

THE GIFT OF THE ROSARY

The Month of the Rosary



MAMA MARY

The gift of the Rosary, for me, started back in 2002. I am a convert and had not really learned how to pray the Rosary. I had a major life change that threw me for a loop. I found a card with Mother Mary on it and decided to ask her for help. I prayed my Rosary on the way to work every day. I didn't even really know the Mysteries. All I really knew was how to pray the Our Father and the Hail Mary, but I felt that I needed a mama to help me get through this difficult time. As the days went on, I learned more and more how to pray the Rosary and to trust Mama Mary with all my needs. I found that I had more peace, more joy, and that I was learning how to stay calm in difficult situations. This was truly a gift.

She kept leading me closer and closer to Jesus. I began to read scripture more and my heart was opening up to the graces and promises of the Rosary. Truly a gift that I cherish everyday and it allows me to offer these prayers for others while meditating on the scriptures. Today, instead of praying the Rosary as I drive to work, I actually run and pray my Rosary. The meditation on the scripture while being in motion and praying for others brings me such joy and energy. Truly a blessing to spend some time with Mama Mary and pray for others.

-Linda Merrill

A GIFT IN CHALLENGES

Although I have been a Catholic all my life and was given a Rosary by my grandmother when I made my First Communion. I had never learned to pray the Rosary. For some reason, I felt embarrassed by this and never asked for help. I had tried to teach myself by reading pamphlets (this was in the pre-internet days), but I just couldn't seem to get the hang of it. Somehow, I knew this was an important piece of my faith that I didn't have in place. One day I was at a meeting when it was announced that we were going to pray the Rosary. Panic set in. Quickly it was clarified that we were only going to do one decade, and I relaxed a little. I learned that day that I could start with one decade and introduce it into my faith journey. As my comfort grew, I looked for an opportunity to participate in a group praying of the Rosary. I would listen and learn, joining in where I could, to help grow my understanding. Along the way, I found appropriate apps (the internet was now a thing) to help me practice and I even volunteered to lead the Rosary before Mass. I also learned that I could use a paper or pamphlet to help me remember the Mysteries and learn the prayers that I had not already memorized. The Rosary has been and continues to be a gift when I face challenging situations in life. During long business trips away from my family, or during hospitalizations, or even times when my faith felt like it was running low I could turn to the Rosary for comfort and to remind myself that I am never alone.

-Stuart Robertson

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MEDUGORJE

I first starting saying the Rosary on a regular basis when I went to Medugorje. I read something there that Mary wanted us to say the Rosary daily and that it has power to change the world. I decided that I would do my best to try and do this and now it's part of my life. I believe in the power it has and it has changed my life. It has definitely brought me closer to God and I never hesitate to use it to get me through tough times and there have been many.

-Anonymous

