

## The Joyful Mysteries – December 2020

May the God of hope fill you with every joy and with peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Rom 15:13)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Philippians 4:6-7*)

Tonight we pray:

(*Special prayer requests mentioned*)

- For our families, especially our children and grandchildren; (*pause to mention out loud, if you choose to*)
- For those dealing with health issues: physical, mental or spiritual;
- For our leaders as they seek to help manage the challenges we face;
- For all the special intentions we hold in our hearts.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son....

### **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. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits 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.

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Joyful Mystery – The Annunciation**

God chooses the virgin Mary of Nazareth, betrothed to Joseph of the house of David, for the miracle of His coming in human flesh. Mary's humble heart is filled with wonder at the appearance of the angel Gabriel choosing her for the greatest of all human missions.

Our Father.... Hail Mary .... Glory Be ....

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

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Joyful Mystery – The Visitation**

Mary encounters her cousin Elizabeth, who has miraculously conceived a child in her old age. The baby leaps for joy in Elizabeth's womb at the encounter with baby Jesus in Mary's womb. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth recognizes the tiny unborn Jesus as her Lord.

Our Father.... Hail Mary .... Glory Be ....

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

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Joyful Mystery – The Birth of Our Lord**

The Son of God is born in the poverty of a stable in the town of David, received by the love of the humble Mary and Joseph, and adored by poor shepherds.

Our Father.... Hail Mary .... Glory Be ....

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

### **4<sup>th</sup> Joyful Mystery – The Presentation in the Temple**

As Mary and Joseph fulfill all the prescriptions of the Law of the Lord in offering the pure child in the temple, they rejoice at Simeon's prophecy of light for the nations and they grieve at the thought of the sword of rejection.

Our Father.... Hail Mary .... Glory Be ....

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

### **5<sup>th</sup> Joyful Mystery – The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple**

At the age of twelve, Jesus stays behind in the temple, amazing the teachers by his understanding. Mary and Joseph, first are anguished at his being lost for three days, stand in amazement as he manifests divine wisdom while conversing with religious teachers, and then are confronted with the mystery of Jesus' reference to the temple as his "Father's house."

Our Father.... Hail Mary .... Glory Be ....

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

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary,

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

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 upon 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.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.  
We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother.  
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

We pray for the grace to take on the new things that God is giving us,  
to take on with new hearts the way that God is calling us to be in the world,  
to be open to the new things that God is doing so that we might be good and true disciples of Christ.

Ever present God, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we pray for an end to the pandemic, social injustice and unrest, and we pray for the grace to be aware of Your presence as You walk with us through the chaos of our world. Please free us from fear, give us patience and hope, and bring harmony, peace and wellness to our world. Lord God, may we stay alert and ever watchful as we anticipate and prepare for the joyous coming of our infant Savior.

Knowing You are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God. Amen.

