

Joyful Catholic Families

Lesson #2 – Rosary

Rosary:

(Show the children a rosary.)

- What is this? (a rosary)
- Show lots of different rosaries.
- What do we do with a rosary? (pray)
- We especially pray the rosary in October because it is the month of the rosary.
- The Rosary is a prayer that honors Mary.
- Who is Mary? (Jesus' mom)

Read “Mary, 3 Children, and the Rosary”:

(Go to [this post](#) for the PDF.)

Hail Mary:

(Use the hand motions on the [Loyola Press website](#).)

Mary wants us to pray the rosary.

- Does anyone know what prayers we say when we pray the rosary?
- The prayer we say the most is the “Hail Mary”.
- Let's practice saying the “Hail Mary”. And we can do it with actions!

Decade Rosary:

([Click here](#) for the decade rosary coloring page PDF.)

On each of the beads of a rosary, you say at least one prayer.

- That is a lot of prayers to pray – especially for someone your age!
- But you can pray just a part of the rosary. You can pray a decade of the rosary.
- Show a decade rosary.

Hand out a decade rosary coloring page and red, brown, blue markers/crayons to each child.

Color the beads.

- Heart (Our Father) – red
- Circle (Hail Mary) – blue
- Crucifix (Glory Be) – brown

Explain to parents that they can slowly add all of the different prayers of the rosary while just praying one decade. (Apostles' Creed, Fatima Invocation, Hail Holy Queen, Prayer after the Rosary)

Make Decade Rosary: Each child makes a decade rosary.

(Click [here](#) for a post with more information on making a decade rosary.)

Give each child/family

- a basket/plate with different colored beads
- 1 heart bead per child
- 1 crucifix per child

Let each child pick out the color of pipe cleaner he/she wants.

- Begin by putting a heart bead onto a pipe cleaner.
- Bring the end of the pipe cleaner to the back side of the heart and twist the end around the main part of the pipe cleaner.
- Add 10 beads to the pipe cleaner.
- Attach the crucifix by putting the pipe cleaner through the hole on the crucifix and twisting the end of the pipe cleaner around the main part of the pipe cleaner.

How to Use the Decade Rosary:

Explain:

- The heart bead is where you put your fingers while praying the “Our Father”.
- The other beads are for the “Hail Mary”.
- When you hear the “Our Father” start, you need to push all the beads down to the crucifix and then put your fingers on the “Our Father” (heart) bead.
- Move one bead towards the heart each time you say the Hail Mary.
- End with the “Glory Be” while holding the crucifix.

Practice moving the beads of the rosary when the name of the prayer is said.

Make a Decade Rosary using pieces of paper:

(Click [here](#) for more information.)

When we pray the rosary we can kneel, stand, sit, walk, be in a car,... I like to pray the rosary while walking.

There are times that we need to be still when we pray the rosary, especially when we are in church.

There are other times that it is okay to move when praying the rosary, like when on a walk.

I want to show you another way that you can move a little while praying the rosary.

(Together make a decade rosary on the floor using paper. Heart is for the "Our Father", rose for the "Hail Mary", cross for the "Glory Be".)

(Each child makes their own decade rosary on the floor with parents helping.)

Practice moving from paper to paper on the floor rosary.

Say, "Stand on the Our Father paper". (Children stand on the heart)

"Move to the Hail Mary paper" (Children move to the first rose.) (repeat until they are on the last Hail Mary paper)

"Move to the Glory Be paper" (Children stand on the cross.)

Pray One Decade of the Rosary:

Pray a decade of the rosary with children holding their decade rosaries and standing on the paper for each prayer

Remind parents that when we pray the rosary with other people, the leader says the first half of the prayers and everyone else says the second half.

Decade Rosary Fun:

Children begin on the heart (Our Father).

Tell them to move 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 Hail Marys.

Repeat until they reach the cross.

Tell the children to move to the Glory Be (cross)

Children then return to the heart and begin the "game" again.

Stickers:

- Give each child a sticker as they leave.

Supplies:

Nametags
Permanent markers
Prayers for prayer rings
Home lessons
Snack
Plates/napkins
Water
Glasses

Rosaries to show the children

“Mary, 3 children, and the rosary” – large copy on cardstock (two-sided) to read to class

“Mary, 3 children, and the rosary” – children’s size copies – one for each child – put in home packets

Sample decade rosary
Coloring page of decade rosary
Markers/crayons --- blue, red, brown

Supplies to make rosaries:

- Pipe cleaner
- Heart bead
- Crucifix
- Oval pony beads

Pieces of paper for rosary on floor (for each child)

- One piece with a heart on it
- One piece with a cross on it
- 10 blank papers

Stickers