

# FAITH CHAT

with James & John

## Must Catholics Pray the Rosary?

### Know This...

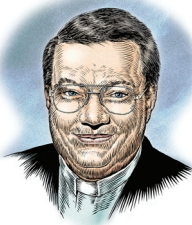
Devotion is the disposition, attitude, and action of the will to give honor and praise to God. Prayer is an acknowledgement of God's presence and man's dependence on Him. Sincere prayer draws the believer into a deeper relationship with Jesus and leads him to holiness. The Mass is the ultimate devotion and prayer for Catholics. Catholics must participate in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The Rosary is also devotion and prayer; but unlike the Mass, a Catholic is not required to pray the Rosary.



**John:** Fervently praying the Rosary moves the persevering Christian to a greater knowledge and appreciation of the Gospel.

**James:** When we meditate on the Rosary's twenty mysteries, the Gospel comes alive in our hearts and minds as God reminds us of the praise and glory due Him.

**John:** Our prayer life is often better served when we don't restrict it to a quiet or secluded place or a specific time of day. The Rosary can be prayed anywhere at any time.



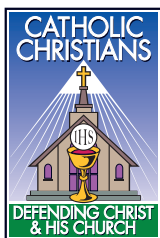
**James:** When we pray the Rosary, the Mother of God will ask her Son to intercede in our lives, to strengthen our resolve, and to dispose us to His grace.

**John:** Western Christianity developed the Rosary as a substitute for the Liturgy of the Hours. St. Dominic popularized its recitation in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century.

**James:** Each time we pray the Rosary, we offer God adoration and thanksgiving, contrition and petition as we seek His intercession and strive for holiness.

Deacon John Beckmann and Deacon James Russell are permanent deacons in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Please visit: [www.catholicchristians.com](http://www.catholicchristians.com) for more insight into the teaching of Jesus Christ and His Church.



The *Our Father* and the *Hail Mary* flow from the Gospels. Jesus said, "This is how you are to pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread...'" Mt 6:9-13 The angel Gabriel said to Mary, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" Lk 1:28 "When Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!'" Lk 1:41-42

## PAPA SAYS

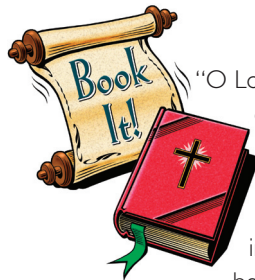
"The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer." 1 Pet 3:12 "The Rosary is a magnificent and universal prayer for the needs of the Church, the nations, and the entire world." Blessed Pope John Paul II "The Rosary is the compendium of the entire Gospel." Pope Pius XII "The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin." Pope Pius XI "The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life." Pope Leo XIII



## BE ATTITUDES



"Say the rosary everyday to obtain peace for the world." Our Lady of Fatima "The Rosary is a priceless treasure inspired by God." St. Louis de Montfort "The Rosary is my weapon." St. Padre Pio "When people love and recite the Rosary, they find it makes them better." St. Anthony Mary Claret "The essence of prayer lies not in being always on your knees, but in conforming your will totally to God in all the events of life." St. Jane Frances de Chantal



"O Lord... Give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit." Ps 17:1 "The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous." Prov 15:29 "Now I am reminding you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you indeed received and in which you also stand. Through it you are also being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain." 1 Cor 15:1-2 "Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." 1 Cor 15:57b-58

Father, the Gospel message of Your Son is one of truth, one of mercy and love, and one of salvation. Meditation on the prayers and mysteries of the Rosary can engage our thoughts, imaginations, and desires to live our lives for Your greater praise and glory. I pray that Christians everywhere will deepen and strengthen their resolve to live the Gospel. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

