

Prayer Intentions for Our Children

from the Walking with Purpose September 2021 Rosary Call

As a mom, grandmother, or friend of a school-aged child, you may be feeling anxious about the new school year. We think there's no better remedy for anxiety than prayer, and invite you to pray the Rosary and offer up these intentions before every recitation of a Hail Mary.

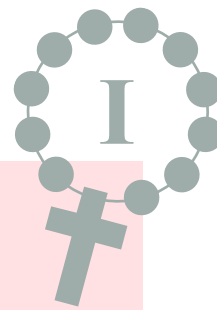


walking with purpose

SO MUCH MORE THAN A BIBLE STUDY

walkingwithpurpose.com

First Sorrowful Mystery: The Agony in the Garden



“Then [Jesus] withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down and prayed, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done.’ Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.” Luke 22:41-44

Intention: As we meditate on this scene in the garden, it is undeniable that You experienced dread and a fear of what the future would hold. You modeled for us what we need to do when we experience anxiety, stress and fear over our children. We should tell You exactly what we want—being fully honest and bold in our prayers. This is what You did in the garden. But then we are to abandon ourselves and our children to Your care. This is the surrender of trust in the face of fear. It’s holding our children in our hearts, and saying, “Not what I want, but what You want.” With each Hail Mary, we say, “Jesus, I trust in you. Take care of everything.” **When I am fearful of the future for my children, may I remember:**

- “God has not given me a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love and a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7).
- You are my peace [and the peace of my children], not perfect circumstances (Ephesians 2:14).
- if I present my requests to You in gratitude, Your peace will guard my heart and mind (Philippians 4:6-7).
- if I seek first Your kingdom and righteousness, then all the things I need will be given to me as well (Luke 12:31).
- if I trust in You with all my heart and don’t lean on my own understanding, You will make my path straight (Proverbs 3:5-6). You will help me to know what to say and what to do.
- God’s plans are to prosper them and not harm them, to give them a hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11).
- irrational fears only submit to prayer.
- “behind and before you encircle [my child] and rest your hand upon [him or her]” (Psalm 139:5).
- I do not need to fear, because You are with my child. I do not need to be dismayed for You are our God. You will strengthen my child and help him. You will uphold him with your victorious right hand (Isaiah 41:10).
- to say, “Jesus, I trust in you. Take care of everything.”

Second Sorrowful Mystery: The Scourging at the Pillar



“He was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins; upon Him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by His stripes we were healed.” Isaiah 53:5

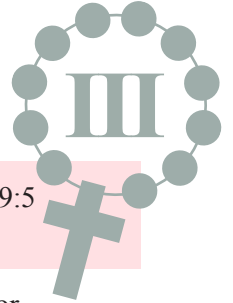
Intention: We come before You and ask for healing for our children. We are all healed by Your stripes—by Your wounds—by Your willingness to take the punishment for our sin in our place. But so many struggle with the need for healing deep within. And until You touch those places inside our children, their healing will be superficial at best. So please heal our children, Lord, so that they, in turn can offer healing to others in their generation. With each Hail Mary of this mystery, we say, “heal our children, O Lord.” **We pray for:**

- healing of the wounds of rejection and abandonment.
- healing for our children of the wound of shame.
- sexual healing for our children.
- healing of our children who have suffered physical abuse or been bullied.
- healing of our children who have suffered emotional abuse from those in authority or peers.

- healing of our children's perfectionism, which comes from a faulty understanding of their intrinsic worth.
- healing of our children's anxiety and depression.
- healing of our children's minds of the confusion they experience in our secular and morally relativistic culture.
- healing of our children's addictions.
- healing of our children from the wounds that we have caused—from the things we have knowingly and unknowingly done. Forgive us our shortcomings, and fill in the gap in their lives where we were not enough.

Third Sorrowful Mystery: The Crowning with Thorns

*"When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns...Pilate said to them: 'Behold this man!'" John 19:5
"He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!'" John 19:14*



Intention: Little did Pilate know, he was declaring Jesus' true identity. The people were clamoring for Jesus' crucifixion, and Pilate was presenting them with their servant King. But they didn't recognize Him. Amazingly, in the face of overwhelming rejection and pain, Jesus did not lose sight of His true identity. This is our prayer for our children, and it's our job to remind them of who they truly are. With each Hail Mary, we say, "Jesus, may our children find their identity in You and You alone." **May our children know:**

- they are your beloved children and that is enough. "In love, you destined us for adoption to himself through Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 1:4-5). May they know that they are not orphans. They are beloved children.
- "the one begotten by God he protects, and the evil one cannot touch him" (1 John 5:18b). May our children know that they are God's children. He protects them.
- "in Jesus dwells the whole fullness of the deity bodily, and they share in this fullness in him" (Colossians 2:9-10). May our children know that they are complete in Christ.
- "whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). May our children know that they are new creatures in Christ.
- "in Him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished upon us" (Ephesians 1:7-8).
- they can be forgiven for all their sins. Nothing is beyond the reach of God's mercy.
- who they are and what they are worth. May they resist defining themselves by what they own, what they do, or what others think of them. May they turn to You and ask, "Who am I?"
- "the one who is in [them] is greater than the one who is in the world" (1 John 4:4). The one who is in them is greater than the evil one.
- "they can do all things through Christ who strengthens them" (Philippians 4:13). They can do all things through Christ. They can conquer overwhelmingly through the One who loves us (Romans 8:37). May they see themselves as "more than conquerors" through Jesus.
- identity is bestowed as a gift, not discovered. Their identity is not something they need to figure out or define. You have already defined who they are and what they are worth. May they submit to You in this, stop trying to figure out what You have already declared, and find peace.

Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: The Carrying of the Cross

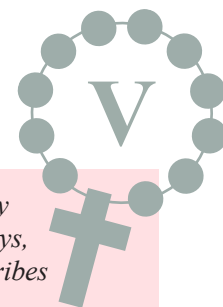


“He was counted among the wicked.” Isaiah 53:12

Intention: Lord, You were counted among the wicked so that we could be free. We are promised in 2 Corinthians 3:17, “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.” We claim that promise. So many of our children live in bondage, and sadly, don’t even realize it. Help our children to wake up to what life could be like if they walked in the freedom of Christ. You promised, “If the son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” We say, “Jesus, set us free.” **Come Holy Spirit and:**

- break the chain that keeps our children tethered to their phones.
- break the chain that keeps our children bound to the approval of others.
- break the chain of self-reliance that keeps them from depending on You.
- break the chain of numbing through alcohol and drugs.
- break the chain of self-justification that prevents them from seeing sin for what it is.
- break the chain of addiction to social media.
- break the chain of self-loathing that keeps them from seeing their true identity as beloved children of God.
- break the chain of suicide and self-destructive thoughts.
- break the chain of addiction to pornography.
- break the chain of disbelief and cynicism.

Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion



“Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, ‘You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself. If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.’ So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him saying, ‘He saved others; he cannot save himself.’” (Matthew 27:38-42)

Intention: Dear Lord, when You hung on the cross, the appearance of powerlessness was acute. As You hung on the cross, suffering for us, suffering for an incredible purpose, people yelled at You, “You are powerless!” This lie came straight from the pit of hell. That same lie is whispered to us today. We see all that we are up against with our kids, and it’s easy to feel powerless. But we reject that lie and declare that because of You, there is always hope. No one is beyond the reach of Your mercy, and our prayers are powerful and effective. **We counter feelings of powerlessness with the TRUTH. I declare:**

- You who began a good work in my child will bring it to completion (Philippians 1:6).
- You can reach down from on high and take hold of my child, drawing him out of deep waters (2 Samuel 22:17).
- my work as a mother and a grandmother will be rewarded and that my child will come back from the land of the enemy (Jeremiah 31:16).
- there is hope in my future and in my child’s future, and he will come back to his own border (Jeremiah 31:17).
- all Your promises are yes in Jesus; and that not one word of Your promises ever failed (2 Corinthians 1:20, 1 Kings 8:56).
- You are able to accomplish abundantly more than I could ask or imagine in the life of my child (Ephesians 3:20).
- You will feed Your flock like a shepherd, You will gather the lambs in Your arms, You will carry them in your bosom, and will gently lead those that are with young (Isaiah 40:11).
- “the children of your servants shall dwell secure; their posterity shall be established before you” (Psalm 102:28).
- You “will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; you will pour your Spirit upon our descendants and your blessing on our offspring. They shall spring up like grass amid waters, like willow by flowing streams” (Isaiah 44:3-4).
- we “shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity; for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD, and their children with them. Before they call, [You] will answer, while they are yet speaking, [You] will hear” (Isaiah 65:23-24).