

The Twenty Mysteries

Here is a brief listing and description of all twenty Mysteries.

The Joyful Mysteries

- *The Annunciation:* The Archangel Gabriel "announces" to Mary that she shall conceive the Son of God.
- *The Visitation:* Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, who is pregnant with John the Baptist.
- *The Nativity:* Jesus is born.
- *The Presentation:* Mary and Joseph "present" Jesus in the Temple where they meet Simeon.
- *The Finding in the Temple:* After losing Him, Mary and Joseph find young Jesus teaching the Rabbis in the Temple.

The Luminous Mysteries [more »](#)

- *The Baptism in the Jordan:* The voice of the Father declares Jesus the beloved Son.
- *The Wedding at Cana:* Christ changes water into wine, his first public miracle.
- *The Proclamation of the Kingdom:* Jesus calls to conversion (cf. Mk 1:15) and forgives the sins of all who draw near to him.
- *The Transfiguration:* The glory of the Godhead shines forth from the face of Christ.
- *The Institution of the Eucharist:* Jesus offers the first Mass at the Last Supper with his apostles, establishing the sacramental foundation for all Christian living.

The Sorrowful Mysteries

- *The Agony in the Garden:* Jesus sweats water and blood while praying the night before his passion.
- *The Scourging at the Pillar:* Pilate has Jesus whipped.
- *The Crowning with Thorns:* Roman soldiers crown Jesus' head with thorns.
- *The Carrying of the Cross:* Jesus meets His mother and falls three times on the way up Calvary.
- *The Crucifixion:* Jesus is nailed to the cross and dies before His mother and His apostle John.

The Glorious Mysteries

- *The Resurrection:* Jesus rises from the dead.
- *The Ascension:* Jesus leaves the Apostles and bodily "ascends" to heaven.
- *The Descent of the Holy Spirit:* The Apostles receive the Holy Spirit in tongues of fire in the upper room with Mary.
- *The Assumption:* Mary is taken bodily--assumed--into heaven by God at the end of her life here on earth.
- *The Coronation:* Mary is crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Mysteries for Certain Weekdays

Traditionally, many people say the Joyful Mysteries on Monday, the Sorrowful Mysteries on Tuesday, the Glorious Mysteries on Wednesday, and start again with the Joyful Mysteries on Thursday, the Sorrowful Mysteries on Friday. The Glorious Mysteries are then prayed on Saturday and Sunday. Now that the Luminous Mysteries have recently been added, the schedule is:

Monday - Joyful
Tuesday - Sorrowful
Wednesday - Glorious
Thursday - Luminous
Friday - Sorrowful
Saturday - Joyful
Sunday - Glorious

Try to place yourself "into" the scene of the particular mystery as you pray, imagining the sights, smells, sounds, and emotions that Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and other participants experienced during the actual events.

It is also okay to meditate on the meaning of the words of the prayers as you pray them, or even to meditate on the person for whom you are offering the Rosary.