

## **HOLY ROSARY – OUR TREASURE**

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Holy Rosary is a supernatural gift of God to mankind through the instrumentality of St Dominic who received the gift from Our Blessed Virgin Mary. The etymology and the theology of the Holy Rosary is not the focus of this piece. Meanwhile, this extra-ordinary object of divine-human relationship is peculiar to only Catholics who have the gift of faith in things revealed by God that are incomprehensible to frail human mind. The Holy Rosary is mainly made of beads of different colours and sizes, the intention of which, may be, to align with the beauty of whom we celebrate whenever we say the Rosary – the Mother of God.

It is unfathomable and startling when the uninformed and/or the ill-informed sniff at Marian issues and dare to contend with that. To such people, I want to remind them that God made her power limitless. This was demonstrated in the wedding at Cana, when Jesus turned water into wine at the request of His mother, even though it was not yet time for Him to do such, John 2:3-5. Jesus did that to show love for His mother and to recognize the power of Mary's intercession. Again, the crushing

of the head promised to the devil by God as a sign of punishment, in Gen. 3:15, was fulfilled in Mary in Luke 1:28. This is the reason why it is obligatory “*for all generations ...*” (Luke 1:48) to acknowledge the one whom “*God has been gracious to ...*” (Luke 1:30). The Legion Handbook acclaims this when it says that God gave to Mary all he could give to her, and that which she was capable of receiving, she has received in plenitude. For us, God has constituted her a special means of grace (*Mediatrice of all Graces*). Therefore, operating in union with her, we approach God more effectively, and hence win graces more, for she is the spouse of the Holy Spirit: she is the channel of every grace which Jesus Christ has won. (p.19).

As a privileged Christian, not just a Christian but a Catholic, I have the opportunity to be exposed to the things of God and of His Blessed mother early in life. To write about the place of rosary in my life or what holy rosary has done will be an uphill task. It will be more concise if it is narrowed down by saying what have you not achieved through the holy rosary. In this case, the answer becomes easier to give. That is, **absolutely nothing**. The holy rosary is the foundation of every Catholic. It is the source of all we have and are. It is a silent way of penetrating heaven.

The holy rosary is one of the prayers of the Catholics with lots of promises. It is a strong weapon against the kingdom of darkness. It has with it the promise of our Blessed Virgin, special protection and greatest grace to those who recite it. This is the reason why powerful devotees of the holy rosary are untouchable and enjoy greatest grace. Human nature ordinarily thrives in mundane things, but since holy rosary is a powerful armour against hell, destroys vices, decreases sin and defeats heresies, all those who devotedly recite it, have power against all these. Again, by the recitation of the holy rosary with all sincerity and devotion, it is designed to cause virtue and good works to flourish; obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God;

withdraw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and lift them to the desire of eternal things. Indeed, those soul would sanctify themselves by this means. This by implication implies that the soul that recommends itself to our Lady shall not perish.

Furthermore, holy rosary is a subtle way of penetrating the heart of God. As promised by our Blessed mother, those who recite the holy rosary, applying themselves to the consideration of its sacred mysteries, shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise them in His justice, they shall not perish by an unprovided death; if they are just, they shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life. The devotees shall of course not die without receiving the sacrament of the Church.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, is the queen of the Angels and saints. So while on earth, the devotees of the holy rosary share partnership with the saints. This is why our Lady promised that the devotees shall, at moment of death, participate in the merits of the saints in paradise. Even during their life time, they shall have the light of God and the plenitude of His grace. The celestial court is the intercessor of them that are the advocates of the holy rosary, during and after their death. This is indeed the secret of the power in the holy rosary. It is my source and my secret. It formed the foundation of my Christian faith, right from the days of block rosary crusade and even now. In fact, the highest gift I ever received and will forever receive from my parents is the gift of cultivating the devotion to the holy rosary in me at the early stage of my life.

To all those who are ignorant of the power of the holy rosary and the promises made by our Lady to the devotees, just get a glimpse of the extract of the promise as given to St Dominic and Blessed Alan with imprimatur by + Patrick J. Hayes, D.D, the Archbishop of New York:

- I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary
- The faithful children of holy rosary shall merit high degree of glory in heaven
- You shall obtain all you ask of Me by the recitation of the rosary
- All those who propagate the rosary shall be aided by Me in their necessities
- All those who recite the holy rosary are My sons and daughters, and the brothers and sisters of My only son, Jesus Christ
- Whoever shall faithfully serve Me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal grace
- Etc

From the above promises, one will understand why Catholics who understand the holy rosary seem to be intolerant to any ungodly teaching against the holy rosary. This is not even the main problem because they do that in ignorance of what the rosary stands for. The summary of the truth is that we give all to Mary for God and give God all through Mary. This is a simple arithmetic that does not need any superficial tutelage. Nevertheless, the main pain in the neck are those Catholics who do not know the power in the holy rosary. This piece should serve as a clarion call for you all to make a U-turn and embrace the sure way to your salvation. Make the rosary your daily prayer. Be determined and faithful to it. It is worthy of note that the four keys to heaven according to the Church are in this order: **Mass, Rosary, Scapular and Way of the Cross.**

Finally, I challenge every Catholic reading this piece to try the rosary if you are not already an advocate. If you are already, try to apply yourself to the mysteries and say it with devotion. Set aside a valid request and ask God to grant the request through the intercession of the holy Mary. A trial will convince you. The most important part of it all is that the holy rosary will even help you to pray according to

the will of God which makes it impossible for God not to answer you. Mary is the mother of God and by extension the mother of all who believe in God (John 19:27). The salvation we enjoy today, both Christians and non-Christians, was made possible by her consent given to the message of Angel Gabriel, (Luke 1:38). Had she refused or doubted like Zachariah (Luke 1:18-20), only God knows what would have been the fate of mankind. Though Zachariah remained dumb until the message was fulfilled, that of Mary might be too difficult to handle since she was the only virgin of immaculate conception.

So, join me in saying everyday: **I am yours, my Mother, my Queen, all I have is yours.** Let this be on your lips every time and then watch and see what the Lord will do for you, for according His Holy Mother, the honour and respect due to Her. Remain a resolute child of God through Mary. Congratulations in your new discovery of easy approach to God. **Enjoy!**