

+++ *From the Pastor* +++
Sunday, September 27, 2015

October: The Month of the Rosary

The month of October is traditionally known in the Church as the Month of the Rosary. The Rosary is a beautiful prayer in which we meditate upon the mysteries of our Blessed Lord's life as we pray the Hail Mary in honor of our Blessed Mother.

The Rosary is a powerful spiritual weapon in our arsenal of prayers as we do battle with the forces of evil. Indeed, the Blessed Virgin Mary has asked her children, throughout the centuries, to pray the Rosary for the defeat of Satan's power over mankind. Most well-known, perhaps, were her instructions to the three shepherd children of Fatima in the early 1900's to pray the Rosary for the defeat of atheistic communism in Russia and throughout the world and her instructions to Saint Bernadette at Lourdes in 1858 to pray the Rosary daily for the conversion of sinners.

Saint Pope John Paul II asked us to pray the Rosary each day for world peace. Given that since September 11, 2001 we have actually been at war; given that there are many places throughout the world experiencing the tragedy of war, it behooves us to heed his call and pray the Rosary for this special intention. If we desire peace in our time, then we must ask our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Peace, through His Mother, the Queen of Peace, to bless us with this heavenly gift.

One of the greatest of Catholic customs is for families to pray the Rosary together each day. This is not always easy to manage, I realize. But families could begin by praying one decade of the Rosary each night, gradually building up to praying all five decades. Children and young people enjoy leading the Rosary and this is one good way of including them in this beautiful devotion. Fr. Peyton, C.S.C., popularly known as the "Rosary Priest" used to say that "the family that prays together, stays together." He was right.

Daily Praying of the Rosary Begins October 1 in the Cathedral

At the cathedral, I would like to invite anyone who would like to, following daily Mass, to stay and pray the Rosary with me. We will begin to do this on Thursday, October 1.

Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel and Saint Raphael: Holy Archangels: Tuesday, September 29

Three of God's holy messengers, His Holy Archangels, who have played great and powerful roles in history are honored by the Church this week.

