

The Rachel Rosary, by Rev. Larry Kupferman

The Rachel Rosary, by Rev. Larry Kupferman, is beautiful and heartbreaking. It's an intercessory prayer for victims of post-abortion syndrome, and in this, the month of the Rosary and respect life month, seems to be the time to share it with you and invite you to pray with me for an end to abortion and healing for those who have been involved in abortions.

The Creed

This statement of faith speaks of the divine origin of all life, and of the hope promised to all who rely on the statements proclaimed within it. We recite the Creed in order to affirm our identity as members of God's family, the Church. Our oneness expressed in our faith connects us to one another, to God and to all God's sons and daughters, living and dead.

I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; on the third day he arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

Our Father

We acknowledge the fatherhood of God and offer this rosary for God's children who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary for Faith

We pray for an increase of faith for these children of God, so that they may come to believe in the mercy of God.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Hail Mary for Hope

We pray for an increase of hope for these children of God, so that they can look forward to the joy of redeemed lives. *Hail Mary...*

Hail Mary for Love

We pray for an increase of love for these children of God, that they will be able to accept the love of God and know true love in their hearts. *Hail Mary...*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The First Sorrowful Mystery: The Agony in the Garden

Then they came to a place named Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be troubled and distressed. Then he said to them, “My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch.” He advanced a little and fell to the ground and prayed that if it were possible the hour of death might pass him by; he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will.” When he returned he found them asleep. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.” Withdrawing again, he prayed, saying the same thing. Then he returned once more and found them asleep, for they could not keep their eyes open and did not know what to answer him. He returned a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough. The hour has come. Behold the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners. Get up, let us go. See, my betrayer is at hand.” (Mark 14:32-42)

We pray this decade, keeping in mind the agony that accompanies a decision to abort.

Our Father...

Ten Hail Marys

1. For the thirteen-year-old girl who is pregnant and afraid. *Hail Mary...*
2. For the teenager who is pregnant and afraid to tell her parents. *Hail Mary...*
3. For the young woman whose boyfriend abandons her when the pregnancy is discovered. *Hail Mary...*
4. For the young woman who, alone and afraid, gets “counseled” at the abortion clinic. *Hail Mary...*
5. For the woman who got pregnant to save a relationship, only to find that her lover has run away at the news. *Hail Mary...*
6. For the mother of a poor family who unexpectedly becomes pregnant and is advised that abortion is the “logical” choice for her family’s sake. *Hail Mary...*

7. For the couple who is pregnant with a child suspected of having a birth defect. *Hail Mary...*
8. For the man who fathers a child he wasn't expecting and who believes that abortion will free him. *Hail Mary...*
9. For the doctor who advises a couple to abort their child and thinks he is helping. *Hail Mary...*
10. For the school counselor who believes that advising a student to abort her baby is saving the future. *Hail Mary...*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Second Sorrowful Mystery: Scourging at the Pillar

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified. (Mark 15:15)

We pray this decade, keeping in mind the pain, both emotional and physical, that accompanies a decision to participate in the killing of one's own child.

Our Father...

Ten Hail Marys

1. For the teenager who suffers the pain of sitting in fear in the clinic waiting room. *Hail Mary...*
2. For the girl who suffers the pain of forced labor to kill her child. *Hail Mary...*
3. For the husband and wife whose sexual intimacy is negatively impacted by the scars of an abortion. *Hail Mary...*
4. For the pain felt by a victim of Post-Abortion Syndrome each time he or she beholds a newborn child. *Hail Mary...*
5. For the woman whose pain and guilt over a previous abortion manifests itself as clinical depression years later. *Hail Mary...*
6. For the woman who bears the pain of feeling a life literally sucked out of her. *Hail Mary...*
7. For the woman whose body is so damaged that she can never again bear a child. *Hail Mary...*
8. For the man who suffers the pain of knowing that his child was aborted against his will. *Hail Mary...*
9. For the physician who actively takes a life under the guise of medical "care." *Hail Mary...*
10. For the counselor who bears the pain of knowing that a child is dead due to his counsel. *Hail Mary...*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Third Sorrowful Mystery: Crowning with Thorns

The soldiers led him away inside the palace, that is, the praetorium and assembled the whole cohort. They clothed him in purple and weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. They knelt before him in homage. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him out to crucify him. (Mark 15:16-20)

We pray this decade, keeping in mind the humiliation that a person who has an abortion must endure, if not initially, then inevitably

Our Father...

Ten Hail Marys

1. For the fourteen-year-old girl who cannot face her own mother. *Hail Mary...*
2. For the woman who cannot read articles related to abortion without feeling great humiliation. *Hail Mary...*
3. For the teenage girl who stays active in her youth group at church, fearfully hiding the truth during their devotions and discussions. *Hail Mary...*
4. For the teenager who becomes pregnant after boasting about how “careful” she and her boyfriend are. *Hail Mary...*
5. For the man or woman who is a parish minister and who cries inside when the issue of abortion is raised. *Hail Mary...*
6. For the woman who has had to see her daughter become a woman but does not feel equipped to speak about sex. *Hail Mary...*
7. For the woman whose humiliation at being pregnant forces her to act against her values. *Hail Mary...*
8. For the man who knows the humiliation of having decided to end the life of his own first-born son or daughter. *Hail Mary...*
9. For the physician who teaches interns to deliver babies while he himself is killing them. *Hail Mary...*
10. For the counselor who allows the pressure of “political correctness” to influence her counsel. *Hail Mary...*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: Carrying the Cross

So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. (John 19:17)

We pray this decade, keeping in mind the guilt that burdens those who are victims of abortion.

Our Father...

Ten Hail Marys

1. For the girl who cannot look her parents in the eye because of what she has done. *Hail Mary...*
2. For the teenager who contemplates suicide, convinced that she no longer deserves to live. *Hail Mary...*
3. For the young woman who cannot enter a church because she feels so unclean. *Hail Mary...*
4. For the couple who believe they will not be able to conceive another child as a punishment for their “crime.” *Hail Mary...*
5. For the woman whose guilt keeps her from allowing anyone to love her. *Hail Mary...*
6. For the woman whose guilt will not allow her to discipline her own children. *Hail Mary...*
7. For the woman or man who, filled with guilt, cannot accept even the sacramental forgiveness of God. *Hail Mary...*
8. For the man who insists that his wife have an abortion and feels no responsibility himself. *Hail Mary...*
9. For the physician who kills babies on a daily basis, yet feels no remorse. *Hail Mary...*
10. For the counselor who encourages abortion as a means of birth control. *Hail Mary...*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which is translated, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Some of the bystanders who heard it said, “Look, he is calling Elijah.” One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.” Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!” There were also women looking on from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of the younger James and of Joses, and Salome. These women had followed him when he was in Galilee and ministered to him. There were also many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. (Mark 15:33-41)

We pray this decade, keeping in mind the many types of death that accompany abortion; but at the same time we hold fast to the hope that is always offered by God and is so desperately needed by those who suffer the pain of Post-Abortion Syndrome.

Our Father...

Ten Hail Marys

1. For the child who dies in the womb of his or her mother. *Hail Mary...*
2. For the young mother who dies as a result of an abortion procedure. *Hail Mary...*
3. For the spiritual death of a woman who undergoes an abortion procedure. *Hail Mary...*
4. For the death of a relationship between a young woman and her lover as a result of an abortion experience. *Hail Mary...*
5. For the marriage that dies as a result of an abortion. *Hail Mary...*
6. For the death of the dreams of a young girl who is stifled by her feelings of guilt. *Hail Mary...*
7. For the many small deaths that occur over and over again in the life of the woman or man who cannot accept the healing forgiveness of God. *Hail Mary...*
8. For the emotional death of a man who would abandon his lover and his child as a matter of convenience. *Hail Mary...*
9. For the physician who uses his life-giving training to terminate the lives of children in the womb. *Hail Mary...*
10. For the moral death of the clinic counselor who spends his days counseling women to kill their babies. *Hail Mary...*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Glorious Mystery of the Resurrection

But Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the body of Jesus had been. And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken my Lord, and I don’t know where they laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” She thought it was the gardener and said to him, “Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni,” which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, “Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God!’” Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and what he told her. (John 20:11-18)

We pray this decade, keeping in mind the faith in a renewed and strengthened life that is offered to all who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome.

Our Father... **Ten Hail Marys**

1. For an increase in love and communication between parents and their children. *Hail Mary...*
2. For an increase in education in the areas of sexuality and relationships. *Hail Mary...*
3. For an increase in the number of compassionate pro-life leaders. *Hail Mary...*
4. For increased sensitivity towards those who have been victimized by abortion. *Hail Mary...*
5. For courage on the part of those who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome, that they might step forward and welcome the healing process into their lives. *Hail Mary...*
6. For an increase in pregnancy services that offer realistic alternatives to abortion. *Hail Mary...*
7. In thanksgiving for the many counselors who accompany victims of Post-Abortion Syndrome on their journey toward healing. *Hail Mary...*
8. In thanksgiving for the men who support their partners in bringing the joy of unexpected new life into the world. *Hail Mary...*
9. In thanksgiving for the doctors who reverence life in all its stages and propose constructive solutions to an unexpected pregnancy. *Hail Mary...*
10. In thanksgiving for the counselors who recognize the need to teach responsibility with our God-given sexuality. *Hail Mary...*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Conclusion

We conclude our prayer for those who have been victimized by abortion by invoking the intercession of Mary, who in her own acceptance of the “sword that pierced her heart” can identify with all parents who grieve. Let us pray the “Hail, Holy Queen.”

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O holy mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of God.

We believe that those who have been prayed for in this rosary will be touched by God’s Spirit and that hearts will be changed. Where there is brokenness there can be healing. Where there are hearts of stone, there can be hearts of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26). We who respect and support the sacredness of all life must continue to pray for all of God’s children. Let us do so with faith, with hope and with compassion!