avila, Francis de Sales, Louis de Montford, Alphonsus Liguori, Don Bosco, Bernadette, and many more.

The authentic Rosary is a happy combination of vocal and mental prayer, each of which is essential to the devotion. It is incorrect to say that meditation is "the very essence of the Rosary devotion," for vocal recitation of the prayers is also of the essence. Meditation is, of course, the nobler element, the "soul," while vocal prayer is the "body" of the devotion. The Rosary, Pope Leo XIII declared, "is composed of two parts, distinct but inseparable - the meditation on the mysteries and the recitation of the prayers."

It is thus a kind of prayer that requires not only some raising of the soul to God, but also a particular and explicit attention" (*Incunda semper*). Hence, as Pope Pius XI stated, they err "who consider this devotion merely a boresome formula repeated with monotonous and singsong intonation" (*Ingravescentibus malis*). Moreover, as Pius XI put it, "both piety and love, although always breathing forth the same words, do not, however, repeat the same thing, but they fervently express something ever new which the loving heart always sends forth."

The words of Pius XII "the recitation of identical formulas, repeated so many times, rather than rendering the prayer sterile and boring, has on the contrary the admirable quality of infusing confidence in him who prays, and brings to bear a gentle compulsion on the motherly heart of Mary (*Ingravescentibus malis*). - Mariology, Juniper B. Carol, O.F.M. Pope Benedict XVI in an address at the Basilica of St Mary Major where he prayed the Rosary with the faithful said: "Today, together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new Springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourish for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the centre, as the Virgin did, who meditated within all that was said about her Son, and also what he did and said. When reciting the Rosary, the important and meaningful moments of salvation history are relived. The various steps of Christ's mission are traced. With Mary the heart is oriented toward the mystery of Jesus. Christ is put at the centre of our life, of our time, of our city, through the contemplation and meditation of his holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow and glory."

Mary may help us to welcome within ourselves the grace emanating from these mysteries, so that through us we can "water" society, beginning with our daily relationships, and purifying them from so many negative forces, thus opening then to the newness of God. The Rosary, when it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanical and superficial but profoundly, it brings, in fact, peace and reconciliation. It contains within itself the healing power of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, invoked with faith and love at the centre of each "Hail Mary."

Pope John Paul II, in his encyclical, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, in 2002 added the five Luminous Mysteries. Through the meditations of the complete Rosary one recalls and has impressed on his mind, the Popes tell us, "the chief mysteries of the Christian religion," "the mysteries of our Redemption," "the great mysteries of Jesus and His Mother united in joys, sorrows, and triumphs."

The twenty mysteries are divided into four equal groups, known as "The Joyful," "The Sorrowful," "The Glorious," and "The Luminous Mysteries."

St Thomas Aquinas Parish Bulletin

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Parish Facebook Page: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
Parish Priest: Fr Paul Slyney - 4754 1052 **Emergency:** 0418 461 316
Assistant Priest: Fr Michael Gathuku - 4754 1052 **Emergency:** 0474 272 605
Parish Pastoral Council: Email - springwoodppc@gmail.com
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8.30 am - 3.30 pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil Mass 5.00 pm, Sunday 8.00 am and 9.30 am

Weekday Mass: Tuesday - Saturday 9.30 am

Rosary & Devotions: Tuesday - Saturday 9.00 am

Adoration, Rosary & Chaplet: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 7.30 - 8.30 pm

Intercession & Adoration: None until further notice

Baptisms: 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month - by appointment

Reconciliation: By appointment

Weddings: By appointment - restricted numbers

Funerals: By appointment - restricted numbers

The Wedding Banquet

The kingdom has been prepared, and it is coming. Jesus likened it to a wedding banquet to which the invited guests are summoned.

Of course, there are some who refuse to come. They prefer to remain mired in their oppressive attitudes, their discriminatory relationships with others, their violent approach to solving social problems. They prefer revenge to forgiveness. They prefer the superiority of some to the equality of all. They see victimization and blame the victims. They are the invited guests who are unfit to come.

There are those others, however, whose love for God expresses itself in eagerness to do good for others. They are the ones who "live in the house of the Lord," preferring love, forgiveness and equality. They will welcome the coming of the kingdom with the cry: "let us rejoice and be glad that God has saved us!"

Christians cannot yearn for anything more ardently than to serve the men of the modern world ever more generously and effectively.

Therefore, holding faithfully to the Gospel and benefiting from its resources, and united with every man who loves and practices justice, Christians have shouldered a gigantic task demanding fulfillment in this world.

Concerning this task they must give a reckoning to him who will judge every [person] on the last day.

Vatican II, *Constitution on the Church
In the Modern World*, 1965: paragraph 93
Gerald Darring

Today's Readings: Is 25:6-10; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14

Entrance Antiphon: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22. R. v. 6

R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Next Week: Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thess 1:1-5; Mt 22:15-21



Recently Deceased:

Sick: Michael Mercieca, Diana Donnelly, Kate Moore, Pamela Pereira, Nicholas Zdon, Melissa Baxter, Mary Ellen Schell, Sue Downes, Joan Eastwood, Gwen Daly, Kerry Aitken, Anthony O'Connell, Wal & Anne Knoke, Angela Brown, Lea Dardenne, Francisco Robles, Teresita Robles, Susie Ziino, Patricia Duffy, Sarah Walke, Jackie Davies, Kimberly Cusack, Margaret Healy, Colleen Lusty, Lorna Lyons, Christopher Coombs, Lucinda Goodwin, Angela Coombs, Leila Baker, Mary Coombs, Slawcia Pisarska, Luca Hurley (Child), Joan Lohrey, Sarah & Thomas McGoram, Frances Hinder, Shirley Anderson, Peter Doherty, Val Hardy, Carmel Chetcuti, Emile Amine, Janice Glassington, Helen Meville, Susan Solomon, Thomas Glavas, **and all Private Intentions.**

Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the deceased and sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the express permission of the immediate family. Thank you.



Dear Parishioners

As you are aware, the Parish Centre is not available for the exercise class due to the Covid restrictions. Some of you were asking if the exercise class is still going and maybe elsewhere.

Yes, we commenced a few weeks ago. The class is running on Monday's at 9.30 am at the Presbyterian Church hall, 160 Macquarie Road, Springwood.

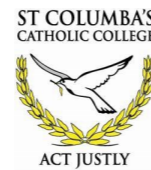
Please bring a floor mat - hope to see you there!!

Regards
Alf Pace - Ph: 4754 1052

Schools in our Parish



St Thomas Aquinas Primary School
Principal - Ms Marina Hardy 4723 3800



St Columba's Catholic College
Principal - Mr Paul Ryan 4754 8900

2021 Josephite Calendars

If you would like to order your 2021 Josephite Calendar, please contact Sr Lyn Raftery rsj, Sisters of St Joseph, NSW on 8741 2333 or email josephitecalendar.sosj.org.au. The cost of each calendar is \$7.00 and there is a small contribution to postage (1 calendar - \$3, 2-3 calendars -\$5, 4 plus calendars -\$11.50).

To contemplate, reflect and enjoy...

Inspiration for daily life from the writings of St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods
Attractive coloured photos taken by the Sisters and Associates

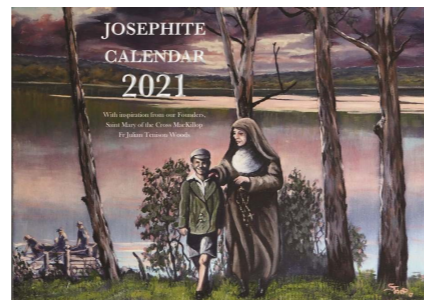
Dates to Remember...

- Key events in the life of Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods
- Significant dates in Josephite history
- Liturgical Calendar and Feasts of the Catholic Church
- Public Holidays
- School term dates for Australia
- Phases of the Moon
- Pull out Yearly Planner 2021

All that is Josephite...

- Contact details for the Congregation and Sisters of St Joseph in your local area
- Contact details for Mary MacKillop Centres in Australia and New Zealand
- Contact details for Retreat Centres and Congregational websites

Space to write personal dates/appointments. A4 page size.



Mountains Deanery Liturgical Ministry Formation Course 2020

Sessions are held on 2 Saturdays, 2-4pm, St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, 46-52 Levy St, Glenbrook 2773 . Ministers of the Word - Saturday 24th October. Extraordinary Ministers of Communion & Communion to the Sick and Dying - Saturday 31st October. Please contact Anne Alimangohan, Parramatta Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org before Saturday, 17th October 2020.

THE CALL TO HOLINESS

THE SAINTS WHO ENCOURAGE AND ACCOMPANY US



The Letter to the Hebrews presents a number of testimonies that encourage us to "run with perseverance the race that is set before us" (12:1). It speaks of Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Gideon and others (cf 11:1-12:3). Above all, it invites us to realize that "a great cloud of witnesses" (12:1) impels us to advance constantly towards the goal. These witnesses may include our own mothers, grandmothers, or other loved ones (cf 2 Tim 1:5). Their lives may not always have been perfect, yet even amid their faults and failings they kept moving forward and proved pleasing to the Lord.

The Saints now in God's presence preserve their bonds of love and communion with us. The Book of Revelation attests to this when it speaks of the intercession of the martyrs: "I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne; they cried out with a loud voice 'O sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long will it be before you judge?'" (6:9-10). Each of us can say: "Surrounded, led and guided by the friends of God ... I do not have to carry alone what, in truth, I could never carry along. All the saints of God are there to protect me, to sustain me and to carry me." [1]

The processes of beatification and canonization recognize the signs of heroic virtue, the sacrifice of one's life in martyrdom, and certain cases where a life is constantly offered for others, even until death. This shows and exemplary imitation of Christ, one worthy of the admiration of the faithful.[2] We can think, for example, of Blessed Maria Gabriella Sagheddu, who offered her life for the unity of Christians.

Pope Francis

SATURDAY SESSIONS - GROW and SHARE FAITH

Join with others as we create community online to share and grow faith, every Saturday from 11am with Saturday Sessions.

Listen to the pre-recorded presentation about a topic of faith before Saturday 11am and then join an online group discussion via Zoom from 11am.

Register in advance for this meeting to receive the links for the presentation and meeting:

<https://tinyurl.com/saturdaysessionsoct10>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about the presentation for this week and a link to join the meeting.

Bishop Timothy Costelloe A Journey of Discernment: The Plenary Council

2020 (Video approx. 7 minutes Reading: 15 mins-30 mins)

The Plenary Council offers us the opportunity to really discern what God is asking of us in Australia at this time. We are invited to stop and really listen to what the spirit is saying in our Church and in world.

EMERGENCY APPEAL for LEBANON

Aid to the Church in Need is organizing the prayer campaign *One Million Children Praying the Rosary*. We know how powerful the prayers of children are, they fly like an arrow into the heart of God. How powerful then is the prayer of the Rosary prayed by millions of children, and adults, all around the world! Join this prayer campaign on the 18th of October. Go to www.aidtochurch.org/one-million-children to learn more.