



In the Roman Catholic Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary for centuries has been seen as a mediator in her own right and therefore, worthy of receiving intercessory prayers from Christians.

First among Saints, the veneration [but not adoration or worship] of Mary and the practice of praying to her is supported by the Roman Catholic Church's doctrine of the Assumption, which holds that after she died, Mary was taken up or assumed into heaven, like Jesus – physically and spiritually. This has been a popular understanding and belief since before the Middle Ages and was made official dogma in the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Pius XII in 1950.

The most popular among prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary is the rosary (a prayer that is both a combination of the Cantic of Mary (found in the Gospel of Luke (1:46-55)) and a concluding portion crafted by St. Dominic (the founder of the Order of Preachers (O.P.): the Dominicans).

So, do we remember (similar to a Mass intention (i.e., for whom or what reason do we offer the daily sacrifice of the Mass)) to proffer our intention(s) before or as we begin to pray the Rosary?

Recently, a fellow priest mentioned his own developed rosary devotional practice, in which he tied an intention to each mystery of the rosary, as a way of praying intently for certain people or groups of people. Doing so deepened his appreciation for the rosary as a prayerful tool of intercession. Here are a few intentions, he used for each mystery, that I pray you will find helpful also:

Joyful Mysteries

Annunciation: For vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life

Visitation: That pregnant mothers will have a safe delivery. For all the sick and their caregivers.

Nativity: For those struggling with infertility. For an end to abortion.

Presentation: For the families of recently baptized children. That those who bring their children to the baptismal font will experience a re-awakening of their own faith and baptismal promises.

Finding in the Temple: For those who are searching for God in their life, may they find the one who is the fulfillment of all their desires.

Luminous Mysteries

Baptism in the Jordan: For all children who recently experienced their re-birth in baptism.

Wedding at Cana: For engaged and newly married couples. For couples who are going through a difficult time and contemplating separation and/or divorce.

Proclamation of the Kingdom: For those who need to hear the Good News of the Gospel.

Transfiguration: For your best friends.

Institution of the Eucharist: For those away from the Church and the Holy Eucharist. For children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion.

Sorrowful Mysteries

Agony: For anyone making a tough decision, that they may pray as Christ did: Lord God, not my will, but your will be done.

Scourging: For those who suffer injustice, especially at the hands of the government.

Crowning with Thorns: For local, state, national, and world leaders.

Way of the Cross: For those suffering trials and difficulties whether it be health, faith or any other trouble they may be facing.

Crucifixion: For the ability to forgive those who have wronged us.

Glorious Mysteries

Resurrection: For our loved ones who have died.

Ascension: That we might become disciples of the Lord and make disciples of all nations, starting first in our homes.

Pentecost: For a renewal of the Holy Spirit in my life and an outpouring of the Holy Spirit's gifts and fruits.

Assumption: For the grace of a happy and holy death.

Coronation: For those who struggle with devotion to Mary and a deepening of Marian piety among the faithful.

While we meditate on the life and ministry of Jesus and Mary through the mysteries of the Holy Rosary, let us pray for each other, for our parishes and the world. Allow the rosary to become a tool of intercession and you will begin to see the power of this prayer in your life.

(cf: <https://catholicexchange.com/interceding-for-others-by-praying-the-rosary>)