

**Archdiocesan Convocation - Living as Missionary Disciples**  
**ROSARY**

Dcn. John Weist  
October 13, 2017

**INTRO**

We gather this morning 100 years to the day from Mary's final appearance to the three shepherd children at Fatima.

We begin this Convocation by doing what Mary called the children and all Christians to do: pray. Pray the rosary each and every day, especially for the conversion of souls, and for peace in our world.

Over the course of the various apparitions at Fatima the three children were given 5 different prayers of reparation that they were asked to pray — 2 prayers of reparation given by the angel that appeared to them, and 3 prayers from the Blessed Mother herself.

As we meditate on the sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary I would like to pair each of the mysteries with one of these prayers of reparation given to the shepherd children to help focus our meditation, and help us in our task of praying in reparation for all souls who are in need or in danger.

**The 1st Sorrowful Mystery - The Agony in the Garden**

As Jesus prayed in the Garden that the will of the Father be done, Luke's Gospel tells us that an *angel* appeared to him to strengthen him. (Lk 22:43). One of the prayers of reparation given to the shepherd children has come to be known as "**The Angel Prayer**," and as we meditate on this First Sorrowful Mystery let us reflect on the words of this prayer which we too have now received as one of the fruits of Fatima:

*"Most Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit- I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifferences whereby He is offended. And through the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of Thee the conversion of poor sinners."*

**The 2nd Sorrowful Mystery - The Scourging at the Pillar**

The most famous of the five prayers of reparation given to the children at Fatima is the one we just prayed together — known now as "**The Fatima Prayer**" or "The Rosary Decade Prayer" because it's now traditionally prayed after each decade of the Rosary. As we meditate on this Second Sorrowful Mystery and the Fatima Prayer, we can reflect on how Jesus must have longed to bring to heaven even the men who beat and scourged and opposed him, and how he longs to bring to heaven all those to this day most in need of his mercy.

### **The 3rd Sorrowful Mystery - The Crowning with Thorns**

Although he was and is the King of All Creation, and the King of the Universe, Jesus was treated as an imposter and a fraud, even to the point of receiving a fake and painful crown. To this day the world does not recognize his kingship, or even desire to abide within his kingdom. As we meditate on the Third Sorrowful Mystery let us also be mindful of the other prayer given by the angel to the children now known as “**The Pardon Prayer**,” where we pray:

*“My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.”*

### **The 4th Sorrowful Mystery - The Carrying of the Cross**

During Mary’s appearance to the children in June of 1917 she gave to them what has come to be known as “**The Sacrifice Prayer**,” which she urged them (and now urges us) to pray whenever suffering is offered up to God. Just as Jesus willingly embraced and carried his Cross so too he also calls us as disciples to willingly embrace our own crosses, each day, in following him. As we meditate on the Fourth Sorrowful Mystery let us also reflect on the words of the Sacrifice Prayer, in which we pray:

*“Oh my Jesus, I offer this for love of Thee, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.”*

### **The 5th Sorrowful Mystery - The Crucifixion**

While hanging on the Cross a soldier thrust a lance into Jesus’ side, and water and blood poured forth, the blood symbolizing the Eucharist — the source and summit of the Christian life (CCC 1324). As we meditate on the Fifth Sorrowful Mystery let us also call to mind what has come to be known as “**The Eucharist Prayer**,” which the shepherd children started praying spontaneously following Mary’s appearance to them in May of 1917:

*“Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament.”*