



## **Our Enduring Call to Love**

### **Black Catholic History Rosary**

Lord Jesus Christ, pierce my soul with your love so that I may always long for you alone, who are the Bread of Angles and the fulfillment of the souls' deepest desires. May my heart always hunger and feed upon you so that my soul may be filled with the sweetness of your presence. May my soul thirst for you, who are the source of life, wisdom, knowledge, light and all the riches of God our Father. May I always seek and find you, think upon you, speak to you and do all things for the honor and glory of you holy name. Be always my only hope, my peace, my refuge and my help, in whom my heart is rooted so that I may never be separated from you. - Saint Bonaventure, 13th Century

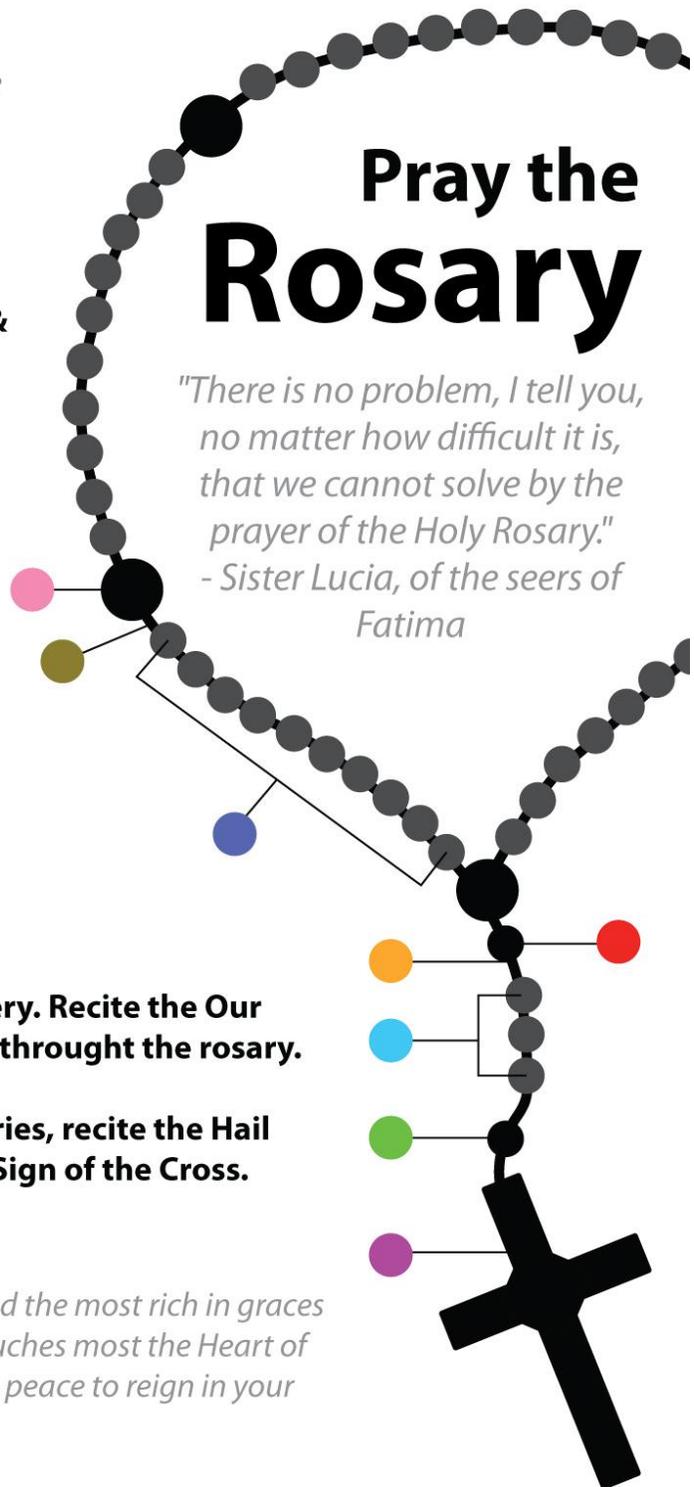
*"No prayer is more meritorious for the soul and more glorious for Jesus and Mary than a well recited Rosary."*  
- Saint Louis de Montfort

- 1 **Make the Sign of the Cross & recite the Apostles' Creed.**
- 2 **Recite the Our Father.**
- 3 **Recite three Hail Marys.**
- 4 **Recite the Glory Be.**
- 5 **Announce the first mystery and recite the Our Father.**
- 6 **Recite ten Hail Marys.**
- 7 **Recite the Glory Be and the Fatima Prayer.**
- 8 **Announce the second mystery. Recite the Our Father and repeat the steps through the rosary.**
- 9 **After completing the mysteries, recite the Hail Holy Queen & end with the Sign of the Cross.**

*"The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary."*  
- Pope Saint Pius X

# Pray the Rosary

*"There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot solve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary."*  
- Sister Lucia, of the seers of Fatima



## **Black Catholic History Rosary**

Praying the Rosary

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Holding the Crucifix, say the Apostles' Creed.
3. On the first bead, say an Our Father.
4. Say one Hail Mary on each of the next three beads.
5. Say the Glory Be.
6. For each of the five decades, announce the Mystery then say the Our Father.
7. While fingering each of the ten beads of the decade, next say ten Hail Marys while meditating on the Mystery. Then say a Glory Be and the Fatima Prayer.
8. After saying the five decades, say the Hail, Holy Queen and closing prayer.
9. Conclude the Rosary with the Sign of the Cross.

## **Rosary Prayers**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

### **The Our Father**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

### **The Hail Mary**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

### **Glory Be**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

### **Fatima Prayer**

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy.

### **The Salve Regina**

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

### **Closing Prayer**

O God, whose Only Begotten Son, by his life, Death, and Resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Sign of the Cross**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Joyful Mysteries: Education, Social, & Economic Justice**

1. The Annunciation of Gabriel to Mary (Lk. 1:26-38)  
Dedicated To Servant of God Mother Mary Lange, OSP

Father God, we are so appreciative and grateful that you inspired Servant of God Mother Mary Lange, OSP to found the Oblate Sisters of Providence to provide educational, social and spiritual ministry to the people of God. Help us, like Mother Mary Lange, not to allow the inexpressible pain of prejudice and racial hatred weaken our resolve to do your will. Father, we call upon your name to instill in your pilgrim people an attitude of gratitude as we do your will. Father, we ask that our resolve be that of Mother Mary Lange, who said "our sole will is to do the will of God!"

2. The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth (Lk. 1:39-56)  
Dedicated to Venerable Henriette DeLille, SSF

Father God, as always, it was your infinite wisdom and grace that inspired Venerable Henriette DeLille to found the Holy Family Sisters to nurse the sick and elderly, care for the poor and instruct the unlearned. We pray that you lead us, as you so fervently led Venerable Henriette DeLille, for the love of Jesus to become a humble and devout servant to those who continued to face and be challenged by the many injustices of our time.

3. The Birth of Our Lord (Lk. 2:1-21)  
Dedicated to Venerable Pierre Toussaint

Father God, you have throughout history demonstrated that you alone can make ways out of no ways. Venerable Pierre Toussaint is our earthly example of how you used an ordinary man to perform extraordinary works of charity. We pray that like Venerable Toussaint, that you grant us your faithful the courage and fortitude to put others before ourselves, as did Venerable Toussaint when he declared "I have enough for myself but if I stop working I have not enough for others."

4. The Presentation of Our Lord (Lk. 2:22-38)  
Dedicated to Servant of God Father Augustus Tolton

Father God, you empowered your faithful Servant of God Augustus Tolton to overcome the adversities, prejudices and challenges of his time. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Servant of God Tolton was able to become a Catholic priest and serve the people of God in Quincy and Chicago, Illinois. Today we stand in the shadow his ministry. Heavenly Father, grant that our lives be inspired by the Holy Spirit. Instill in us the spirit of confidence and hope, that we may serve your people with the charity and compassion that was so eloquently demonstrated by the Servant of God, Father Augustus Tolton.

5. The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple (Lk. 2:41-52)  
Dedicated to Daniel Rudd

Father God, time and time again you send saintly prophets to guide and lead your people. Today, we, your faithful stand in total appreciation and thanksgiving for the gifts and talents of our dear brother and friend, Daniel Rudd. It was through your precious providence that you inspired Daniel Rudd to establish a newspaper to inform your people about their God-given dignity and to call forth the first National Black Catholic

Congress. We beseech you, heavenly Father, to grant that one day Daniel Rudd be raised to the highest honors of the altar and that the National Black Catholic Congress continue its mission to the Catholic Church universal.

### **Sorrowful Mysteries: Black Catholic Historical Documents**

1. The Agony of Our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane (Mt. 26:36-56)  
In Thanksgiving for “Brothers and Sisters to Us”

Lord, our experiences tell us that the evil of racism endures in our Church and in our world. As we continue to champion the cause of eradicating the sin of racism, create in us an attitude of gratitude for your grace and mercy. We call on you today Lord, to stamp out all forms of racism. Lord, help our Church leaders to intensify their efforts to make sure that the poor and racial minorities do not bear the heaviest burden of any economic legislation that our political leaders put forth. Lord we also call upon you to send your Holy Spirit to wipe out any institutional racism that attempts to reassert itself in our Church.

2. Our Lord is Scourged at the Pillar (Mt. 27:26)  
In Thanksgiving for “What We Have Seen and Heard”

Father, you enable the Black bishops of the United States to express the insights, challenges and concerns of Black Catholics to the Catholic Church in the United States. Their scholarship invited the Church to become one with their African American brothers and sisters. As we give thanks to God for “What We Have Seen and Heard,” let us not forget that we the heirs of this letter must continue our mission to be about God’s business of service to our brothers and sisters.

3. Our Lord is Crowned with Thorns (Mt. 27:27-31)  
In Memory of “Rise N Shine”

Heavenly Father, our Black Catholic scholars, guided by the Holy Spirit, wrote an outstanding document about the education of Black children who are enrolled in our Catholic schools. We ask you Lord, to inspire our bishops and parishes to renew their commitment to Catholic education. Lord we ask that you join in calling forth those in our Catholic and civic communities who are able to provide viable streams of needed monies to provide quality and affordable Catholic education for our children.

4. Our Lord Carries the Cross to Calvary (Mt. 27:32)  
In Thanksgiving for “Lead Me Guide Me!” the Black Catholic Hymnal

We thank you for sending African American men and women who gave their time, talents and treasures to write and produce the hymnal “Lead Me Guide Me.” There is a saying in the African-American Catholic community that says “when you sing... you pray twice!” Lord, we beseech you to help us to spread the word that African American Catholics have their own unique contribution to make to the Church. Lord, encourage African Americans to sing, to praise and to worship you more boldly for your goodness. Help us to glorify you for what you have done, what you are doing and what you will do for our people.

5. The Crucifixion of Our Lord (Mt. 27:33-56)

In Thanksgiving for the Office of Cultural Diversity in the Catholic Church at the USCCB

Lord, we are grateful that our Catholic bishops of the United States recognize the need for an office to address the needs of the many ethnic communities of Catholics in the U.S. Lord, give this office wisdom to keep on telling the stories of all God’s children. Help this office to continue to spread that word that the Catholic Church is open to all and that the Catholic Church extends its hand of welcome to all who desire to join. We thank you Lord, for allowing our Church to address her historical challenges as you open our eyes to new possibilities.

**Glorious Mysteries: The Black Catholic Response**

1. The Resurrection of Our Lord (Jn. 20:1-29)

Founding of the Black Clergy Caucus

Dear God, you have always sent messengers to care for your people and to provide sound counsel. In 1968 during the Civil Rights movement, the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus was formed to support the spiritual, theological, educational, and ministerial growth of Black Catholic priests. Today Lord, we pray that you send more men to the priesthood, to the brotherhood and to the diaconate so that they can provide the necessary prophetic pastoral care to your sons and daughters as they boldly and without shame proclaim your Gospel.

2. The Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven (Lk. 24:36-53)

Founding of the National Black Sisters’ Conference

Heavenly Father, your wonderful grace divine led to the establishment of the National Black Sisters’ Conference in August 1968. We pray that you Lord, continue to bless the National Black Sisters’ Conference as they strive to provide ongoing

communication and dialogue that focuses on the education and support of African American women religious. Lord Jesus, may your precious Holy Spirit inspire African American women to consider a vocation of service as women religious in our Catholic Church.

3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Virgin Mary and the Apostles at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)

Founding of the National Black Seminarians Association

Lord, your infinite wisdom led to the founding of the National Black Catholic Seminarians Association to contribute to the well-being of candidates for priesthood and religious life preparing to serve the Church in the United States and its territories. Lord, help these young men to withstand all forms of temptation so that they can serve your Church as priests. Send your Holy Spirit to counsel them and guide them on their priestly journey.

4. The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into Heaven (Munificenssimus Deus, Pope Pius XII 1950)

Founding of the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators

Lord, as you continued to provide prophetic messengers for your African American sons and daughters, the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators was founded to answer the call of service in our offices of Black ministry in our archdioceses and dioceses. Father God, today we ask you to help us pursue justice for our people wherever injustice and racial hatred arises in their local Catholic communities. Lord, empower the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators to boldly proclaim the good news of Jesus as they labor in your vineyard as lay ecclesial ministers.

5. The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth (Rev. 12:1)

Founding of the Institute for Black Catholic Studies of Xavier University in Louisiana

Lord, in 1980 the Black community within the Catholic Church took a bold step in opening the doors of educational excellence by founding the Institute for Black Catholic Studies to provide academic and pastoral training for those who serve your people in the African American Catholic Community. Lord, we ask your continued blessings for the ongoing success of the Institute. We pray that it may continue to uplift the gifts and talents of its students by helping them become contributing and participatory members of their parishes and of society

**Luminous Mysteries: Civil Rights Causes**

1. The Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan (Mt. 3:13-16)  
Dedicated to the March on Washington

Father God, the March on Washington served as the largest gathering for human rights, more specifically, civil and economic rights for African Americans. Today, as we recall the mighty and historical "I have a Dream Speech" by the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we ask that you continue to have your church speak out against our current injustices because "an injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Heavenly Father, grant us wisdom to boldly proclaim the truth and nothing but the truth in our families, churches, schools, communities and neighborhoods.

2. The Wedding Feast at Cana (Jn. 2:1-11)  
Dedicated to the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Father God, you keep on opening doors for your faithful people. We know that because the March on Washington was broadcast all over this world, this March began to change the hearts of our political and spiritual leaders in the U.S. Our prayer today Lord, is to persistently seek your divine intervention as we continue to fight for equal rights and justice for all who are disenfranchised in our communities locally, nationally and internationally.

3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of Heaven (Mk. 1:14-15)  
Dedicated to the March from Selma to Montgomery

Father, God, we your faithful sons and daughters call upon your name as we remember the trials and tribulations that occurred during the Selma to Montgomery march. Today, as we continue to march for voting rights, especially for those who have been disenfranchised due to their ethnicity or color, we implore your Holy Spirit to descend upon our political leaders and instill in them a sense of fairness to all regardless, of their color, creed or origin. Lord, may your Spirit continue to guide us to do all we can in the way that we can to make sure no one's voting rights is disrupted.

4. The Transfiguration of Our Lord (Mt. 17:1-8)  
Dedicated to the Voting Rights Act of 1965

Lord, we first want to thank you for our civil rights leaders, both spiritual and political, who, in many cases, gave their lives so that others may gain the right to vote. Lord, we ask that you forgive all those who persecuted and killed your sons and daughters. We again ask the Holy Spirit to assist in guiding our Congress and Supreme Court not to undo the laws that gave countless numbers of people the

right to vote. Lord we further seek your guidance to help us boldly and strongly encourage our church leaders to prophetically proclaim your Gospel as they speak to and for justice for all people.

5. The Institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper (Mt. 26)  
Dedicated to the Religious Orders of Men and Women Who Risked Their Lives in the Struggle for Civil Rights

Heavenly Father, we your sons and daughters are grateful that many religious orders of men and women joined the civil rights marches to demonstrate their witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Help your pilgrim Church here on earth to further her witness to the Gospel by being a voice for the voiceless and giving hope to the hopeless. Lord, create in your people a sense responsibility to continue their journey for the civil and human rights.