

# Five Reasons You Should Pray the Rosary

The rosary is a powerful tool to help the faithful understand and live the mysteries of the Gospel.



The Knights of Columbus places a special importance on honoring the Blessed Mother. Every man who joins a KofC council receives a rosary and is encouraged to seek Mary's intercession by praying it regularly. In addition, many councils promote devotion to the rosary in their families and parishes by scheduling [rosary prayer services](#).

Pope Francis launched a rosary [marathon](#) at the beginning of May, encouraging the faithful around the world to pray daily for an end to the pandemic. And there is no better time to honor the Blessed Mother.

Here are five additional reasons to pray the rosary:

## 1) Mary can help us to better know her son, Jesus Christ.

When the angel appeared to Mary and told her that she would conceive and bring forth the Son of God, she answered, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Her "fiat" — her yes to following God's will — was an indispensable moment in the story of the salvation of the world.

Mary was present throughout Jesus' life, even at his crucifixion. By praying the rosary, we can contemplate how we to serve God by following her example.

## 2) Those who pray the rosary are promised graces and indulgences.

Alanus de Rupe, a 15th-century Dominican friar, was visited by the Blessed Virgin Mary, who gave [15 promises](#) to Christians who prayed the rosary. These include the assurance of receiving the sacraments at the time of death, never being conquered by misfortune, and her own special protection.

Additionally, those who pray the rosary often receive plenary indulgences — the remission of temporal punishment due to sin. During the Year of St. Joseph, Pope Francis announced [ways](#) to gain an indulgence, several which involve praying the rosary: reciting of the rosary in families and among engaged couples.

## 3) It brings victory in battle.

The rosary is a powerful weapon — amid both spiritual warfare and worldly battles.

In 1571, Pope Pius V organized a group of Christian forces, known as the Holy League, in defense of an imminent invasion by the Ottoman Empire. Before a battle with the Ottoman fleet in the Gulf of Patras, in the Ionian Sea, the pope called on all of Europe to pray the rosary for victory. These prayers were answered, with the Holy League defeating the much larger Ottoman forces on Oct. 7 at the Battle of Lepanto.

To commemorate the victory, Pius V established the feast day of "Our Lady of Lepanto" — also known as Our Lady of Victory or Our Lady of the Rosary.