

October

THE MONTH OF

Our Lady of the Rosary



A Reflection from Chaplain Chad

Slow down. Remember. Walk together.

The Rosary invites us to contemplate the life of Jesus with Mary and to carry one another in prayer, one bead and one moment at a time.

A Simple Prayer with a Deep Heart

October is the Month of Our Lady of the Rosary. The Rosary is a simple prayer, but it is also very deep. With each bead, we slow down and remember the life of Jesus with Mary, his mother. We remember joy, sorrow, light, and glory. We bring our own needs, our families, our residents, our staff, and our community to God in prayer.

Many Titles, One Mother

Catholics know Mary by many special titles and images: Our Lady of the Rosary, Our Lady of Sorrows, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Our Lady of Lourdes, and many others. These are not different Marys. They are different windows into the same motherly love. Each title helps us recognize one part of Mary's care: prayer, comfort, healing, protection, and faithful presence.

A Prayer Through the Centuries

The Rosary grew over many centuries. Long ago, many people prayed the 150 Psalms from the Bible. Others who could not read or did not have books prayed repeated prayers instead. Over time, Christians began praying the Hail Mary while reflecting on the life of Jesus. The Rosary became a way for ordinary people to pray with Scripture, memory, and love.

OCTOBER 7

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

The feast recalls a time when Catholics were asked to pray the Rosary for peace and protection. Later, October became a special time to honor this prayer.

Prayer can be quiet and steady, like a faithful hand holding ours through the day.

The Mysteries Help Us Walk with Jesus

Mary and the Rosary always point us toward Jesus.

JOYFUL	SORROWFUL	GLORIOUS	LUMINOUS
We remember Jesus' birth and early life.	We stand near Jesus in suffering.	We remember that death does not have the final word.	We remember Jesus' public ministry and the gift of the Eucharist.

The Marist Spirit

The Marist spirit has always loved Mary in a simple and practical way. Marists try to follow Jesus in the way of Mary: with humility, presence, family spirit, quiet service, and trust in God. The Rosary fits this spirit well. It does not require fancy words. It asks us to be present, to listen, to remember, and to let Mary lead us closer to Christ.

For Our Maristhill Community

At Maristhill, we may not all pray the Rosary in the same way. Some residents have prayed it since childhood. Some staff members know it well. Some families may be learning about it for the first time. Others come from different faith traditions. Still, the heart of the Rosary can speak to all of us: slow down, remember what matters, hold others in prayer, and walk with one another through joy and sorrow.



A Personal Reflection from Assisi

I remember praying the Rosary in Assisi while asking God for guidance. I was not looking for anything dramatic. I was simply trying to be open and honest in prayer. It was hot, and I was sitting inside the Basilica of Saint Francis, enjoying the shade and relative cool, when I recognized that I was looking for something more.

A Small Practice for October

Perhaps each of us can choose one small Rosary-like practice:

- Pray one decade.
- Sit quietly with a single Hail Mary.
- Remember someone who needs comfort.

Carry Prayer into the Day

- Pause before speaking and ask for patience.
- Offer a kind word to someone who feels alone.
- Hold another person quietly in prayer.

*Bead by bead, moment by moment,
Mary teaches us how to stay close to
Jesus and close to one another.*

May Our Lady of the Rosary pray for us,

and may this month help us grow in peace, patience, hope, and love.

In gratitude,

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