

# A Short Journey Through the Joyful Mysteries

- Deacon Rick Lawlor -

October is a beautiful month and is dedicated to the Holy Rosary of our Beautiful Blessed Mother. As you most likely know the Mysteries of the Rosary take us on a journey through the most important and profound scenes throughout the life, ministry and Glorification of Jesus and His Mother, our Blessed Mother. Therefore, please join me on this short journey of the Joyful Mysteries.

The first Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation, this is the announcement by the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive a son by the power of the Holy Spirit and told that he will be great and is to be called Jesus. Next time you pray this mystery try praying for mothers, expecting mothers and unborn children. There is no greater joy in life than joyfully awaiting the arrival of a baby.

The second Joyful Mystery: The Visitation, as Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth who was also with child, the future, John the Baptist who happens to be Jesus' cousin. Next time you pray this mystery pray for those family members you have not visited is a long time. Perhaps plan a visit or make a phone call to let them know that you miss them, love them, and would love to plan a visit.

The third Joyful Mystery: The Nativity, Christmas! Such a joyful time of year, or at least it should be. When I get to the third Joyful Mystery a smile is usually quick to follow. I like to think of Christmas with my wife, children, and family. Christmas time is a beautiful time of year, so contemplate how you can make this special season more joyful for someone special.

The fourth Joyful Mystery: The Presentation of the Baby Jesus in the Temple, in this scene Jesus is presented to the high priest in the temple and we hear the famous Canticle of Simeon. The canticle can be found in Luke's Gospel and is a powerful prayer of thanksgiving and fulfillment. When I pray this mystery, I like to pray for my children, and the children of others.

The fifth Joyful Mystery: The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple, if you recall Jesus was lost for several days. His parents were frantically looking for him, every parents' worst nightmare. Fortunately, Jesus was safe and found in the temple, preaching, and teaching to the elders who were amazed by the depth of his knowledge at such a young age. When you pray this mystery pray for all the lost children in our world. Lost, stolen, abducted, terrible sins which affect to many children in our world every day. Ask God to protect them and deliver them from evil men and women.

My friends, never underestimate the power of our prayers and the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary is a powerful prayer that can work miracles.

May Almighty God Bless you today and always.

Deacon Rick