

# DISCIPLESHIP

LOVE

**your enemies,**

DO GOOD

**to those who hate you,**

BLESS

**those who curse you,**

PRAY

**for those who mistreat you.**

Lk 6:27-28



**HOLY FAMILY ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH**, 316 S. Logan St., Lincoln, IL  
**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH**, 808 NW Pearl St., Atlanta, IL  
**ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH**, 213 S. Bogardus St., Elkhart, IL  
**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH**, 321 S. Lafayette St., Mt. Pulaski, IL

**MASSES FOR THIS WEEK 1/14/2024**

**Saturday, January 13 - Vigil Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Memorial of St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church)**

4:00pm Holy Family: In memory of Marvin Knutilla by Jerry & Janet Langenbahn  
 [with Drive-Thru Communion from 4:45-5:00pm]

**Sunday, January 14 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00am St. Patrick: For the special intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community members  
 8:30am St. Mary: In memory of Elizabeth "Betty" Verderber by Lou Mack  
 10:00am Holy Family: In memory of Rita Faith's 85th Birthday by Carl Faith  
 [with Drive-Thru Communion from 10:45-11:00am]  
 10:00am St. Thomas Aquinas: In memory of Melissa Trauner by Maureen & James Trauner

**Monday, January 15 - Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

8:00am Holy Family: In memory of Joseph Reichle by Lou Ann Mack

**Tuesday, January 16**

8:00am Holy Family: In memory of John "Doug" Board by Janet & Jerry Langenbahn

**Wednesday, January 17 - Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot**

8:30am CCS/Holy Family: In memory of Lela Fitzpatrick by Sudie Mintjal

**Thursday, January 18**

8:00am Holy Family: In memory of Janet Price by Janet & Jerry Langenbahn

**Friday, January 19**

8:00am Holy Family: In memory of Joseph Mintjal by Mary Roberts

**Saturday, January 20 - Vigil Mass for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Memorial of St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr & St. Sebastian, Martyr)**

4:00pm Holy Family: In memory of Michelle Lamb by the Aue Family  
 [with Drive-Thru Communion from 4:45-5:00pm]

**Sunday, January 21 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00am St. Patrick: For the special intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community members  
 8:30am St. Mary: In memory of Harold Westerfield by the Fitzgerald Family  
 10:00am Holy Family: In memory of John & Shirley Coughlin by Greg Coughlin  
 [with Drive-Thru Communion from 10:45-11:00am]  
 10:00am St. Thomas Aquinas: In memory of Mildred Broughton by her Daughters

*\*Based on the availability of clergy, this schedule is subject to change. Please check the parish calendar on the website for any changes or additions.*

- ⇒ **Eucharistic Adoration**  
Thursday from 3:00-7:00pm at Holy Family with the Divine Mercy Chaplet recited at 3:00pm.
- ⇒ **Reconciliation**  
Holy Family Church, Lincoln; Tuesday 7:30-8:00am and Saturday from 2:45-3:30pm  
St. Patrick's Church, Elkhart; prior to Sunday Mass  
St. Mary's Church, Atlanta; prior to Sunday Mass  
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Mt. Pulaski; prior to Sunday Mass
- ⇒ **Infant Baptism**  
Parents are asked to attend a baptism preparation session before the Baptism of their child. Please phone the parish office to register.
- ⇒ **Marriages**  
Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance for the desired wedding date. Please phone the parish office to receive further information and to reserve your special day.

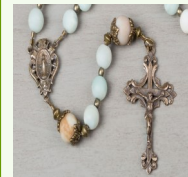
**St. Mary, Atlanta  
Lector Schedule**

01/14 - Laura O'Donnell  
 01/21 - Ed Jodlowski  
 01/28 - Ed Jodlowski  
 02/04 - Matt McGhee  
 02/11 - Matt McGhee

**St. Mary Altar Society**

St. Mary's Altar society invites all members of our parish (male & female) to upcoming meetings. The meetings are held the 1st Monday of each month at 6pm in the church hall.

**Holy Rosary**



Join us in praying the rosary at 7:40am before Mass on Monday through Friday at Holy Family.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE**

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2024.

We reopen on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 from 8:00am - 3:00pm.



We want to thank all of our Parish family members for your very kind and generous Christmas cards and gifts. We are so very blessed to be part of this wonderful family that is our Logan County Catholic Community.

*Fr. Joe and Fr. Nicodemus*

**THANK YOU**

The Holy Family Pantry would like to thank everyone who contributed their time, gifts of money and donations of food to The Holy Family Pantry in 2023.

Without your generosity we would never be able to serve the 300, plus, deserving families in Logan County.

## Week of January 14 - January 20, 2024

The red Altar Sanctuary Candle at...

**Holy Family** is lit this week in *memory of the deceased and present members of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.*

**St. Mary** is lit this week for the *special intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.*

**St. Patrick** is lit this week for the *special intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.*

**St. Thomas Aquinas** is lit this week for the *special intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.*

The blue candle at the Mary Queen of Peace Statue near the altar at...

**Holy Family** is lit this week for *members of my family who are ill* by Judy Sloan.

The blue candle at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Statue near votive candles at...

**Holy Family** is lit this week for the *special intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.*

If you would like to sponsor a sanctuary candle for special intentions, and/or, to honor the deceased, please call Alicia Baker at 217-732-4019 or email her, [abaker@logancountycatholic.org](mailto:abaker@logancountycatholic.org).

Please "Pray for the Sick" by remembering the following people in your prayers:



Mike Lowry, Paul Lowry, Terri Lowry, Laura Lowry, Sean Lowry, Elijah Cox, Guinevere Decker, Ruth Young, Rodney Alberts, Jill Alberts, Linda Wright, Steve Schmidt, Ryan Butler, Donna Burr, Paula Rutherford, Gavin Fox, Rita Johnson, Adelyn Jones, McKayla Nye, Gavin Shuler, Phillip Brown, Christina Clementz, Mike Kavanaugh, Linda H., Mark L., Kay Rosner, Deb Jordan, Dwayne Knap, Esme Avart, Rita Scanavino, Jim Steinkamp, Marge Steinkamp, Thomas Siegel, Asher Phillips, Kristin Wright, Melinda Spangler, Phil Dehner, Alexa Cunningham, Mary Masterson, Amanda Bidwell, Marcia Bidwell, Sandra Buttell, Debi Hardin, Ann LaMothe, Teresa Tripplett, Curt C., Eddie Pharis, Shirley Davis, Mike Young, Shirley O'Donoghue, Dan Dankosky, Bridget Dutcher, Tinley Rubenacker, John Barrick, Tom Berta, Eric Faith, Jerry Boyle, Dave Morrow, Caroline & Mike Spaniol, Steve "Hacker" Aue, Jennifer Roedz, Dan Riccolo, Diana Purdue, Ann Baunach, Gene Newton, Joyce Lichtenwalter, Sally Velasco, Ilene Davis, Tim McCormick, Bonnie Frawley, Hayden Clark Williams, Jeane Connolley, Cheryl Farney, Jack Sprague, David Sanborn, Kathy Miller, Pat French, Jack Peifer, Johanna Grigsby, Charlie Dumire, Bryan Finchum, Phyllis' family, Steve Panissidi, Larry Wise, Bob McCue, Carol & Bob Barger, Aria Tramontano-Grigsby Spitnale, Ron Nye, John Hebenstreit, Nurse Lancaster, Cindy & Kenny Frericks, Ann Knuffman, Greg Harmon, Pam Baker, David Vale, Lois, Adam, Mirtha & Nicolas Barrios, and all the members of the armed forces of our country.

Contact Isabel M. Vidal @ 217-732-4019 to add a loved one to this list.



Through the mercy of God may they rest in peace.

**Paul Robbins**  
**Richard "Rick" McKown**

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

#### Monday, January 15th

1 Sm 15:16-23 / Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 & 23 / Mk 2:18-22

#### Tuesday, January 16th

1 Sm 16:1-13 / Ps 89:20-22, 27-28 / Mk 2:23-28

#### Wednesday, January 17th

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 / Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 / Mk 3:1-6

#### Thursday, January 18th

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 / Ps 56:2-3, 9-13 / Mk 3:7-12

#### Friday, January 19th

1 Sm 24:3-21 / Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 & 11 / Mk 3:13-19

#### Saturday, January 20th

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 / Ps 80:2-3, 5-7 / Mk 3:20-21

#### Sunday, January 21st

Jon 3:1-5, 10 / Ps 25:4-9 / 1 Cor 7:29-31 / Mk 1:14-20

### CENTRAL ILLINOIS Men COME JOIN US FOR CURSILLO 2024!

**Men's Cursillo weekend is 1/26/24 to 1/28/24, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Urbana, IL.** What a great way to start the new year by joining other men, strengthening your faith in Christ, and His Church! Contact Dick Baxley (Parish Liaison for EACC—Eastern Area Cursillo Community) @ 217-377-0318.

The **2024 Women's Cursillo is September 20-22.** Thank you for your support of Cursillo.

### SEARCHING FOR A QUIET PLACE TO PRAY? COME TO HOLY FAMILY AND FILL THIS NEED.



Join us to say the rosary at 7:40am before Mass on Monday through Friday. The side door is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday during normal business hours (8:00am - 3:00pm). Eucharistic Adoration is generally held on Thursdays 3pm-6pm. Plan on getting here early or staying after for some special time between you and our Lord. If you wish to sign up for an Adoration Hour, call the Parish Office. Please remember you are committing to serve and will need to find a substitute if you have a conflict and cannot attend your session.



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK IS COMING 1/28/2024 - 2/3/2024!

The Catholic Schools Week (CSW) 2023 – 2026 theme is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community." Catholic schools have an irreplaceable role in the Church's evangelizing mission. Building on the central goal of Catholic schools to form saints, Catholic schools teach and embrace the whole person, body, mind and spirit. The fact that all members of a Catholic school community share the Christian vision of faith that Christ is the foundation of Catholic education is what unites the school as a faith-filled community.

While faith is the binding element in Catholic schools, the Church reiterates that parents are the first teachers of their children. Holding this tenet, Catholic school communities expand beyond the walls of school buildings to envelop the family as an integral part of the school community. Together teachers, administrators, staff, students and parents fuel the light of faith by integrating culture with faith and faith with living.

The CSW logo symbolizes the united community of Catholic schools – not a building or an institution, but people of faith serving God and others. No Catholic school can fulfill its educational role alone. As a community, Catholic schools are nourished and stimulated by the centrality of the word of Christ expressed through knowledge, service, scripture and sacramental tradition. Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community is a theme on which to build a spirit of the gospel to benefit the human family.

Adapted from the NCEA (National Catholic Educational Association)

### CARROLL CATHOLIC SCHOOL - 6TH ANNUAL APPEAL

**I am pleased to announce our sixth Annual Appeal. Over the past five years, through the great generosity of you and other supporters of Carroll Catholic School, over \$225,000 has been raised! We look forward to continuing this success, and have set an even more ambitious goal of \$60,000 for this year's appeal.**

**Your sustaining support allows the school to continue to improve. For our students, this means enhanced curriculum, expanded STEM education, and continued access to up-to-date technology. For the school itself, still standing proudly after sixty-two years, this means new carpeting in classrooms and hallways, new furniture in the classrooms and addressing the necessary but often costly repairs and updates.**

**As I have the past five years, I am again asking for your support to meet our \$60,000 goal. Please prayerfully consider what level of financial support you may offer the school, and know absolutely that whatever the amount of your gift, it is truly beneficial and always greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support of the students and mission of Carroll Catholic School and of Catholic education in Logan County!**

*In Gratitude,*

*David Welch, Principal*



The RCIA sessions resumed Tuesday, January 9. Our journey with Chad Smith to the Easter Triduum renewed. We began the new year with presentations on the sacraments and Mass. These sessions will help Chad prepare for his initiation, which we will celebrate Holy Saturday during the Easter Vigil. Christian Initiation for Adults is one ceremony in which Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are celebrated. Please continue to pray for Chad and all who accompany him on his journey.

### WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR THE HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY GLOBAL PRAYER INTENTIONS

The Holy Father's monthly prayer intentions are entrusted to the Worldwide Prayer Network and serve as a global call to transform prayers into concrete actions. Originally established in 1844 as the Apostleship of Prayer, this network, initiated by the Jesuits, was modified under Pope Francis. In 2016, he renamed it The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, elevating it to pontifical work status in 2018. Later, in 2020, the network attained the status of a Vatican Foundation gaining both canonical and juridical recognition.

Each month, Pope Francis, through his Worldwide Prayer Network, shares prayer intentions that express his profound concerns for humanity and the mission of the Church. These monthly intentions are meant to act as a compass for a mission of compassion for the world, encouraging the faithful to combine prayer and action in building a more humane and caring world.

These prayer intentions result from an extensive discernment process within the Church, incorporating proposals from various official congregations of the Holy See, and services of the Holy See across different countries. After several months of discernment, the Pope, having received the proposals, takes dedicated time to pray and discern the challenges facing humanity and the mission of the Church. Afterwards, he entrusts these twelve prayer intentions to all the faithful, providing them with guidelines for life and mission.

#### JANUARY

#### FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH

Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Adapted from the *USCCB.org*

Parish Office, 316 South Logan Street, Lincoln, IL 62656 ~ 217-732-4019 ~ [www.logancountycatholic.org](http://www.logancountycatholic.org)

**Rev. Joseph Dondanville, Pastor | Rev. Nicodemus Muithi, Parochial Vicar**  
**Deacon Wendell Lowry | Sister Margaret Schreiber O.P., Spiritual Life Coordinator**  
**Britta Langley, Religious Education Coordinator**  
**Alicia Baker & Isabel Vidal, Secretaries | Sister Lori Kirchman O.P., Director of Music**  
**Carroll Catholic School 217-732-7518 - David Welch, Principal | Jennifer Craig, Secretary**  
**Holy Cross & St. Mary Cemeteries 217-871-0266 - Kenneth "Scott" Jones, Sexton**



COMMUNITY HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

Illinois Elks Children's Care Corporation & Lincoln Elks Lodge #914

The FREE Children's Orthopedic Clinic is coming back to Lincoln Memorial Hospital in 2024!

- Does your child complain of leg, knee, Shoulder, elbow, or wrist pain?
Complain about back pain?
Seem clumsy or falls?

The first clinic of the year will be set for January 2, 2024 from 1-3pm. You must have an appointment to participate in the Clinic, no exceptions. The Scheduling number to register for a Clinic appointment is 1-800-272-0074. The Clinic will be open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 4:00pm.



Ways to Give This Holiday Season

- Holy Family Food Pantry
Carroll Catholic School
Carroll Catholic PIE Chart Items
Love Repeated
Diocesan Annual Development Appeal
Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA
Holy Family Capital Campaign
St. Mary's Cemetery
Holy Cross Cemetery
Holy Family Building Fund
St. Mary's Building Fund
St. Patrick's Building Fund
St. Thomas Aquinas Building Fund
Dominican Sisters of Springfield, IL
Phone Cards for the Troops

(Aid to the Rulenge-Ngara Diocese of Tanzania, East Africa)

(Donations help with costs of sending wounded warriors to Lourdes.)

Checks can be made out to "Knights of Columbus Council #1250, Lincoln" with notation of "Warriors to Lourdes donation.")

- Warriors to Lourdes
Rotary Foundation
Zonta Foundation for Women

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Holy Family: Bob Barger, Peggy Morrow, Jim Wessbecher
St. Mary's: Joe Bell, Jan Bicknell, Zachary Craig
St. Patrick's: Cheryl Davis, Blane Olson
St. Thomas Aquinas: Karen Edgecombe, Kathy Miller

SAINTS OF THE WEEK (Adapted from My Catholic Life!)

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (1/15) - The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a liturgical bridge that connects the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. During the Christmas season we pondered the Incarnation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, and Epiphany. Today, we see Jesus manifesting Himself to the world as He began His three years of public ministry. His ministry starts through an act of deep solidarity with the fallen human race. John the Baptist, preaching in the desert and offering a baptism of repentance, was not the same as our baptism today. Instead, it was only a sign of one's willingness to turn away from sin and turn toward God. Jesus, of course, had nothing to repent as He was sinless in every way. But that didn't stop Him from freely choosing to receive the baptism of repentance. Jesus chose to unite Himself with fallen humanity, taking upon Himself our own sins and suffering their consequences. He humbly allowed Himself to be identified as a sinner in need of repentance. This was done out of love for us and out of His longing to become one with us so that we could become one with Him. If we fully understood what happens every time we acknowledge our sins and repent of them, we would never grow tired of repenting. Every time we acknowledge and repent of our sin, we meet Christ anew, receive a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and affirm and deepen our adoption by the Father in Heaven.

Memorial of Saint Anthony of Egypt, Abbot (1/17) - 251-356, Patron Saint of basket makers, gravediggers, butchers, swineherds, motorists, amputees, monks, and farmers. Invoked against skin diseases and epilepsy. Canonized pre-Congregation. He lived an ascetic life in a desert hermitage for three decades until he went out into the world to share the spiritual insights he gained. He became an abbot to a group of fellow monks and counselor to followers (pilgrims) attracted to him for his reputation for sanctity. Everything he did was grounded in the practice of conversation with Jesus Christ through prayer.

Memorial of Saint Fabian, Pope and Martyr (1/20) - Died 250, Patron Saint of Rome, Pre-Congregation canonization. Elected pope 236 AD. St. Fabian was only a layman when he was named pope by acclamation. He was a very capable choice. In addition to his martyrdom and his divine election as pope, Saint Fabian is also known for being a good administrator of the Church, organizing the Church into various districts with appointed leaders. He had a heart for evangelization and sent several bishops as missionaries to Christianize Gaul (present-day France). Lastly, like many other saints of his time, he stomped out heresy, working to preserve the pure and orthodox faith.

Memorial of Saint Sebastian, Martyr (1/20) - 255 - 288, Patron Saint of archers, pin makers, athletes, against epidemics, and of a holy death. Pre-Congregation canonization. The crown of martyrdom was placed on the head of Saint Sebastian not once but twice. St. Sebastian was a captain of the Praetorium Guard until Diocletian learned that he was Christian. After penetrating his torso and limbs with arrows, they untied him and left his pierced body for dead. But Sebastian did not die! Instead, a holy woman named Irene came to bury his body and found him still alive. She was the wife of Saint Castulus, also martyred earlier that year. Irene took him to her home and nursed him back to health. Saint Irene died a martyr just two years later. After he had regained his health, rather than fleeing, he presented himself before the emperor and chastised him for his cruelty toward Christians. The emperor, angered by his words and shocked that Sebastian was still alive, ordered his execution by beating him to death with clubs and to be thrown into a sewer. After his death, he appeared in a vision to a holy woman named Lucina and asked her to remove his body from the sewer and bury him in the catacombs of Callixtus. She did so that night. A basilica was later built there in his memory. This church and cemetery remain an important pilgrimage site today. In the centuries that followed his martyrdom, he became known for his intercessory power, especially in fighting off the bubonic plague in the fourteenth century. More recently, he has also been honored as the patron saint of athletes because of his dogged perseverance.



The Bloomington/Normal Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreat is set at Central Catholic High School this Lenten season from 8:30 am, Saturday, 2/17/24 to 5pm Monday, 2/19/24. You must be in high school between 15-19. The cost for the weekend is \$75, but financial support is available. The weekend has a Boys session (TEC 156) and a Girls session (TEC 155).

A TEC weekend helps teens focus on their personal faith journey: learn the difference between faith and religion; everyone's path is different; and learn how religion can help guide the journey. Although you may have struggles in life, you do not need to face them alone. You can become a member of a community of loving and supportive people who will help you remain true to yourself and grow in your faith life.

Go to their website for more information on TEC in Bloomington/Normal, the applications and the paperwork needed. This weekend will be an exciting opportunity you will not forget. [Teens Encounter Christ \(bn-tec.org\)](https://bn-tec.org)

If you have questions completing forms, please contact Tod Williamson at 309-825-1162 or [wmsommx@gmail.com](mailto:wmsommx@gmail.com). For questions about TEC weekends, or concerns you may have, please contact Larry or Mary Mester, Lay Coordinators at 309-826-1741 or 309-826-1742 respectively.

### Peoria TEC Teens Encounter Christ

TEC is also available in Peoria on the following weekends in 2024 if the Bloomington/Normal date is not convenient.

For more information go to: [About TEC](#) | [Peoria Teens Encounter Christ](#) | [Peoria, IL \(peoriatec.org\)](#)

#### TEC WEEKEND DATES IN PEORIA - 2024

- Boys TEC 374, February 17-19, 2024
- Girls TEC 375, June 15-17, 2024
- Boys TEC 376, August 3-5, 2024
- Girls TEC 377, October 12-14, 2024

POVERTY USA DAILY WAYS TO LEARN ABOUT POVERTY IN AMERICA | [WWW.POVERTYUSA.ORG](http://WWW.POVERTYUSA.ORG)

## JANUARY POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH

[Solidarity](#) invites us to remember that we are all children of God who share in one another's joy and suffering. This is a key component of working together to seek justice for all of God's children. Being in solidarity with others lifts us from our individualism and offers us the opportunity to work together to address poverty.

Save the date now to participate in next year's [Catholic Social Ministry Gathering](#)! From January 25-28, 2025, we will gather *in person* to pray, learn, and advocate together on our Catholic call to help heal a world broken by conflict, division, and inequality.

Take a moment to reflect on the words of Pope Francis, "There is a need for paths of peace to heal open wounds. There is also a need for peacemakers, men and women prepared to work boldly and creatively to initiate the processes of healing and renewed encounter" (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 225).

How can you join the work to think creatively and boldly to create opportunities for healing and renewed encounter? Say this prayer for **solidarity** and for the grace to share in the suffering of our brothers and sisters who experience poverty, and for a deeper conviction to work for justice and peace.

**Almighty and ever-living God,  
empower your one human family  
to join hands on our journey of faith.  
Send us your spirit of hope,  
so that we may work to alleviate human suffering  
and foster charity and justice in our world.**

**Amen.**

The *Catholic Campaign for Human Development* is the national anti-poverty program of the Catholic Bishops in the United States. [Catholic Campaign for Human Development | USCCB](#)

## Do You Know How The Rosary Came To Be? Adapted from Simply Catholic.com article by DD Emmons and Dynamic Catholic.com

By the ninth century, monks were reciting all 150 psalms, at first every day, but later every week as part of their prayers and devotions. They kept track by counting out 150 pebbles, placing one in a container as they said each psalm. People living near the monks mimicked this devotion, due to lack of education they couldn't memorize all the psalms so Christians prayed 50 or 150 *Our Fathers* (or *Paternosters*) each week. To keep count of the Our Fathers, they often used string with knots instead of counting rocks. The knots gave way to small pieces of wood and eventually to the use of beads. The Rosary includes six of Catholicism's most familiar prayers: the Apostles' Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, the Glory Be, the Fátima Prayer ("O My Jesus") and the Hail Holy Queen. The inclusion of these prayers in the Rosary did not happen overnight but was a lengthy evolution down through the centuries. It evolved to what we say today moving from each decade, instead of each bead, accompanied by a meditation on the life of Christ and Mary.

The **Hail Mary prayer** came together slowly. It took more than a thousand years. The earliest version simply added Mary's name to the message delivered by the angel Gabriel to Mary: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee" (Luke 1:28). Around 1050 AD, the words Elizabeth used to greet Mary during the Visitation were added: "Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb" (Luke 1:42). In 1261, Pope Urban IV added the name of Jesus to the end of Elizabeth's words. St. Peter Canisius published the Hail Mary in his 1555 Catechism with almost the entire final petition: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners." Eleven years later, the Catechism of the Council of Trent (a work that Canisius was instrumental in creating) included, for the first time, the entire final petition, concluding with the words "now and at the hour of our death. Amen." The version of the Hail Mary we pray today was officially approved in 1568. In 1569, Pope St. Pius V (r. 1566-72) publicly decreed and encouraged the universal use of the Rosary. It remained the same until the Fatima Prayer was added, though not universally used, yet. From the 16th century until the 21st century there were three sets of mysteries: the Joyful, the Glorious and the Sorrowful. But in 2001, Pope St. John Paul II added the Mysteries of Light. The intent was to include meditations on the time in Jesus' life between His incarnation (a Joyful Mystery) and His passion (a Sorrowful Mystery).

## Do You Know Why We Added The Fatima Prayer To The Rosary? Adapted from Catholic Link article written by [Becky Roach](#) and EWTN

On May 13, 1917, the Blessed Mother appeared for the first time to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. Each time our Blessed Mother visited Jacinta, Francisco, and Lucia, she gave some specific instructions to the children to let the faithful know they must stop offending our Lord. In her third appearance on July 13, 1917, she asked that the following prayer be included at the conclusion of every Rosary decade.

***"Say the Rosary everyday to obtain peace for the world. And after each decade, say the following prayer: O, my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those most in need of thy mercy." OUR LADY OF FATIMA***

Today, we call this prayer the Fatima Prayer, but many Catholics still do not know that Our Lady of Fatima requested it be prayed at the end of each decade of the rosary. It was officially approved for use by the Catholic Church in 1930. Though it is an optional prayer of the Rosary, it is *the* prayer that Mary herself encourages us to include in our devotion.

## Why Pray The Rosary?

Why does Mary so deeply desire us to pray the Holy Rosary daily? Why did she specifically ask us to intercede on the behalf of all souls for mercy? Our Blessed Mother wants to see all of her children in Heaven one day, and she weeps for those who have fallen into sin and away from God. She knows that the Rosary is the tool we can use to restore peace and mercy in our broken world.

## What Archbishop Sheen said . . .

***"The rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the rosary is beyond description."***

## What Pope St. Paul VI said . . .

***"Meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary . . . can be an excellent preparation for the celebration of those same mysteries in the liturgical actions [i.e. the Mass] and can also become a continuing echo thereof"***

## What Pope St. John XXIII said . . .

***"The Rosary is a magnificent and universal prayer for the needs of the Church, the nations and the entire world"***

More to come on this Catholic prayer of the faithful in future bulletins.