

# **Celebrating October, the month of The Most Holy Rosary**

**Come pray the Rosary on Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm**  
at the **Marian Grotto** (weather permitting) or in the Picnic Pavilion.

**October 4** - Experience a tutorial Rosary for those learning or wishing to refresh knowledge of the Rosary.

**October 11** - The Rosary through the ages, relive the history of this method of prayer.

**October 18** - Pray the *Scriptural Rosary*, a journey of meditation.

**October 25** – Pray for the people of our nation with the *Patriotic Rosary*.

**Please plan to attend the 2020 Public Square Rosary Rally**  
**Saturday, October 10, 2020 at 12 NOON**  
**Gather at the Marian Grotto weather permitting/or Picnic Pavilion**

As in past years, Saint John Vianney will host its Rosary Rally on Saturday October 10, 2020 at 12 noon. The Rally participants will meet at the Marian Grotto (weather permitting) or picnic pavilion for opening prayers and then proceed down Bellflower Road to the Lake Catholic parking lot praying the Rosary. The Rally will conclude upon returning to the Grotto for closing prayers. Please come and celebrate the month of the Rosary with your fellow parishioners. All social distancing and the wearing of face coverings will be observed.

**PLEASE CALL JIM HICKEY AT 440-255-0600 EXT. 207  
TO RSVP FOR ANY OR ALL OF THESE ROSARY EVENTS.**

## **The Rosary and the month of October**

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. For many, of us, this month reminds us of praying the Rosary with our families, at school and at Church in a way that may have been different than the other months of the year, except for another Marian month: May. I certainly remember kneeling with my brothers and sisters in our family living room and daily praying the Rosary with mom and dad. We knew of this special devotion, because we heard of it for all of our lives.

But I didn't know what made October so special. As a child I prayed the Rosary because mom and dad said so, but as an adult I wanted to look deeper into this practice of Marian devotion.

What I learned was that October is dedicated as the Month of the Holy Rosary because we celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary each year on October 7.

In the 16<sup>th</sup> century the Islamic Ottoman Empire presented a serious threat to western Europe. A fleet of ships were sent to attack the Christian defenses of southern Europe. Pope Pius V recognized this threat and sent the Holy League fleet to confront the Ottoman navy. The pope knew that his navy needed more than military strength to win this battle. He asked the faithful to pray the Rosary requesting the intercession of the Blessed Mother. At the end of the battle of Lepanto, the Holy League was victorious.

This next year Pope Pius V established a feast on October 7 in honor of the Blessed Mother. The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary recognized that prayer was the greatest power on the seas during this battle. Since this time, the Rosary has been held in grace-filled esteem. Pope Benedict XVI believed that the Rosary "contains within itself the healing power of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, invoked with faith and love at the center of each Hail Mary."

The Rosary is an invitation to experience the grace of Mary's spiritual motherhood and her faithful intercession as she leads us to her Son, Jesus. Juniper B. Carol, O.F.M. stated in his book, *Mariology*, "the Rosary stands revealed as a dynamic teacher and nurturer of Christian faith, morality and spiritual reflection... that we may become more and more like unto Christ."

**Jim Hickey**  
**Pastoral Minister**