A Novena of Prayer for Families
Honoring the Anniversary of the Birth of

Venerable Patrick Peyton



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

January 1-9, 2021

"We can do things that previous generations never dreamed of. We can reach the moon and walk on its surface, even float in limitless space... Yet many things have happened to show how much man needs God... and so we have the perfect climate in which to proclaim the call to return to God through family prayer."

- Venerable Patrick Peyton

Meet Venerable Patrick Peyton

Who is Venerable Patrick Peyton?

Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. was born on January 9, 1909 in Ireland to a devout Catholic family. Praying the Rosary together each night was a routine in the Peyton household and laid a strong foundation for Patrick's faith. Together with his brother, Tom, Patrick immigrated to the United States and eventually entered the Congregation of Holy Cross. During his seminary studies, however, Patrick fell ill with tuberculosis. Father Cornelius Hagerty, C.S.C., visited Patrick and encouraged him to have faith and to entrust the outcome of his disease to prayer. Consequently, Patrick prayed to Mary, and within a short time he was healed. While doctors were unable to identify a scientific reason for his cure, Patrick was convinced that the healing was a result of Mary's intercession.

In gratitude for the miraculous cure, Patrick devoted the rest of his life to spreading devotion to Mary. Ordained to the priesthood in 1941, Father Peyton tirelessly spent himself encouraging family prayer, especially the Rosary. He accomplished his mission through modern means, such as radio, television, film, and over 540 Rosary rallies held throughout the world.

Father Peyton's Cause for Sainthood was officially opened in 2001 and he was declared Venerable in 2017. Let us honor the anniversary of his birth by praying through his intercession.

Why Family Prayer?

The Catholic Church teaches that the family is a "domestic church." In other words, the family is where we learn who God is and how we can be authentically human. Prayer is a conversation with God in which we open our hearts to His grace and allow ourselves to be transformed in an encounter with Him. Therefore, when families pray together, they invite God into their relationships and their life together. This is why Venerable Patrick Peyton never tired of saying, "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together," and "A World at Prayer is a World at Peace."

"From my earliest memories, I saw my father with the Rosary beads in his hands and my mother holding hers. My older brothers and sisters and I knelt around them praying."
-Venerable Patrick Peyton

What is a Novena?

A Short History of the Novena

A novena is a devotion traditionally prayed over a period of nine days. This custom developed from two ancient pagan practices: Roman festivals in which sacrifices were offered to the gods for nine days, and the nine-day period of mourning which both the Greeks and Romans observed following the death of a loved one.

Early Christian novenas usually fell into one of three categories: novenas of preparation (before a major feast), novenas of mourning (after a death), and novenas of prayer (for a particular intention).

As we prepare for our novena, we can look to the disciples for an example of perseverance in prayer. Saint Luke recounts in the Acts of the Apostles that the disciples spent nine days in prayer between Jesus' Ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost:

"All these with one accord devoted themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brethren." (Acts 1:14)

Mary, the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, prepared the disciples to receive the Spirit and to embark on their new mission as representatives of Christ and the Church. We can also ask Mary to open our hearts to the Holy Spirit during this novena.

How to Pray this Novena

Instructions

Each day, our prayer will focus on a mystery in the life of Jesus. We will reflect on these mysteries through the eyes of Mary, learning from Her how we can be more united as a family and **entrusting to Her our intention of the renewal of family life in the Church and the world.**

We will follow the pattern of Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries. In addition to praying the Daily Opening Prayer and reading the day's meditation, you may choose one mystery for each day, or you may pray all five mysteries of the Rosary associated with that day. If you are new to praying the Rosary, it can be helpful to begin by praying only a single decade during the first few days.

For example, on Saturday, January 2, we will pray with the Joyful Mysteries.

1. Begin with the Daily Opening Prayer (page 6).
2. Choose someone in your family to read the meditation.
3. Choose one of the mysteries (for example, the Annunciation), and have someone read the Scripture verse and prayer for the mystery.
4. Pray a decade of the Rosary while meditating on the mystery through Mary's eyes.
5. If your family wants to pray all five decades for that day, continue on to the next decade.
6. When you are finished with the decade(s), pray the Hail, Holy Queen (page 15) and the Prayer for the Beatification of Venerable Patrick Peyton (page 6).

For instructions on how to pray the Rosary, please see page 15.

Schedule

Friday, January 1 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)
Glorious Mysteries (p. 11)

Saturday, January 2
Joyful Mysteries (p. 7)

Sunday, January 3 (Epiphany)
Glorious Mysteries (p. 11)

Monday, January 4
Joyful Mysteries (p. 7)

Tuesday, January 5
Sorrowful Mysteries (p. 9)

Wednesday, January 6 (Feast of Saint André Bessette)
Glorious Mysteries (p. 11)

Thursday, January 7
Luminous Mysteries (p. 13)

Friday, January 8
Sorrowful Mysteries (p. 9)

Saturday, January 9
Joyful Mysteries (p. 7)

Daily Prayers

Begin by making the Sign of the Cross.

Daily Opening Prayer

O Jesus, as Mary stood at the foot of the Cross, You entrusted Her to us as our Mother.

The Holy Spirit inspired Mary's faithful servant, Father Patrick Peyton, to proclaim throughout the world the power and promise of family prayer. He believed and testified that "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together."

Through Mary and Father Peyton's intercession, we ask this favor for our family _____. Lord Jesus, we beseech You to help our praying of the Rosary unite our family in love and joy. Amen.

Now, proceed to the mysteries of the day. When you have prayed the decade(s), conclude with following prayer:

Prayer for the Beatification of Venerable Patrick Peyton

Dear Jesus, Father Peyton devoted his priestly life to strengthening the families of the world by calling them to pray together every day, especially the Rosary. His message is as important for us now as it was during his life on earth. We beg You, therefore, to hasten the day of his beatification so that Your faithful people everywhere will remember his message that The Family That Prays Together Stays Together, will imitate him in his devotion to Your Mother and ours, and will be inspired by his holy life to draw ever closer to You with childlike confidence and love. Amen.



The Joyful Mysteries

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer, read today's opening meditation, and then proceed to the reflections and prayers for each mystery. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

Meditation

In the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, we meet Mary, who was free from sin and plunged into the heart of God since the first moments of Her existence. Mary's unique relationship with God meant that She was already deeply familiar with the God of Israel at the time of the Annunciation. She knew Him as Father who loved His children so extravagantly that He received them with joy each time they turned away from their sins. This same God now wanted to become a little child in order to save His people! Consequently, Mary could respond with a joyful “yes” to God’s request. Her heart could say “yes” without fear, because it had placed its confidence in the One who is unfailingly trustworthy.

The First Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation

Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to Me according to Your word.” And the angel departed from Her. (Luke 1:38)

Blessed Mother, teach our family to place our trust in the extravagant love of God the Father, and to respond to His love by saying "yes" to Him in our daily lives.

The Second Joyful Mystery: The Visitation

"Blessed is She who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to Her from the Lord." (Luke 1:45)

Blessed Mother, give our family the grace to make everything we do in service to each other and to our neighbors in need an act of praise and thanksgiving to God.



The Third Joyful Mystery: The Nativity

And [the shepherds] went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger. (Luke 2:16)

Blessed Mother, God became man in poverty and hiddenness. He even made Himself a little Child, totally dependent on His parents. Teach our family to seek joy in little things, to be grateful for what God has given us, and to find Him in everything that we do.

The Fourth Joyful Mystery: The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

"*Behold, this Child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce Your own soul also)..."* (Luke 2:34-35)

Blessed Mother, the joy of gazing upon Your Son was mixed from the beginning with the knowledge that many hearts would reject Him. Awaken our family to receive the love He wishes to give us.

The Fifth Joyful Mystery: The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

"How is it that you sought Me? Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?" (Luke 2:49)

Blessed Mother, Jesus reveals to us the identity of the Father. Inspire our family, and especially all fathers, to seek Jesus with urgency and zeal as You and Saint Joseph sought Him, so that we might become witnesses of the Father's love to each other.



The Sorrowful Mysteries

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer, read today's opening meditation, and then proceed to the reflections and prayers for each mystery. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

Meditation

As we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries, we are invited to learn from Mary how to walk with Jesus on the way to Calvary. We are asked to reflect: why did Jesus continue in His agony, even when His most intimate friends abandoned Him? How did He suffer without giving in to the temptation to give up? The answer: Jesus was able to continue because of the strength of His love. He longed to communicate this love to His disciples, and therefore His sufferings were even greater when they denied that they knew Him. Mary's example teaches us how to make our hearts and our families places where Jesus' love is recognized, received, and shared.

The First Sorrowful Mystery: The Agony in the Garden

"Abba, Father, all things are possible to You; remove this chalice from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will." (Mark 14:36)

Blessed Mother, in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus shows us the meaning of true love. He teaches us that love is not a feeling, but a choice to do what is best for the beloved, especially when it is painful. Fill us with gratitude to Jesus for His love for us.

The Second Sorrowful Mystery: The Scourging at the Pillar

Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas; and having scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified. (Mark15:15)

Blessed Mother, what was it like for You to see Your Son, wounded and racked with pain? His flesh, torn open, was Your flesh. Grant parents of children who are suffering or who do not follow Jesus a spirit of perseverance in prayer.



The Third Sorrowful Mystery: The Crowning with Thorns

They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe upon Him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on His head ... And kneeling before Him they mocked Him. (Matthew 27:28-29)

Blessed Mother, the soldiers who crowned Jesus with thorns did not know that He was indeed a king. But You knew His true identity: that He is the God-Man. Pray that our family might invite Jesus to be king and center of our lives, and have the courage to acknowledge Him before others.

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: The Carrying of the Cross

So they took Jesus, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the place of the skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. (John 19:17)

Blessed Mother, the journey to Calvary was long and difficult, both for You and for Jesus. Like You, may we accompany each other as a family, not only in moments of joy, but also in moments of trial. Please walk with us as we learn to be Jesus' disciples.

The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus

When Jesus saw His Mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing near, He said to His Mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" (John 19:26-27)

Blessed Mother, the Crucifixion has been compared to a wedding, because on the Cross Jesus offers Himself totally and unreservedly for His bride, the Church. You stand beneath the Cross as a representative of the Church. Obtain for spouses the wisdom to understand the sacrifice involved in faithful love and to embrace it with joy.



The Glorious Mysteries

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer, read today's opening meditation, and then proceed to the reflections and prayers for each mystery. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

Meditation

The Glorious Mysteries testify to the victory of love over the power of sin and death. The tremendous suffering Jesus endured before His Resurrection is the price that God was willing to pay in order to make us capable of inheriting eternal life. God desires our happiness, but He knows that our true happiness will be to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. This is why He gives us Mary to be the Mother of our souls. She will form Jesus in us and give us the grace we need to live for eternity. Her intercession and example enable us to say “yes” to God in everything we do.

The First Glorious Mystery: The Resurrection

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." (Luke 24:5)

Blessed Mother, even during the darkest moments of the Passion, when Your Son hung on the Cross and finally gave up His Spirit, You knew by faith that His love would triumph. Teach our family to place our confidence in His love and to help each other to remain faithful in times of hardship.

The Second Glorious Mystery: The Ascension

When He had said this, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. (Acts 1:9)

Blessed Mother, You must have experienced such joy to see Your Son return to His Father for all eternity! But You remained on earth to be a Mother to the Church. We thank You for making this sacrifice for us, and we ask You to continue to intercede for the Church so that she might teach families how to pursue holiness in their daily lives.



The Third Glorious Mystery: The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

There appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:3-4)

Blessed Mother, You, the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, were present with the disciples at Pentecost so that You could teach them to have a living relationship with Your Spouse. We likewise received the Holy Spirit at Baptism and Confirmation. Please teach us to become responsive to the gift of His presence in our souls.

The Fourth Glorious Mystery: The Assumption of Mary

Arise, O LORD, and go to Your resting place, You and the ark of your might. (Psalm 132:8)

Blessed Mother, how You must have rejoiced to be in the presence of the Blessed Trinity forever! Now You are in Heaven, interceding for Your children who remain under the burden of sin on earth. We thank You for being our Mother and for interceding for us before the throne of God.

The Fifth Glorious Mystery: The Coronation of Mary

A great sign appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. (Revelation 12:1)

Blessed Mother, after many quiet and hidden years on earth, You received the honor of being crowned Queen of Heaven. Your Son had the joy of exalting You so that the whole world could see the love that radiated from Your humble heart. Grant us the grace to serve each other in humility so that we, too, will be prepared to praise God in Heaven for all eternity.



The Luminous Mysteries

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer, read today's opening meditation, and then proceed to the reflections and prayers for each mystery. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

Meditation

Father Peyton called families to pray together. He understood that they would need to take time each day to cultivate their relationship with God in order to become His disciples. In the Luminous Mysteries, we meditate on Jesus' public ministry and learn from Him what it means to be a disciple. We discover that discipleship always involves the Cross, but that it will lead to the glory of the Resurrection. We do not have to be afraid of the cost of discipleship because Jesus walks ahead of us and Mary, His Mother and ours, accompanies us. As a family, let us never forget Her words to the servants at Cana: "Do whatever He tells you."

The First Luminous Mystery: The Baptism in the Jordan

When [Jesus] came up out of the water, immediately He saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." (Mark 1:10-11)

Blessed Mother, when Jesus presented Himself to John to be baptized, He identified Himself more closely with us. By virtue of our baptism, we are called to holiness, to identification with Jesus. Help us to discover how we can live our baptismal vocation in the context of family life.

The Second Luminous Mystery: The Wedding Feast at Cana

When the wine failed, the Mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." (John 2:3)

Blessed Mother, You recognized the needs of the newlyweds and presented them to Your Son. Like Father Peyton, may we always trust in Your maternal love for us.



The Third Luminous Mystery: The Proclamation of the Kingdom

Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:14-15)

Blessed Mother, where Jesus is, the Kingdom of God is present. Jesus was always the subject of Your love and contemplation, so the Kingdom of God reigned in Your heart. May our family allow the Kingdom of God to reign in us through a vibrant faith and a willingness to say "I'm sorry" if we sin.

The Fourth Luminous Mystery: The Transfiguration

After six days Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them, and His garments became glistening, intensely white... (Mark 9:2-3)

Blessed Mother, after telling the disciples that He would have to suffer, Jesus revealed His glory to Peter, James, and John. He knew that the memory of His transfiguration would console them during His Passion. May our family set aside time to be alone with Jesus, so that we might be faithful in moments of trial.

The Fifth Luminous Mystery: The Institution of the Eucharist

When the hour came, He sat at table, and the Apostles with Him. And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." (Luke 22:14-15)

Blessed Mother, thirty-three years ago, Jesus had given His body to You and You had given Yours to Him when He became incarnate in Your womb. At the Last Supper, He gave Himself to the Church forever! Teach us to honor Him in the Eucharist and to offer our hearts to Him in the little sacrifices we make for each other every day.

How to Pray The Rosary

1 Crucifix—Make the Sign of the Cross and pray The Apostles' Creed.

2 First large bead — Pray an Our Father.

3 Next 3 beads —Pray a Hail Mary on each bead.

4 Next large bead—Pray a Glory Be.

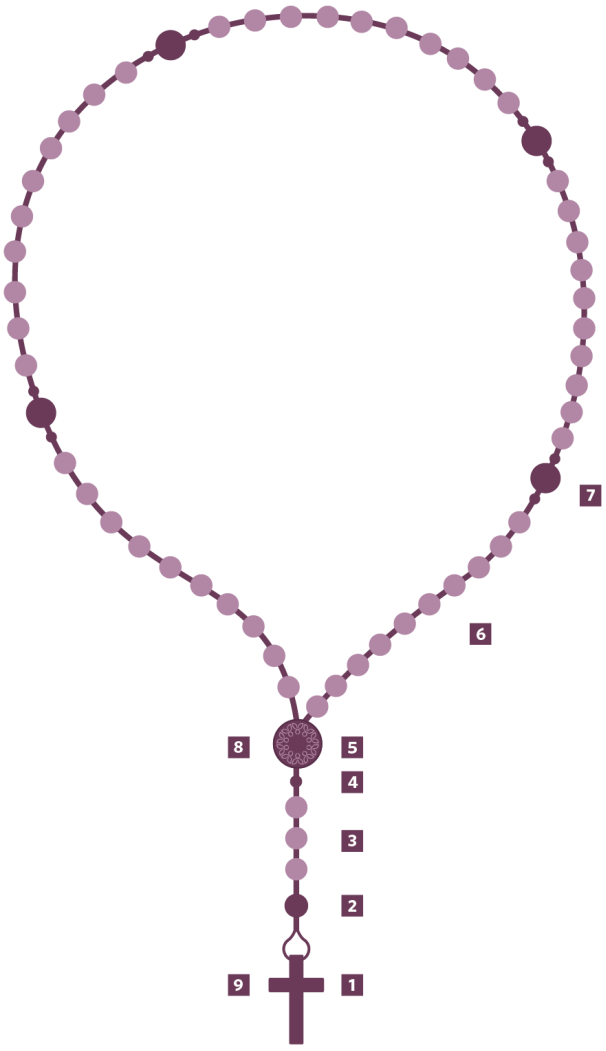
5 Medal—Announce the first Mystery and pray an Our Father.

6 10 small beads—Pray a Hail Mary on each bead.

7 Next large bead—Pray a Glory Be. Announce the next Mystery and pray an Our Father. Repeat steps 6 and 7 for the remaining decades.

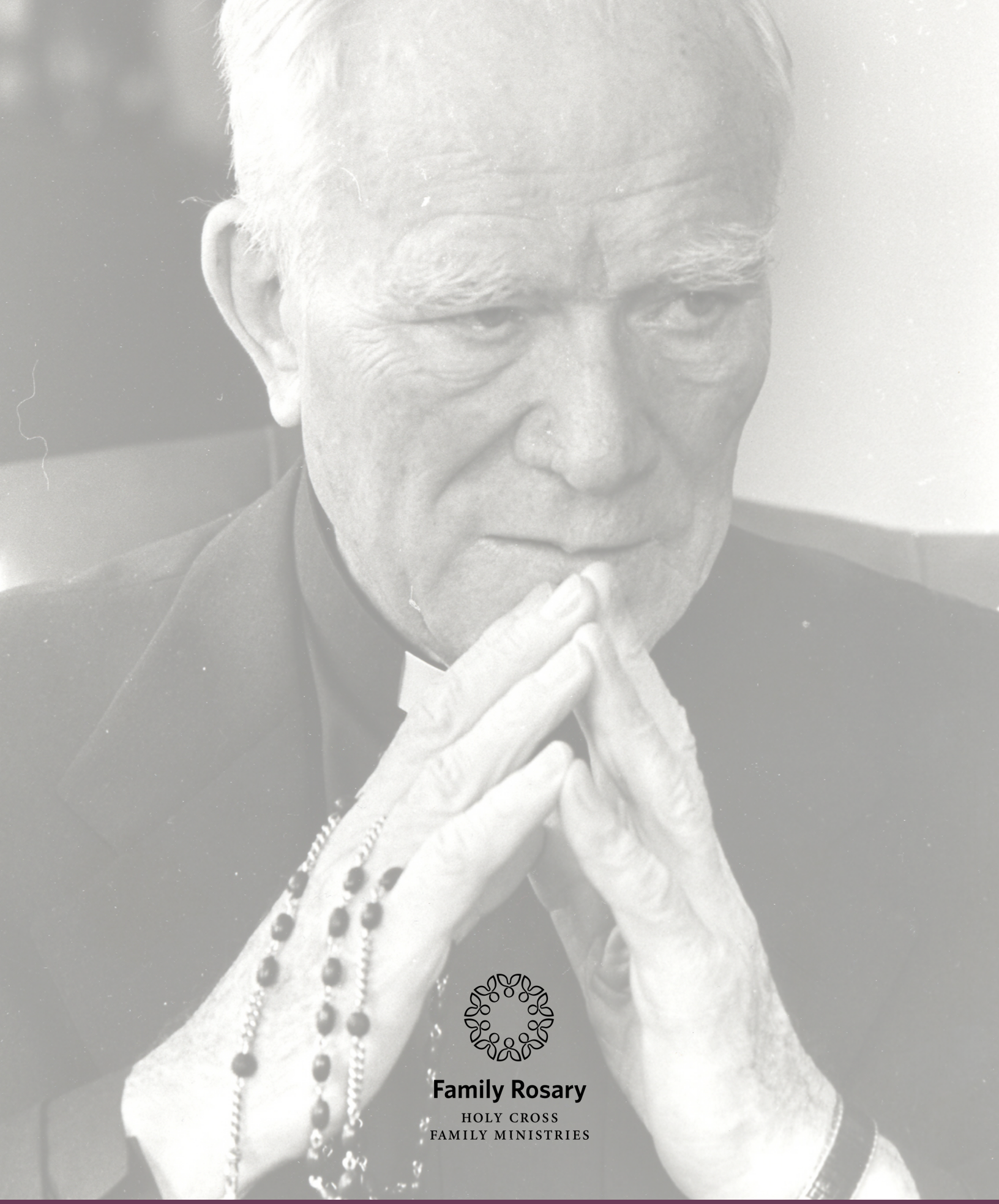
8 Medal—Pray a Glory Be.

9 Conclude—Pray a Hail, Holy Queen.



Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To Thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to Thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, Thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of Thy womb, Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Amen.



Family Rosary

HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

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