

**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, O most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us and after this our 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.

**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. May the divine assistance remain always with us and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Prayer for Vocations

Lord Jesus Christ,

You renew the Church in every age by raising up priests and religious outstanding in holiness, living witnesses of your unchanging love. In your plan for our salvation, You provide shepherds for your people.

Fill the hearts of our young men and women with the spirit of courage and love, that they may answer your call. Give our parents the grace to encourage vocations in their family by prayer and good example.

We offer our prayer in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# *Family Rosary for Respect Life*

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

## **Prayer For Respect for Life**

Dear Father, Creator of all Life,

Please give those who are faced with the temptation of abortion the support, the courage, the grace they need to choose life for their child.

Help all who have participated in choosing abortion come to know your healing and generous mercy.

I ask that you grant those involved in performing or promoting abortions a conversion of heart and the courage to cease their involvement.

Please open my own heart to follow whatever way you are calling me to help build a culture of life. Amen.

**The Rosary:** The rosary is a meditative prayer, in which one meditates on various mysteries in the life of Christ. We ask Mary to pray to Jesus on our behalf, because she is much loved and honored by God, and her intercession is powerful. The rosary begins with the Apostle's Creed, one Our Father, three Hail Mary's and one Glory be.

Apostle's 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 into hell. 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 life everlasting. Amen.

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.

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, 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.

Then five decades are prayed, consisting of one Our Father, ten Hail Mary's and one Glory be. While the voice is saying the prayers, the mind is meditating on the mysteries. We include here the Joyful Mysteries, relating to the early life of Jesus, and have added a short prayer relating the mystery to abortion.

**5. The Finding of the Child Jesus 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 that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.... and his mother said unto him: "Son, why have You treated us so? Behold, Your father and I have been looking for You with great anxiety". And he said unto them: "Why were you looking for me? Did you know not that I must be in my Father's house?" ... and His mother kept all these sayings in her heart. (Luke 2:41-51).*

Lord, your parents sought you in sorrow and found you with joy in the Temple. Saint Augustine, a convert to the faith at age 33, once said, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." Lord, the workers at the clinics who participate in and promote the act of abortion are far from your hearts. Help them to find their way back to you. Open their eyes, Lord, to see the truth of the evil of abortion. Call them to repentance and forgiveness. Give them the courage to walk away from their participation in this grave sin. Give them hope that they can find other employment more pleasing to you. Help us to always treat all your children with the respect they deserve, and leave judgment to you.

Our Father, ten Hail Mary's, Glory Be.

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The Luminous Mysteries: The Baptism by John, the Wedding at Cana, the Proclamation of the Kingdom, the Transfiguration, the Institution of the Eucharist.

The Glorious Mysteries: the Resurrection, The Ascension, the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Assumption of Mary, the Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth.

**2. The Visitation** *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. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."* (Luke 1:39-45)



Mary, mother of God, as you carried Jesus in your womb, you were welcomed with joy by Elizabeth. Please intercede with your Son on behalf of the family members of young women in crisis pregnancies today. Ask that they be given the grace to be generous in offering the physical and emotional support the mothers need to choose life for their children. Ask that the whole family be enabled to understand both the evil of

abortion and its sorrowful consequences, and have the courage to prevail over pressures and temptations to choose what others tell them is the easy answer. As you, Mary, brought Christ into Elizabeth's home, ask your Son to enable us to bring the Love and Truth of Jesus Christ to those around us.

(Our Father, ten Hail Mary's, Glory Be.)

**3. The Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem** *While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn... (Luke 2:6-7)* "He became a child, so that the Word could be grasped by us. In this way God teaches us to love the little ones...it is the Child of Bethlehem who is crying out to us; it is the God who has become small who appeals to us. Let us pray that the brightness of God's love may enfold all these children. Let us ask God to help us do our part so that the dignity of children may be respected." - Pope Benedict XVI



Dear Jesus, you chose to relinquish your power and glory as God to become a humble human child, dependent and vulnerable. You were welcomed by Mary and Joseph but there was no room for you in the inn. Help all of us to respect the God-given life of every child, and make room in our hearts to help their parents to care for them. Bless families who welcome children through adoption, and help every child to have a secure and loving home.

Our Father, ten Hail Mary's, Glory Be.

**4. The Presentation of the Infant Jesus in the Temple** “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... and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and the rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” (Luke 2: 22-35).



Dear Jesus, Simeon foretold that your mother’s heart would be pierced with sorrow over your suffering. The mothers and fathers whose children have been aborted often suffer greatly in silence and loneliness. Help them to acknowledge their mistake and find forgiveness and healing in your loving arms. Help us all to treat these women and all involved in the abortion decision with love and compassion rather than judgment.

Our Father, ten Hail Mary’s, Glory Be.

## The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary:

**1. The Annunciation:** “The angel Gabriel said:”Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you...Behold, you shall conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus....Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:26-38)



Mary, faithful daughter of God, you accepted a pregnancy before marriage in order to give birth to our savior. You risked rejection by Joseph and knew that there would be gossip about your pregnancy. Please intercede with your Son on behalf of young women in crisis pregnancies today. Ask that they find the support, the courage, and the grace they need to resist the temptation and pressures they may be facing to abort, and choose life for the child that God has created in their womb. Just as you said yes to Gabriel, ask Jesus to give us the courage to say ‘yes’ to whatever God is asking of us to bring His love into our world.

Our Father, ten Hail Mary’s, Glory Be.