

Rosary for Evangelization



"The Most Holy Virgin in these last times in which we live has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the Rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families...of the life of peoples and nations that cannot be solved by the Rosary. There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary."

Sister María Lucía of Fatima

Spending our time with Mary, contemplating the life of her Son, is the reason for the Rosary's great spiritual power. With the Rosary in hand, we take a receptive posture before the life of Christ and allow him to fill our hearts and minds with the graces of each Mystery.

When taking up the Rosary as a work of evangelization, we do so remembering that the Rosary is a “compendium of the Gospel”, that Gospel that we wish to share in our evangelizing efforts. Therefore, no matter what mysteries we pray, Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, or Glorious, we are entering more fully into our vocation of missionary discipleship because we are entering each time more deeply into the Gospel we hope to proclaim

The intimacy with Christ that comes about through our prayer of the Rosary will be evident to those we encounter. We will speak of Christ not as someone we barely know, but someone who is deeply familiar to us, a friend.

The effect of praying the Rosary in the way suggested here, entrusting to Our Lady specific names or groups of people, is profound. Not only does it win grace for others, but also it develops in us an evangelical sensitivity to those around us who may not yet have encountered Christ. It leads us to become more aware of them and cultivates in our hearts a genuine love for them.

Each time we pray this way, our hearts are widened to include the whole world. We become more united to Christ, who extended his arms on the Cross to gather the whole world to himself.



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office for the New Evangelization
www.phillyevang.org



Suggested Ways to Pray a Rosary for Evangelization

Following the traditional form of the Rosary, these nuances can be added to give this prayer an evangelization character.

OPTION 1: Before each Hail Mary, preface it by saying, *“Mother, I give you [insert the name of someone away from the Church].”* For example, you might say *“Mother, I give you my brother John. Hail Mary, full of grace...”* Mention a new name before each Hail Mary. You can use the suggested groups here to guide you:

- Decade 1: Family Members
- Decade 2: Friends
- Decade 3: Co-workers
- Decade 4: People from your past
- Decade 5: Public figures and/or strangers

OPTION 2: Instead of mentioning specific names, a general group of people can be prayed for with each decade. Particularly suitable would be those groups identified by the Church as most in need of her evangelization efforts:

- Decade 1: Practicing Catholics
- Decade 2: Catholics who no longer practice the Faith
- Decade 3: Those who do not know the love of Christ
- Decade 4: Those who do not believe in God
- Decade 5: Those who have been injured by members of the Church

PRAYER FOR EVANGELIZATION

Eternal Father, we ask you,
through your Son Jesus Christ,
and the intercession of Mary Immaculate,
Star of the New Evangelization,
to pour forth your Holy Spirit upon
the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.
Through the gift of the Holy Spirit,
renew and transform us,
and make fruitful the work of evangelization.
Root us deeply in the heart of your Son
so that we may radiate him more fully,
sharing with others the Good News of
salvation in Christ, who alone
is the fulfillment of all human desiring.
Transform our parishes and make of them
shining lights, beacons of hope
that reach those who are far from you,
drawing them back to your fold.
Consecrate us in your truth
and accomplish your plans in us
according to your holy will.
Amen.

