



Online Live Rosary with the Archbishop of Lagos
His Grace, Alfred Adewale Martins

*To Finalise the Nigerian Celebration of 100 Years Of The Appearance Of Mary In Fatima,
Portugal*

Rosary meditations

Archbishop: 1 x Apostles' Creed, 1 x Our Father, 3 x Hail Marys and 1 x Glory Be.

The Joyful Mysteries

The First Joyful Mystery, The Annunciation

Luke 1:28, 31, 38. *The Angel Gabriel said to Mary: "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women...You shall conceive and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus... Mary answered, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to your word."*

Reflection: In the quiet of a garden, God extends an invitation to Mary, asking her to be the Mother of God. God proposes (through an angel) and a woman accepts. Mary is accepting to walk into a mystery. She does not know what lies ahead on this new path, but she knows who is asking and she trusts in him. There are many "annunciation moments in our life", and sometimes we hesitate to say yes because we cannot foresee the future or control what will happen. In this mystery, we pray for the spirit of docility. we ask Mary to give us a deep trust in the one who invites you to follow. We ask her intercession to learn to trust and obey even if the road ahead seems unclear and difficult. We may not know what the future holds, but we surely know who holds the future. Our God continues to invite us at different points in our lives; Like Mary, let us say Yes to him; trusting that the will of God will not take us where his grace cannot sustain us.

Archbishop: 1 x Our Father, 10 x Hail Marys, 1 x Glory Be and 1 x Fatima Prayer.

The Second Joyful Mystery, The Visitation

Luke 1:42-44. *Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and cried out in a loud voice: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb...The moment your greeting sounded in my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy."*

Reflection: When Mary went to visit Elizabeth out of love, her coming caused marvels of grace. As cousins, Mary and Elizabeth shared a bond of kinship. But they also shared a spiritual bond resulting from the presence of the Holy Spirit. Today again Mary comes to visit us. She wishes to come into your situation whatever it may be: to be present with us and to pray with us and for us. In Mary, Christ comes to us; He comes to give us the Holy Spirit. Like Elizabeth, when we receive Mary, we also receive her Son and we become inspired by the spirit to bring him to people around us.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that you chose to come to us through Mary. By the merits of your visitation, teach us to follow the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, may we open our hearts to receive you and immediately desire to bring you to our brothers and sisters by our way of life. Amen

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The Third Joyful Mystery, The Nativity

Luke 2:6-7. *“And it came to pass while they were there, that the days for Mary to be delivered were fulfilled. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothing and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”*

Reflection: In the Nativity, God became man, born that man would die no more, born to give us a second birth, born to make the sons of men become sons of God. Christ became one with our humanity and this tells us about ourselves that we're made for him and our hearts will be restless until they rest in him. The birth of Christ tells us so much about our beings as human. It tells us that God wants to share his life with us completely. The very fact that God became flesh and dwelt among us tells us that God identifies with us in every way except sin. This means a lot to us because it tells us that we are infinitely loveable to God. As we contemplate now the Holy Family in Bethlehem and the birth of our Saviour, let us pray for all the families in our Archdiocese and especially for families we know that are facing difficulties. May they draw close to the Holy Family and may the presence of Christ, enliven their situations.

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The Fourth Joyful Mystery, The Presentation

Luke 2:22, 34, 35. *When the days of her purification were fulfilled they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord...Simeon blessed them and said to his Mother,*

"Behold, this child is destined for the fall and for the rise of many in Israel, and for a sign that shall be contradicted; and thy own soul a sword shall pierce."

Reflection: Mary, in the temple in Jerusalem, was the first to carry out this offering of Christ to the Father. By this action she acknowledged that the child she held in her arms belongs first and foremost to his Father. By presenting him, she offers everything about him, even his life. The Joyful moments in the Temple is contrasted with a glimpse of the Cross. This Child came into the world to give us joy, but this will happen only as a result of His cross and Passion.

In the presentation of the child Jesus, we too are presented to God. We are presented in some way also through the hands of his mother. She offers us who are members of Christ's body to God. Like Mary, who took Jesus in her arms to present Him to God, it is now the moment for us to entrust our lives, our families, our friends and our nation to Jesus through Mary. We consecrate ourselves to Jesus through Mary, so that she can guide and care for us as her little children.

Archbishop: 1 x Our Father, 10 x Hail Marys, 1 x Glory Be and 1 x Fatima Prayer.

Fifth Joyful Mystery, The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

Luke 2:46, 51. *After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions...And He returned with His parents to Nazareth, and was obedient to them.*

Reflection: In this mystery we see Mary and Joseph search for Christ, and finding him after three days. In a way, it indicates our inner search for meaning and purpose in life. We can only find this when our search for God is complete. However, in our sins, we go different directions, hoping to find God in material things, careers, money and worldly pleasures. The search for Christ took Mary and Joseph back to the temple where they found him. We need to go back to the temple where we would find him waiting for us. we would find Him in his word, we would find him in his teaching, and most especially, we would find him in the Eucharist where he comes to meet us in his body and blood.

Archbishop: 1 x Our Father, 10 x Hail Marys, 1 x Glory Be and 1 x Fatima Prayer.

Concluding Prayers

Archbishop: Hail, Holy Queen,

Others: Mother of Mercy, hail 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 vale of tears. Turn then, O most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus; O clement, O loving,

O sweet Virgin Mary.

Archbishop: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God....

Others:That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Archbishop: Let us pray....

Everyone: O God, whose only-begotten Son, by His life, death and resurrection has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life; grant, we beseech you, that meditating on these mysteries of the most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Archbishop: Prayer for Our Pope

May the Lord preserve our Holy Father, Pope Francis, give him life, and make him blessed upon earth, and deliver him not to the will of his enemies.

Let us pray....

Everyone: O God, the Shepherd and Ruler of all the faithful, in Thy Mercy look down upon Thy servant, Francis, whom Thou hast appointed to preside over Thy Church, and grant we beseech Thee that, both by word and example, he may edify those who are under his charge; so that, with the flock entrusted to him, he may attain life everlasting. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Archbishop: PRAYER FOR MARIAN YEAR IN NIGERIA

Everyone: Oh Our Lady, Queen and Mother of Nigeria we hail thee,
We come to your throne of grace seeking your face
In a special way in this year of our celebration
Of our National Marian Year and Centenary of Fatima
We come to you this year, Mother of the Holy Family
To intercede for our troubled families
We come to you, Help of Christians
To intercede for the persecuted Christians in Nigeria
We come to you Our Lady of Perpetual Help
To intercede for our Country and our leaders

We come to you especially, Our Lady of Fatima
In this Centenary of your appearance in Portugal
When you brought peace to that once troubled country
And as we mark that historic moment this year,
We beg of you to do the same in our country, Nigeria

Obtain for us that peace which can only come from Heaven

Peace in our hearts, homes, places of work and our nation
May the celebration of the Marian Year in Nigeria
And the eventual re-consecration of our country
To your Immaculate Heart, restore total peace

Oh Holy Mother of God and Mother of the Church,
With our hearts free from evil and hatred,
Make us able to bring to all others true joy and peace,
Which come to us from your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
Lives and reigns, forever and ever, Amen

Archbishop: May the divine assistance always remain with us..

Others: And may the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Archbishop: † In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.