

# The Mission Rosary

As followers of Christ we are all called to be missionaries – bringing Christ’s message to the whole world.

One of the tools we can use to help us pray for worldwide mission is the Mission Rosary.

The Mission Rosary enables our prayer to reach beyond the boundaries of our local concerns and to be united with the entire Church.

The Mission Rosary can be prayed individually and with groups, and is suitable for all ages. It is prayed like a normal Rosary but has an added focus. While meditating on each decade, represented by a distinct colour, the peoples of a particular continent are brought to prayer:

**Pray the first decade for Africa (green)**

**Pray the second decade for the Americas (red)**

**Pray the third decade for Europe (white/cream)**

**Pray the fourth decade for Oceania (blue)**

**Pray the fifth decade for Asia (yellow)**

To highlight the global nature of the rosary, it may be useful to have a centrepiece where a symbol or image of each of the five continents is displayed. You could also use five coloured candles to represent each continent. Light the appropriate candle as the decade for a particular continent is prayed.

## How to pray the Mission Rosary

**Introduce each mystery with the suggested reflection before praying each decade.**

### **First Mission Mystery: Jesus is baptised**

“He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free and to proclaim the Lord’s year of favour.” (Luke 4:18)

*As we meditate on this first mystery, we remember the peoples of **Africa** and their intentions. Let us also remember the Missionaries working there.*

**We pray:** that all development and aid programmes will be respectful and worthy of God’s children; for an end to war and violence, and for the peaceful growth of the young African Church.

### **Second Mission Mystery: Jesus proclaims the Good News to all**

In their own way each of the gospel writers emphasises that Jesus was a foreigner wherever he went. In His public ministry, Jesus was an itinerant, moving from place to place, “with nowhere to lay his head...” (Matt 8:20) Jesus tells us to welcome the stranger: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Matt 25:35)

*As we meditate on this second mystery, we remember the peoples of the **Americas** and their intentions. Let us remember the Missionaries working there.*

**We pray:** that the Church may continue to promote God’s kingdom of justice, love and peace and discover new ways of bringing the Gospel into daily life.

### Third Mission Mystery: Jesus heals the sick

‘Jesus went all around Galilee teaching in the synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people. Those who were suffering from diseases and painful complaints were all brought to him and he cured them.’ (Matt: 4:23-24)

*As we meditate on this third mystery, we remember the peoples of **Europe** and their intentions. Let us also remember the Missionaries working there.*

**We pray:** that Europe may preserve, develop and share its rich Christian traditions; for the unity of Christians; for immigrants and for our own families and their particular needs. We also pray for all those who are suffering from illness in our families, in our communities and in our world.

### Fourth Mission Mystery: Jesus offers the gift of life

‘...When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” She said, “What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?” Jesus replied; “If only you knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink’, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water... Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again. But anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again.”... “Sir”, the woman replied, “Give me some of that water so that I may never get thirsty.” ’ (John. 4:7-10; 14-15)

*As we meditate on this fourth mystery, we remember the peoples of **Oceania** and their intentions. Let us also remember the Missionaries working there.*

**We pray:** that all the many remote Christian communities may play their part in the universal Church; and for Catholic communities which are small minorities.

### Fifth Mission Mystery: Jesus teaches us how to pray

‘You should pray like this, “Our Father in heaven, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.” ’ (Matt 6:9-11)

In baptism Jesus calls everyone to be a missionary, to share in the mission of revealing the kingdom of God. Missionaries (all the baptised faithful) are sent out into the world to evangelise, to spread the good news that God reigns. We do not need to go to other lands to do mission work. There are many ‘worlds’ around us, many ‘worlds’ in our families and in our communities that need to hear the Good News. For some with the specific missionary vocation, that mission will bring them to far off lands.

*As we meditate on this fifth mystery, we remember the peoples of **Asia** and their intentions. Let us also remember the Missionaries working there.*

**We pray:** that Asia, home of the great faiths, may be open to the Good News of Jesus; for peace between the different faiths and that the poor be given their rightful place in society

**Hail Holy Queen...**

**Let us pray for Christians everywhere; that they may grow in awareness of their own missionary vocation and continue to share more fully in revealing the Kingdom of God.**

**St Joseph, Patron and Protector of the Universal Church, pray for us  
St Therese, Patron of the Missions, pray for us**

*Grateful acknowledgements to Mission Alive (Ireland) and Comboni Missionaries*

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The PMS is the Pope’s official support organisation for the overseas mission of the Catholic Church, and comprises four Societies: Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF); Society of St Peter the Apostle (SPA); Holy Childhood (Mission Together);

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