



St Francis of Assisi Parish



REFLECTION

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

OCTOBER

The Holy Rosary is a favourite means of Prayer and Devotion for all Christians and has remained a highly recommended practise for many centuries. The Rosary consists of various elements like Contemplation, Recitation and Continuous dedication.

Contemplation of mysteries is distributed to four cycles. The Joyous, the Luminous, the Sorrowful and the Glorious. The Joys of the Messianic Kingdom, the Mystical events in the life of Jesus, the Painful moments of the Suffering journey of Jesus and the Glorious rewards of the Kingdom of God fill the mysteries of meditation. This contemplation by its very nature encourages and provides norms for a Christian living. The Lord's Prayer unites us as Children of God as a family of Faith and takes us along our life's journey with the help of angels and saints like Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph and many others, close to Jesus. The litany like succession of Hail Mary's is the special characteristic of the Rosary attaching us to the Word of God. The Doxology unites us to the Mystery of the Holy Trinity: From Whom, Through Whom, In whom all things and us have one being. In the last apparition at Fatima in Portugal on 13th October 1917, our Blessed Mother insisted on the recitation of the Rosary as a powerful means of Peace and Conversion. When asked by Lucia, "Who are you... and What do you want", the Blessed Mother replied "I am the Lady of the Rosary and I have come to warn the faithful to make amends in their lives and ask for forgiveness of sins and that they stop to offend God by their selfish actions and that they all must pray the Rosary".

Through the Prayer of the Rosary untold blessings are showered upon all mankind through all ages. The Rosary is helpful in bringing back families together in unity and the presence of Jesus and Mary in families is assured. "Who is she that comes like the morning, rising as beautiful as the moon, as bright as the sun and as awe-inspiring as any army in battle array" Songs 6/10 is Our Lady of the Rosary.

God bless us all.

Fr Joseph Rathnaraj
Parish Priest

4th October 2020