The Church has promoted the Rosary for around 800 years. Why keep talking about it?

Well, it's like "Why keep talking about the Bible?" Because it's a biblical prayer; basically the Rosary is just praying the Bible. The reason we keep praying the Rosary is because we keep reading the Bible.



# Ghe Holy Rosary

## **Spiritual Weapon of Today**







Fr Peyton died peacefully on June 3, 1992, holding a rosary, in a small room at the Little Sisters of the Poor Jeanne Jugan Residence in San Pedro, California. His remains were brought to the Holy Cross Cemetery on the grounds of Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts. On December 18, 2017, Pope Francis declared Father Patrick Peyton, founder of Family Rosary Crusade, venerable. The devotion to the rosary that was instilled in Father Patrick Peyton from a young age followed him into his priesthood and he began a mission to spread the devotion to families, writing to bishops, lay Catholics, and even non-Christians of the importance of the Family Rosary. He utilized film, radio, outdoor advertising, television, with the help of celebrities, artists, and advertisers to spread his message. Father Peyton was one of the first pioneers of using mass media to evangelize. Father Peyton organized Rosary Crusades which were rallies where hundreds, and sometimes thousands, of people would gather to pray the Rosary together. These rallies were duplicated around the world. Father Peyton said of the Rosary, "The rosary is the offensive weapon that will destroy Communism-the great evil that seeks to destroy the faith." Through his advertising for the Family Rosary, Father Peyton popularised the slogan, "The family that prays together, stays together."



"During an exorcism, Satan told me, through the possessed person, 'Every Hail Mary of the Rosary is a blow to the head for me; if Christians knew the power of the Rosary, it would be the end of me!"

"Anyone who goes to Mary and prays the Rosary cannot be touched by Satan."

(Fr Amorth, Exorcist)

"The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin" (Pope Pius XI)

"The rosary is the scourge of the devil" (Pope Adrian VI)

As we can see the rosary is a weapon against the devil as attested by numerous popes & well-known saints.

As St. Padre Pio famously said, "The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times."



Fr Andrew Wong, Spiritual Director & Veronica Nathan, Programme Manager/ Counsellor

### The Rosary, a spiritual sword that can slay the dragons (demons)

From the time Saint Dominic established the devotion to the holy Rosary up to the time when Blessed Alan de la Roche reestablished it in 1460, it has always been called the Psalter of Jesus and Mary. This is because it has the same number of Hail Marys as there are psalms in the Book of the Psalms. Since simple and uneducated people are not able to say the Psalms, the Rosary is held to be just as fruitful for them as the Psalms is for others.

#### **Miracles of the Rosary**

The miracles associated with the rosary over the centuries are so numerous that they could never be numbered. The rosary has prevented and stopped wars, brought about great conversions, healed marriages, and helped a countless number of souls draw closer to Jesus, His Church, and the Sacraments. Many of these miracles are recorded in the greatest book ever written on the rosary, *The Secret of the Rosary* by St. Louis de Montfort. His book was written in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### What about us today? Is praying the rosary part of our spiritual diet? Or is it only prayed in May and October?

Many parishes in Singapore have the rosary prayed before or after mass, and sadly only a handful would join in this prayer. Some neighbourhood groups come together in May and October to pray the rosary in each other's homes. Some Catholics pray the rosary daily without fail on their own. The younger generation seem to be rather aloof to the rosary and miss out on the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother. No wonder we ask why are there so many youth suicides, depression, anxiety, addictions and much more. We have recently seen an increase in family distresses, parent-child broken relationships, marital infidelity, diabolical interference in the homes and lives of families. Simply because there is no faith formation, no sacramental life, no family prayer. During this Covid-19 many have succumbed to depression and fear. If only parents would inculcate daily doses of prayers, starting with the rosary (only 20 mins), children will grow up spiritually healthy to face the challenges of life. Instead, people spend hours and hours watching TV, surfing the internet, using social media and there is NO time for even 10-20 mins of family prayer. The priorities have shifted and by the time the family seek help, there is so much damage done. It's never too late to START **NOW - this October** - praying the rosary as a family.