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This month you parents and parishioners of **Little Flower** were challenged to say the Rosary daily with your family. When helping our children to learn about and say the rosary it is important to also think about the fruits of the mysteries. Each mystery has a deep meditative virtue or grace associated with it known as the "**Spiritual Fruits** of the mystery".

The Fruits of the Mysteries of the Rosary by Patrice Fagnant-MacArthur

[Some of the following is from this website: <http://catholicexchange.com/the-fruits-of-the-mysteries-of-the-rosary>.]

When I was growing up, my mother and I would say the rosary every day together. Before each decade, she would announce the mystery and the fruit, or virtue, associated with it. I have continued the practice of saying the rosary in my adult life. Indeed, it is one of my favorite devotions and can't imagine life without it. I do remember all the mysteries of the original Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious sets of five decades. It took me a while, but I even managed to memorize the Luminous Mysteries established by Pope John Paul II. My memory had long since forgotten the fruits of the mysteries, however. In talking to some friends recently, we realized we were all in the same boat. No one knew the fruits of the mysteries of the rosary — only that there were some! To rectify that ignorance, here are the mysteries of the rosary and their corresponding fruits along with a brief reflection on each one. They offer yet one more good reason to say the rosary.

The Joyful Mysteries

The Annunciation (to Mary by the angel that she would be the mother of God's Son) – Humility

It is appropriate to begin the rosary with the virtue of humility. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that "humility is the foundation of prayer. Only when we humbly acknowledge that 'we do not know how to pray as we ought,' are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer. 'Man is a beggar before God.' " (CCC 2559)

2. The Visitation – Love of Neighbor

Mary hastened to her cousin's Elizabeth's house to help her in her time of need. In what ways can we be of service to our own neighbor's today, whether we find that neighbor in our own home, in our community, at work, or on the internet?

3. The Nativity of the Lord (Birth of Jesus) – Poverty of Spirit / Detachment from the Things of the World

We live in a very consumerist culture. This mystery invites us to detach ourselves from our many possessions. What do we truly need and what is excess? What can we share with others?

4. Presentation – Obedience to God / Purity of intention

Mary and Joseph humbly brought Jesus to the temple in accord with Jewish law. Obedience to God and to others can be very difficult, but offers us the opportunity to subjugate our own will to that of our heavenly Father. Not my will, but God's will be done.

5. Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple – Joy in finding Jesus / Piety

Piety is dedication to the Church's sacramental life and devotions. Mary and Joseph were surprised to find Jesus in the temple. We, too, should be dedicated to finding Jesus through our Church and the sacraments.

The Luminous Mysteries

1. The Baptism of Jesus – Openness to the Holy Spirit

We each receive the Holy Spirit in a special way in Baptism and again at Confirmation. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. We need only ask the Holy Spirit for help and help will be provided.

2. The Miracle at Cana – To Jesus through Mary

Mary encouraged her Son to perform his first miracle at the Wedding at Cana. She simply told the servants to “do whatever he tells you.” She helps us in a similar way — always pointing us to her Son and interceding on our behalf. We need only to turn to her and ask for help.

3. Proclamation of the Kingdom of God – Repentance, Trust in God

Jesus spent the active years of his ministry preaching and performing miracles to proclaim the Kingdom of God. He asks us to express sorrow from our sin, turn away from sin, and trust in God.

4. Transfiguration – Desire for Holiness

Jesus gave three of his closest friends a glimpse of His glory at the Transfiguration. We, too, are called to holiness, and to ultimately live in glory in heaven. But, we need to want it and we need to want it more than what the world and the devil attempts to offer us.

5. Institution of the Eucharist – Eucharistic Adoration, Active Participation at Mass

Jesus gave us the greatest gift in the Eucharist. He gave us His very self. This mystery invites us to appreciate that gift fully and to participate at Mass often.

Many of these fruits of the mysteries of the rosary are similar to the virtues taught often at **Little Flower School** through regular classes and activities, as well as, religion classes and sacramental preparation. Parents, thank you for reinforcing the importance of these at home and in everyday life, helping your children know how to live out these fruits. Next week we will look at the fruits of the Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries. Those of **Little Flower School** and **Parish** please continue to pray rosaries often for world peace and all people. Blessed Mother Mary, pray for us! St. Therese, pray for us!

+++++ **Additional Information for you to know** +++++

+++End of quater-October 24, Friday

+++Science Testing starts on Monday October 20th

+++Have a great week end.