



Adapted from the Laudato Si'

Movement



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Rosary for the Anniversary of *Laudato Si'* 



the Feast of Mary Help of Christians

Saturday, May 24th, 2025



Office of Catholic Charities and Social Concerns

"She is the Woman,
 'clothed in the sun,
 with the moon under her feet,
 and on her head a
 crown of twelve stars' (Rev 12:1).
 Carried up into heaven,
 she is the Mother and
 Queen of all creation.
 In her glorified body,
 together with the Risen Christ,
 part of creation has reached
 the fullness of its beauty."
 -Laudato Si' no. 241

Laudato Si' was signed by Pope Francis on May 24, when the Church celebrates the Feast of Mary Help of Christians. This is a beautiful opportunity for us to meditate on Mary as "the Mother and Queen of all creation." (Laudato Si', 241).

#### Hail, Holy Queen

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. Amen

## **Apostles' Creed**

"I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day He arose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.

Amen

# **Prayers**

# **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

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.

### Mary, Mother of Grace

Mary, Mother of grace, Mother of mercy, Shield me from the enemy And receive me at the hour of my death.

## Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Your Mercy.

# Prayer of the Holy Rosary

We make the Sign of the Cross
We pray the Act of Contrition
We pray the 5 Mysteries for the day

For each mystery:

- We quote the Mystery
- We read the Meditation
- We pray 1 Our Father
- We pray 10 Hail Mary
- We pray 1 Glory Be
- We pray to Mary
- Mary, Mother of Grace . . .
- We pray 1 Fatima Prayer

We pray 1 Hail, Holy Queen
We pray 1 Hail Mary for the Church
We pray 1 Hail May for the Pope
We pray 1 Hail May for our intention
We pray the Apostle's Creed

# Joyful Mysteries

By Fray Eduardo Agosta O. Cam.

## **First Mystery: The Annunciation**

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you... You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.... "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." (Lk 1: 26-28,31,38).

#### Meditation

"May your word to me be fulfilled." It is the free response of the creature to the gift of the Creator; It expresses availability and openness for the "miracle" to happen through the power, the strength, of the Spirit of God. Creation, the work of the Creator's love, has its natural laws that he himself respects: God does not violate the natural harmony present in his work of love. Only the free will of the human creature, which becomes available to the will of God, makes possible the change in the history of things. Today, the motions of the Spirit of God awaken in us the awareness of having to give a generous "Yes", and sometimes with sacrifice, in order to preserve and care for the harmony of creation.

As Pope Francis says: "... we know that things can change. The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home." (LS 13). "... men and women are still capable of intervening positively. For all our limitations, gestures of generosity, solidarity and care cannot but well up within us, since we were made for love." (LS 58). Let us, then, be announcers that "a new heaven and a new earth" (Ap 21,1) are possible; bearers of hope, moved by the Spirit; witnesses of change. We have the great example of Mary.

# **Prayers**

### Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### **Act of Contrition**

O my God,

I am heartily sorry for having offended You and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love.

I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life.

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.

# Fifth Mystery: The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

"The boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of it. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions." (Lk 2, 43-46).

#### Meditation

... Among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions." Jesus is shown to us as he is: true man (and true God) who needs to learn, to grow, mature, and bear much fruit. You learn by listening and asking others. Again a relationship: learning is a relationship of exchange of knowledge, skills, techniques, culture, art, faith, and so on. It requires simplicity, recognition of who we are with humility (with our feet on the ground), without believing ourselves wise but not thinking that we are worthless. Jesus shows us the meaning of that "humility is walking in truth", as Saint Teresa of Jesus would say. Pope Francis also shows us that we need to learn from others to make things better.

The best example is the first chapter of the letter Laudato Si ': the Pope uses the sciences to understand the damage we are inflicting on Sister and Mother Earth. We do not know everything, and the tools of science can be useful to get a good diagnosis and be able to act with certainty in the best decisions. The Pope also shows us that science has to allow itself to be taught and learned from other wisdoms that contribute meaning and direction to mere scientific knowledge, if it wants to serve man integrally: "A science which would offer solutions to the great issues would necessarily have to take into account the data generated by other fields of knowledge, including philosophy and social ethics... In the concrete situation confronting us, there are a number of symptoms which point to what is wrong, such as environmental degradation, anxiety, a loss of the purpose of life and of community living" (LS 110).

Let us be, then, like Jesus: capable of listening to learn; to ask to grow; and growing, let us mature to give good fruits in his time (and in time, not to be late).

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#### **Second Mystery: The Visitation**

"At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting... she was filled with the Holy Spirit" (Lk 1, 39-41).

#### **Meditation**

"She got ready and hurried".

Mary, who lives the experience of the living God in her own being, shows us the essential value of relationships and communication in the dynamism of creation. Natural life on earth is only possible through the establishment of harmonious relationships and healthy (ecological) communications between each living being and the environment, and between living beings. The Life that drives the dynamism of creation is also transmitted as a spiritual force with the word that is communicated: "He heard the greeting and was filled with the Spirit of God", which is the strength of our strength (see LS 40,28-31).

Pope Francis reminds us that God has stamped the dynamism of the Holy Trinity in all creation, and insists that "everything is connected" (LS 116, 91, 117, 138, 240). ... "This leads us not only to marvel at the manifold connections existing among creatures, but also to discover a key to our own fulfilment. The human person grows more, matures more and is sanctified more to the extent that he or she enters into relationships, going out from themselves to live in communion with God, with others and with all creatures... Everything is interconnected, and this invites us to develop a spirituality of that global solidarity which flows from the mystery of the Trinity" (LS 240).

Let us be like Mary: ready to communicate the strength of God and transform creation.

# Third Mystery: The Nativity

Joseph and Mary went up from Nazareth to Bethlehem. "While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger". (Lk 2, 6-7)

#### **Meditation**

The beginning of the Gospel of John gives us a key (Jn 1,1.3.9-11.14): In the beginning was the Word... and the Word was God... Through Him all things were made... In Him was life ... The true light that gives light to everyone coming into the world.... He was in the world ... but the world did not recognize Him.

Today, we can still accept the Word that is true light that illuminates our consciences and makes us realize the need for a radical change, an ecological conversion towards the respect of creatures, the care of the common home and the most vulnerable and disadvantaged beings of this earth, or, we can look the other way and ignore the reality of things, denying the light of truth (the Word came to his house, and his people did not receive it). The first option will be our Birth. The second, our death, which is our option, but condemns.

Pope Francis reminds us: "God, who calls us to generous commitment and to give him our all, offers us the light and the strength needed to continue on our way. In the heart of this world, the Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present. He does not abandon us, he does not leave us alone, for he has united himself definitively to our earth, and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward. Praise be to him!" (LS 245).

Let the Word get into our history, be born in our consciences, because we know that, despite everything, the darkness does not overcome the light of the Word (Jn 1,5).

## **Fourth Mystery: The Presentation**

"When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord" (Lc 2, 22-23).

#### Meditation

In antiquity sin had to do with the rupture: rupture of the relationship between the human being and God, between the creature and its Creator. That rupture has cosmic consequences: the harmony of things is lost. That is the original sin, which Genesis narrates with the metaphor of the loss of paradise: God put the human being in the garden to take care of it and to fill it (Gen 2,15), but the human being disobeyed. That is why for us Christian believers, recovering that link is understood as a New Covenant or covenant, made by Jesus Christ. Before Jesus, a way to cleanse one's sins was through purification, through one established rites. Purification therefore cleansed sins, that is, restored you as a "creature to his Creator." Consecrate, therefore, ritually gives back to Him to whom you belong. Purify and consecrate go hand in hand. The consecration has to do with living harmony in creation and with God.

The life of Jesus is a clear example of consecration and purification. Pope Francis reminds us: "Jesus lived in full harmony with creation, and others were amazed: "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?" (Mt 8:27). His appearance was not that of an ascetic set apart from the world, nor of an enemy to the pleasant things of life. Of himself he said: "The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard!" (Mt 11:19) ... It is striking that most of his life was dedicated to this task in a simple life which awakened no admiration at all: "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary?" (Mk 6:3)" (LS 98).

We do not need to do great things to consecrate our lives in the salvation of the earth. We need to be like Jesus, to assume his spirituality: living with simplicity, working, enjoying with moderation the goods of the earth and, above all, always recognizing that "less is more" with conviction (LS 212), seeking to restore the just relationships between human beings, the earth and the Creator. This is the ecological conversion that can heal (and save) creation.