

Enhance your family prayer with
FAMILY ROSARY

Three Simple Ways to Honor Mary

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THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

Marian Statue in front of Holy Cross Family Ministries. Come pray with us!

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

Venerable Patrick Peyton's work truly was All for Her, every decision and action he made was in Her name. The childhood habit of praying a daily Rosary, instilled in Father Peyton by his parents, clearly sustained him throughout his life, which allowed him to share the beautiful gift with others.

Committing himself to work wholeheartedly for Our Lady, he knew she would always come to his aid. His confidence in her was unbounded and she did not disappoint him.

During the month of May, we celebrate the beginning of spring, Mother's Day, and most importantly, Mary. As Father Peyton had a strong devotion to Our Mother and the Rosary, we strive to follow in his footsteps, honoring her any way we can.

Here you'll find three simple ways that you and your family can honor Mary throughout the month!

A LITTLE HISTORY

Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. began his ministry in 1942 with the goal of building **family unity** through daily prayer of the Rosary. Inspired by his own father who had a deep devotion to family prayer, praying the Rosary became the foundation for the life of Father Peyton (1909-92).

We at Family Rosary are ever so grateful Father Peyton's family instilled in him the importance of **family prayer**. Now it can be part of your family's tradition so you can fulfill the vision that "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together," the message created by Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., so many years ago.



“WHAT A JOY TO REMEMBER THAT SHE IS OUR MOTHER! SINCE SHE LOVES US AND KNOWS OUR WEAKNESS, WHAT HAVE WE TO FEAR?”
ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

HONORING MARY



We honor Mary, our spiritual Mother, throughout the month of May! Here are three simple ways you and your family can celebrate.

THE MONTH OF MARY

As a mom, I look forward to a little pampering on Mother's Day. Of course, I don't expect lavish gifts or for my kids to wait on me while I lounge around eating truffles. Rather, I look forward to seeing the excitement they have to give generously. Their handmade cards are filled with love, and I can see the effort they put into them. They are excited to shop for brunch ingredients and flowers with Dad. It's sweet and enduring, and no matter what the actual gift is, no matter what we eat or how we celebrate, their joyful involvement is priceless and perfect—the real gift.

As a daughter, I am blessed to celebrate my mom on Mother's Day, too. Picking out a card and gift and taking her out for coffee bring me joy. My guess is that she feels the same way about me as I feel about my kids. It is the thought that counts. It is the effort that matters. It is the time together that is treasured.

No matter where this Mother's Day finds you—whether it is among a flock of little children or in the quieter state of being an empty nester, whether you are with your own mother or you are missing her deeply—all of us have a special woman in our lives who we can honor and celebrate. And that woman is Our Blessed Mother, Mary.

As the Mother of Jesus and mother of all Christians, I can imagine Mary not wanting to make a fuss about the attention we give her. And at the same time, I can imagine her treasuring our simple efforts. And so let us leap at the chance to honor and celebrate this beautiful mother of ours. As St. Francis de Sales said, "Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence."

THREE SIMPLE WAYS WE CAN HONOR MARY THIS MOTHER'S DAY:

1. PRAY THE ROSARY

Take a few moments, either alone or with your family, to pray the Rosary. If it's a nice day outside, go for a Rosary walk! If an entire Rosary seems overwhelming to you, consider praying just one decade.

2. BRING MARY FLOWERS

During May (the month of Mary), it is customary to set up an extra-special space in your home to honor Our Lady. A Mary altar doesn't have to be fancy. It can be simple but beautiful atop a fireplace mantle or bookshelf. If you don't have a statue of Mary, a framed holy card and Rosary can adorn your altar. Get the kids or grandchildren involved by asking them to make little bouquets of flowers for the Blessed Mother. They will love doing this!

3. ENJOY DESSERT

What holiday is complete without a special treat? And the Catholic Church is very good about teaching us about the importance of fasting and feasting! While Mother's Day might not be an official Marian feast day, she is the mother of all mothers, so let us celebrate her! And perhaps instead of "Happy Birthday," we could sing a Marian hymn instead!

How do you and your family honor and celebrate the Blessed Mother?

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GOING DEEPER

Don't forget to honor all the mothers in your life with a beautiful [free eCard](#) from Family Rosary! Pass along a prayer or blessing to your mother and let her know just how special she is!

CONTINUE THE JOURNEY

Want to learn more about Mary or explain to someone you know Mary's role in your faith?

[Catholic Central](#), a free video web series that talks about the big Catholic topics, has an episode all about Mary! There you'll learn that she's venerated, not worshiped; asked to pray for us; and makes occasional appearances to the faithful to achieve her one mission ... bringing people closer to her Son.



SARAH DAMM

Sarah Damm is a Catholic wife and mother of six children, living in Minnesota. She spends her days running errands, cooking meals and helping with homework. She and her husband Greg strive to weave the Catholic faith into their daily lives as well as into their family celebrations. Sarah blogs at [sarahdamm.com](#). In addition to [CatholicMom.com](#), she also is a contributor for WINE: Women in the New Evangelization.

BRINGING FAMILIES TOGETHER IN PRAYER

We hope the time you've spent reflecting with this material has been enriching. Remember, we're with you in prayer, every step of the way!

For additional online resources for family prayer including a Prayer Petition Page and our World at Prayer Blog, please visit our website at www.FamilyRosary.org.

This e-book and all our resources represent a culmination of Father Peyton's passion for family unity through prayer. We hope our services will enhance your family's prayer life particularly remembering Father Peyton's famous words, "*The Family That Prays Together Stays Together.*"

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