

The Holy Rosary: First Joyful Mystery

- Below is the script for the audio introduction you hear on the *Holy Heroes Advent Adventure*.
- During *Advent Adventure*, we will be encouraging children to pray a “Decade-a-Day”—which should be short enough to keep the attention of even the youngest. To help focus young minds (and busy parent minds, too!), consider our “sacrifice beads” (which work great for learning to count prayers on a rosary because children can “pull a bead” after every ‘Hail, Mary’), on sale on our website www.HolyHeroes.com.

The Rosary: The Joyful Mysteries

(Excerpted from the audio CD, “Holy Heroes: The Joyful Mysteries”)

Join us now as we pray the Joyful Mysteries, which focus on Jesus’ Incarnation and His life as a child living with the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, his family on earth.

We begin by making the sign of the cross – and here, you might even like to show Our Lord your love and reverence, by kissing the crucifix. Then we recite the “Apostles’ Creed,” an “Our Father,” three “Hail, Mary” prayers and the “Glory Be.” We pray these three “Hail, Marys” while meditating on the three divine virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity.

[Sign of the Cross/Creed/Our Father/3 Hail Marys/Glory Be]

Before each ‘Hail Mary’ you will hear a verse from the Bible, which will help you think more about what happened in each of the mysteries. Just like all the people in the Holy Rosary, God will send us the Holy Spirit, too, so that we can accomplish what He wants us to do, because, as we learn from these Joyful Mysteries, “Nothing is impossible with God.”

The First Joyful Mystery

The Incarnation: Jesus Christ is formed in Mary’s womb

Only the angel Gabriel and Mary herself were present at this mystery. Mary was just 14 years old and engaged to marry Joseph, when, suddenly, the angel Gabriel appeared to her, calling her by her name in heaven, “Full of Grace.” As Mary listened to what Gabriel said, she recognized that her child would be the Messiah, whom God had promised to send to save all the Jews. And Gabriel told her something that God had never revealed before, that the Messiah would be named Jesus. How excited Mary must have been to be the first person to hear that the Messiah was finally coming! She asked what she was supposed to do, since every child needs a father, and she and Joseph were not yet married. Gabriel answered that God would send the Holy Spirit to do everything. And as a sign of the power of God, Gabriel revealed another secret about Mary’s cousin

Elizabeth. Mary said: whatever God wants to do, and however He wants to do it, she will cooperate.

[Our Father]

1. "The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

[Hail Mary after each verse]

2. And he came to her and said, "Hail, Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

3. But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be.

4. And the angel said to her, "Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

5. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

6. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of his father David, and He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end."

7. And Mary said to the angel, "How shall this be done, since I have no husband?"

8. And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee; therefore the child to be born of thee shall be called holy, the Son of God.

9. And behold, thy kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God, nothing will be impossible."

10. And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her.

[Hail Mary, Glory Be, Fatima prayer]