

St. John's Newsletter



Month of the Rosary

October is the month of the **Rosary**. While many of us grew up with the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, we may not be as familiar with the Luminous Mysteries, but the devotion has been around for 20 years.






In 2002, Pope St. John Paul II wrote a letter *The Most Holy Rosary* to all Catholics regarding the Rosary and to announce the addition of the Luminous Mysteries to the Rosary. The Luminous Mystery Rosary or the **Mysteries of Light**, as they are also called, focus on the public life of Jesus, the years He was preaching spanning the time between His Baptism and His death. They are called the Mysteries of Light because Jesus is the Light of the World.

"Again therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying: I am the light of the world: he that follows me, walks not in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

-John 8:12

Pope John Paul II felt that it was important to add these mysteries to the history of the Rosary because there was a gap between the childhood of Jesus that is meditated upon during the Joyful Mysteries and the suffering and death of Jesus that is meditated upon during the Sorrowful Mysteries. He also added them to revive interest in the Rosary which in his words illustrate an "ocean of joy and of light, of suffering and of glory" in the lives of Jesus and Mary.

Luminous Mysteries focus on Jesus' Public Life

 <p>Baptism of Jesus</p> <p>And when Jesus was baptized, ... the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on Him, and lo, a voice from heaven, saying "this is My beloved Son," with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:16-17)</p> <p><i>Fruit of the Mystery: Openness to the Holy Spirit</i></p>	 <p>Wedding at Cana</p> <p>His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever He tells you." ... Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. (John 2:5-7)</p> <p><i>Fruit of the Mystery: To Jesus through Mary</i></p>	 <p>Proclaiming the Kingdom</p> <p>"And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without pay, give without pay." (Matthew 10:7-8)</p> <p><i>Fruit of the Mystery: Repentance and Trust in God</i></p>	 <p>Transfiguration</p> <p>And as He was praying, the appearance of His countenance was altered and His raiment became dazzling white. And a voice came out of the cloud saying, "This is My Son, My chosen; listen to Him!" (Luke 9:29, 35)</p> <p><i>Fruit of the Mystery: Desire for Holiness</i></p>	 <p>Institution of the Eucharist</p> <p>And He took bread, and when He had given thanks He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you." ... And likewise the cup after supper, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood." (Luke 22:19-20)</p> <p><i>Fruit of the Mystery: Adoration</i></p>
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Sources: <http://www.how-to-pray-the-rosary-everyday.com/luminous-mystery-rosary.html> and <https://marian.org/mary/rosary/luminous-mysteries>

Volume 13 - October 2022 -- St. John's Newsletter is a once-a-month publication aimed at providing you with items of interest about our Catholic faith. If there is a topic you are interested in, please contact the parish office and we will try to address it in future issues. - Submitted by Mary Jo Peters