Primary Year 1

Oct. **Gr. 1-3:** **THE HOLY ROSARY**

The Annunciation
+ a big rosary, if available
+ a rose

1. **Introduce yourself and Opening prayer:** (show the picture of the 2 hearts. Do you know who they are?
   The Immaculate Heart of **Mary** & The Sacred Heart of **Jesus**

2. **Theme:**
   Who can tell me why this month of October is so special? It is the month of the Rosary).Oct. 7 is the feast of **Our Lady of the Rosary** Can you say that? (Our Lady of…..) good. And do you know that Catholics all over the world try their best to pray the Rosary every day in October. What is Mother Mary's favorite prayer? (the rosary).

   What is the first sound in the word, Rosary? ..(rose) Yes. Look, I brought this to show you. What is it? Yes, **A rose**! When you give a rose to someone, what are you saying to them? (allow for answers) Yes, you are saying, "I love you." Like on Valentine's and Mother's day.

Guess what! If we say our **10 Hail Marys** today **with all our hearts**, it will be like giving Mother Mary10 beautiful roses and saying to her, **"I love you." 10 times** ! Wow! When we're finished all our prayers today, we will have A Garden of Roses to give to Jesus & Mary.

The Annunciation: can you say that? It means "to make an announcement"

MYSTERY

Who is in this picture?...yes, the angel Gabriel is telling Mary a message from God and asking her to be the mother of Jesus. What will she say?? Mary said **Yes,** I will do what God wants me to do! It was natural for Mary to say Yes to God, because ever since she was a little girl, she always tried her best to say Yes to whatever God wanted her to do.

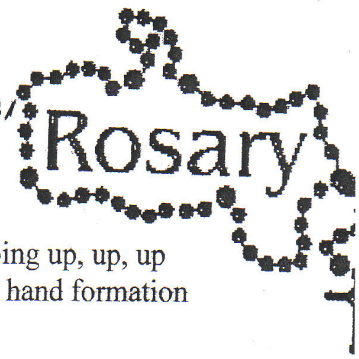
MESSAGE

How about us? What are we going to say to God today? **(yes)** will we try our very best to be kind and loving to everyone during this day? (yes) Let us pray and ask Mother Mary to help us practice saying **Yes to God every day**.

Let's think about this mystery of the Annunciation as we pray.

3. **THE ROSARY: Sign of the Cross & Pray 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's and 1 Glory Be**
   End with sign of the cross

4. **CLOSING PRAYER:** (students to repeat after you)
   Jesus and Mary I love you / and I offer you my heart / and my whole life /
   Mary, help me to love Jesus / as much as you do. / I place in both your hearts / my family, my school / my country and the whole world. /
   Bless us / and make us holy. / Amen.



5. **HYMN:** **"Queen of the Rosary"** **3x** ……with arm movements going up, up, up
   Pray, O, pray for me." **1x** ……coming down in "praying" hand formation
   (to tune of "Yes, Jesus loves me.")

YEAR 1 **Gr 1-3** November **THE VISITATION** **2nd Joyful M.**

1. **OPENING PRAYER**

2. **THEME: MYSTERY**

Who remembers how many Joyful Mysteries there are? Last month we heard the story of the first Joyful Mystery. Do you remember what it was called? (the Annunciation). Where do we find this story? (Bible)

Today I will tell you the story of the **second Joyful Mystery**, it is called **The Visitation .** Can we say it together? Good. The word Visitation means to visit. Someone will make a special visit to someone. Let's see who it is.
Who is in the picture? Where is Mary? Who is the other woman (Elizabeth her cousin). Elizabeth is also going to have a baby.

Mary quickly went to visit Elizabeth . How did she get there? (donkey ?) . It was not easy, but Mary did it because she loved Elizabeth and wanted to be a good cousin to her and help her get ready for the baby. When Elizabeth saw Mary coming, she said "the **infant leapt for joy,**"in her womb. And she declared to Mary, '**Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb."** Elizabeth was honored that she was being visited by the Mother of God.

MESSAGE:
From this mystery we can learn from Mary, that we too **should not hesitate to be helpful** to people who need help. When we do this, we show our love for them. Do you have someone in your family that isn't well and could use some company? .....that's the time to to go **visit and be kind and helpful**.
Would you like Mary to come and visit us right now? (yes) Well Mary promised every time that we pray the rosary, Mary will be really present among us. **So we ask Mary to visit US** now, to pray with us and to listen to our prayers. The best way to pray the rosary, is to think about Mary visiting Elizabeth with love.

3. **ROSARY:**
sign of the cross ..... I Our Father .... 10 Hail Mary's ..... 1 Glory Be.....sign of cross

4. **CLOSING PRAYER:** (students to repeat after the volunteer)
Jesus and Mary I love you / and I offer you my heart / and my whole life /
Mary, help me to love Jesus / as much as you do. / I place in both your hearts /
my family, my school / my country and the whole world. /
Bless us / and make us holy. / Amen.

5. **HYMN: "Mary visited Elizabeth 3x** .....with arm movements going up, up, up
And Mary thanked our God." 1x ..... coming down & crossing hands over heart.
To tune of Yes, Jesus loves me

YEAR 1 **Gr 1-3** December **THE NATIVITY**

Materials needed: picture of the Nativity, small Nativity scene with figurines.
Other option: dress some students in simple costumes.

1. **OPENING PRAYER**

2. **THEME: MYSTERY**

Together we tell the story of the **Third Joyful Mystery,** it is called **The Nativity.** Can you say that all together? Good! You will help me with the story. The word Nativity means, "**birth**". That means someone special is about to be born. (show picture). Who is it? What is happening in this picture? (show figure of Mary) Do you know who this is? Mary was getting ready to have her baby, (show Joseph figure) when Joseph said to Mary, "**Mary we need to go to Bethlehem** because the King wants to count all the people. Mary said "Let us go." When they arrived in Bethlehem the city was filled with people. Joseph knocked on the doors of many inns (hotels) **looking for a place to spend the night**. There was no room available. So where did they spend the night? (bring out stable). It looked something like this one. Who else lives in a stable? (Add figures of animals as they suggest them)

(Walk in figures of Mary & Joseph) So **Mary and Joseph went to the stable**. It was the perfect place for their donkey. But was it the best place for Mary to have her baby? (no) Why? (e.g. **cold, dirty, smelly** …) Sometimes we get upset when we do not get what we want. Mary and Joseph did not get upset but they believed that God would help them and **they made the best** out of the few things that they had in the stable. When the time came for Mary to give birth to her son, she wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger.

At a distance (show angel & shepherds figures) an angel came down from heaven to the shepherds watching their sheep in a field. Do you know what **great news the angel gave** them? "Today in the town of Bethlehem a **Savior** is born, **Christ the Lord!** You will find the Infant lying in a manger." Then many other angels came and began singing: (sing this with them 2x)

Glory to God in the highest
And peace to His people on earth

At once the **shepherds set out**. (Walk shepherd figures to the stable) when they arrived, they knelt down and **adored the Baby Jesus**. (Sing 2x the line "O come let us adore Him."They told Mary and Joseph what happened. – how an angel told them that this baby was our Savior. This made Mary very happy.

MESSAGE:
Jesus is a gift of love to US from God the Father. Remember that the biggest present we receive on Christmas day is **JESUS.**
Jesus came to earth born in a poor stable. Let us pray now for poor people everywhere and let us try our best to share our things with others in need. We think of the NATIVITY as we pray.

3. **ROSARY:** sign of the cross…1 Our Father…10 Hail Mary's …1 Glory Be….sign of the cross

4. **CLOSING PRAYER:** (students to repeat after the volunteer)

Jesus and Mary I love you / and I offer you my heart / and my whole life /
Mary, help me to love Jesus / as much as you do. / I place in both your hearts /
my family, my school / my country and the whole world. /
Bless us / and make us holy. Amen

OVER

YEAR 1 **Gr 1-3** JANUARY **THE PRESENTATION of JESUS** 4th Joyful

1. **OPENING PRAYER**

2. **THEME: MYSTERY**
Who remembers how many Joyful mysteries there are? (5, the same Number as the fingers in your hand). Do you remember what the first three Joyful Mysteries are called? (1. The Annunciation, 2. the Visitation 3. The Nativity).And where we can find these stories?(the bible).

Today I will tell you the story of the fourth Joyful Mystery. It is called **The Presentation.** Can we say that word all together? The word Presentation means to present , to offer, to show something. In this case, it is someone that will be presented….. Let us find out who? (**show picture**) . Who are the people in the picture? Where is Mary? Who will point to Joseph? **Mary and Joseph are presenting Baby Jesus to God in the temple**. It was the law of God to do this. It was like telling God the Father that Jesus belongs to Him.

Mary and Joseph are showing Jesus to this man ……who is he?..... **Simeon, the priest**. God the Holy Spirit had promised Simeon that he would see "The Messiah, Jesus Christ" before he died. And it came true. So Simeon was so happy when he saw Jesus that he took Jesus into his arms and **gave thanks to God** with all his heart; then **Simeon presented Jesus to God**. There is also Anna, the prophetess. (point to her in the picture). She also saw baby Jesus and she and Simeon were so excited about the birth of Jesus that they told everyone about it.

MESSAGE:
Just like Mary and Joseph, **did your parents present you to God** when you were a baby? Do you have pictures of that? What was the occasion called? (baptism). We should be like Simeon and Anna and be excited about our faith and love for Jesus that we received at our **Baptism** and we should try to share that faith and love with the people we know.

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The best way to pray the rosary now is to think about the Presentation of Jesus in the temple.

3. **ROSARY:**
sign of the cross …. I Our Father …10 Hail Mary's…. 1 Glory Be……sign of the cross

4. **CLOSING PRAYER:** (students to repeat after the volunteer)

Jesus and Mary I love you / and I offer you my heart / and my whole life /
Mary, help me to love Jesus / as much as you do. / I place in both your hearts /
my family, my school / my country and the whole world. /
Bless us / and make us holy. / Amen.

5. **HYMN:** to tune of "Ten little Indians" (One little, two little, three little Indians….)

1. **"Mary is the way, is the way to Jesus** — **3x …** arms movements going up,up,up
   Mary is the way to Our Lord, Jesus — **1x ….** coming down in praying hands
2. **Jesus is the way, is the way to the Father**
   Jesus is the way to God the Father."

Year 1 Feb **Gr 1-3:** **The FINDING of JESUS in the Temple** **5th Joyful Mystery**

1. **OPENING PRAYER:**

2. **THEME: THE MYSTERY**
This is the last Joyful Mystery. Do you remember how many we have done so far? Let us name them all. And the last one for today (the 5th one) is …And where can we find all these stories? Yes, Bible.

The story today is that Jesus got lost from his parents. Have you ever been lost or have you lost something….. How did you feel?..... Were you not worried? **Mary and Joseph were very worried** and they asked many people if they had seen Jesus after the festival in Jerusalem. They said no. They looked everywhere and finally they looked in the temple. There He was and Mary said to Jesus, "Your father and I have been looking for you for three days and have been very worried."

What do think Jesus was doing? **(Now show the picture)**. Who was he talking to?..... He was telling the priests and elders in the temple about God's Word. They were amazed at how much He knew. **They were asking Him hard questions about God** and Jesus was able to answer them. He said to His parents. "Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business.! His parents did not understand this. **Then He went home with Mary and Joseph and was obedient to them**.

MESSAGE:
You too should always be obedient to your parents, like Jesus. Always make sure that your parents are aware of where you are and what you are doing, no matter what good things you might be doing.

3. **ROSARY: The best way to pray the rosary is to think of this story while praying.**

Sign of the cross …. 1 Our Father …. 10 Hail Mary's …. 1 Glory Be Sign of the Cross

4. **CLOSING PRAYER:** (students repeat after you)

Jesus and Mary I love you / and I offer you my heart / and my whole life /
Mary, help me to love Jesus / as much as you do. / I place in both your hearts /
my family, my school / my country and the whole world. /
Bless us / and make us holy. / Amen.

5. **HYMN:** To tune of "Yes, Jesus loves me."

" Mary and Joseph found Jesus.	**3x**	With arm movements up, up, up
They found Him doing God's work."	**1x**	And down into praying hands.

YEAR 1 **Gr 1-3** MARCH **THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN** 1st Sorrowful

1. **OPENING PRAYER**

2. **THEME: MYSTERY**

Today we introduce the **SORROWFUL MYSTERIES** which tell of the sad times in Jesus' life. Sorrowful means Sad. Just like the 5 Joyful Mysteries, there are 5 **Sorrowful** mysteries.

In The FIRST Sorrowful Mystery, we find Jesus very sad in a Garden late at night praying. At first, some apostles were with Him, but they got so tired—WHAT DID THEY DO?..... (they fell asleep!) and Jesus said, "Can't you even stay awake with me for one hour? This made Him sad, but it's not the only thing that made Him sad.

He left the sleeping apostles and went further ahead **(Now SHOW THE PICTURE)** and what is He doing in the picture? Yes, you got it…..He is Kneeling & Praying. Have you ever said prayers in a garden? ….I have! I often pray my rosary in the backyard on a nice summer day.

Who is He praying to?..... His Father in heaven. He was asking His Father for help and strength and courage to be able to do the hard thing that was to come. This made Him sad too. That is why **this mystery is called the AGONY IN THE GARDEN**. Can you say that? Very good. Agony means Sad and very troubled.

MESSAGE:

At times when you are sad or afraid or feel alone and need help, who would you go to and ask for help and strength? (mom. dad….) But when they are not there-- do what Jesus did? What did Jesus do in this picture? (He asked God, the Father for help in prayer). So we can do that too.

3. **ROSARY:** So let's pray now that we will trust in God at all times that He will help us. Even though we don't see Him we know He is always with us.

sign of the cross …. 1 Our Father ……. 10 Hail Mary's ….. 1 Glory Be….sign of the cross

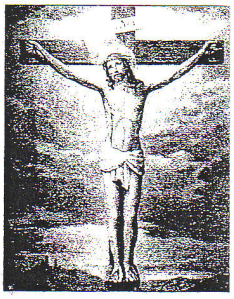
4. **CLOSING PRAYER:** (students to repeat after the volunteer)

Jesus and Mary I love you / and I offer you my heart / and my whole life /
Mary, help me to love Jesus / as much as you do. / I place in both your hearts /
my family, my school / my country and the whole world. /
Bless us / and make us holy. / Amen.

5. **HYMN:** **"O, how I Love Jesus 3x**
Because He first loved me. 1x
To tune of Yes, Jesus loves me.

(with arm movements up, up, up coming down into praying hands)

Year 1 Apr **Gr 1-3** **THE CRUCIFIXION** 5 th Sorrowful Mystery
+ small wooden crucifix (8-9 in.)



1. **OPENING PRAYER**

2. **THEME: Mystery**
Today we are learning about the 5th Sorrowful Mystery, it is called **The Crucifixion.** Can you say that?. Jesus loved us so much that He would do anything for us. That is why he willingly suffered and died on the cross. The cross is a **special sign** for us because it reminds us how Jesus proved to us that He really loves us.

Where do you see crosses? (in the classroom, at home, on the rosary, buildings, church …).
What should we remember whenever we look at a cross? (Jesus' great love for us)

MESSAGE:
What is the first thing we do whenever **we begin and end our prayers**? (make the sign of the cross).
Does anyone know why we make **the sign of the cross** when we pray? When we make the sign of the cross (do it with the children) it is an invisible cross. Now make the sign of the cross with the children again and and say: "this is what it means":

"God loves me from my head, to my heart
From this shoulder to this shoulder, and I love Him." (ending with praying hands)
Do it again!

Before you go to bed at night **your parents may BLESS YOU** by making the sign of the cross on your forehead. (demonstrate on a student saying: "In the name of ……") Then you can make a little cross on mom and dad's forehead too. (student can demonstrate on volunteer). This reminds us of the Cross of Jesus and His love for us. .

3. **ROSARY:** The best way to pray is to think about Jesus' great love for us, no matter what do. With crucifix in hand, make the sign of the cross…1 Our Father…10 Hail Marys 1Glory Be sign of cross

4. **CLOSING PRAYER:** repeat after me
Jesus and Mary I love you / and I offer you my heart / and my whole life /
Mary, help me to love Jesus / as much as you do. / I place in both your hearts /
my family, my school / my country and the whole world. /
Bless us / and make us holy. / Amen.

5. **HYMN** (volunteer)**"Jesus loves me, this I know**
For the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak and He is strong.
(children): Yes, Jesus loves me. 3x
The Bible tells me so. 1x

Jesus loves me, He who died
Heaven's gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin.
Let His little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me. 3x
The Bible tells me so. 1x

If your class is scheduled **after Easter**, consider doing The Resurrection theme.
Hymn: Jesus is risen 3x with arm movements up, up, up (as usual)
Alle…alle…uia ! 1x A Glorious Easter to all and Alleluia !

YEAR 1

May: Primary

OUR LADY OF LOURDES, 1858

5th Glorious mystery: THE CROWNING

Every year over 2 million people go to a place called LOURDES, in France and I'll tell you why! There lived a poor girl named Bernadette, she was 14 years old. She was the oldest of 6 children. Her parents were Francois and Louise. They were a poor family. Her father was out of work. Bernadette was often sick, suffering from Asthma.

Something very special happened to Bernadette on February 11, 1858. She went out with her sister Toinette and a friend named Jeanne. Toinette said, "Maman wants us to go and collect some wood for the fireplace." (In those days they used a fireplace to cook and to heat up their houses. They did not have a stove or furnace like us.) Jeanne said, "Look, across the river, there's lots of firewood there." So Toinette and Jeanne crossed right through the river, which wasn't deep, and began collecting some wood. "Wait," said Bernadette, "don't leave me alone, I don't want to get my feet wet, the water is very cold." So she sat down and began taking off her shoes.

Suddenly she heard a kind of rustling sound like a wind blowing. Then Bernadette looked up and in a grotto she saw a beautiful Lady, who was, she said: "Lovelier than I have ever seen." She was wearing a long white dress with a blue belt around her waist. On top of each of her feet was a pale yellow rose, the same color as her rosary beads. Bernadette rubbed her eyes making sure she was not seeing things, then she pulled out her rosary. The Lady made the SIGN OF THE CROSS and Bernadette did the same and Bernadette began to pray:

r voice
des out.

"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou....." At the same time, the Lady let her beads slip through her fingers, without moving her lips. When Bernadette stopped praying, the Lady immediately vanished. This was the first of 18 times that she saw the Lady, Mother Mary, from Feb. 11- July 16.

Bernadette was so happy. She crossed over the river and asked her two companions: "Did you notice anything?" But they answered, "No, what were you doing there?" So she told them, "I saw a beautiful lady wearing a white dress, but I don't know who she was. Don't say anything about it to anyone." The two girls picked up their sticks and said, "you're silly!" and they went home.

At first, no one believed Bernadette's story, even her mother told her not to visit the site again. Bernadette obeyed her mother. A few days later, some friends asked Bernadette's mother if she could go back to the grotto with them, Then her mother gave permission. Bernadette always obeyed her parents!

The news spread quickly that there was a girl seeing visions of Mother Mary at the Grotto. People from everywhere gathered at that spot. At one time there was nearly 20,000 people present, but no one could see or hear Mary, only Bernadette.

The third time she went to the grotto, the Lady asked her, " Will you come everyday for 15 days?" Bernadette replied, "Yes, I will." Mary told her many things: "Pray the rosary everyday. Especially pray for sinners and do penance." She also gave Bernadette a message to give to the PRIEST: "I wish a chapel to be built on this spot and I want people to come in processions to the grotto."

It was on the 25th of February, 1858 that the Lady asked Bernadette to do something extraordinary. She said, " Go and drink from the stream." At first Bernadette went to the river because this was the only stream she could see. But then Mary, pointing to a little trickle of water close to the grotto, said, " Go, there." But when Bernadette got to it, she could only find a few drops, mostly mud. So she started to scrape the ground until she found enough water to drink. The Lady then vanished and Bernadette went back home....but soon MIRACLES began to happen !

A blind man came to the grotto and washed his face with that water, suddenly he could see: He

shouted, "I can see again!" This was the first of many miracles that would happen through that water. Soon that little bit of water became a big stream that they built a wall around it. People came from everywhere to wash themselves in this water and fill bottles to take to sick people.

Finally on March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, the Lady told her name. With outstretched arms and eyes looking up to heaven, Mary said, "I AM THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION." Bernadette didn't know what these words meant, but she very carefully repeated them to herself so that she would remember them correctly: "I am the Immaculate Conception," (she repeats 2 more times) She went straight to the priest's house and told him these words: "The Lady said I am the Immaculate Conception."

The priest knew exactly what they meant, and he exclaimed, " This Lady is the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD. Now I believe" he said. This is why every year, over 2 million people go to a place called Lourdes, this is why we call her: (all children say together): " OUR LADY OF LOURDES. "

Bernadette's

(Feast day: Feb. 11—canonized by Pope Pius XI on Dec. 8, 1933) THE END

(Tell the story in 10-12 minutes)

Please do not read.

THE 5TH GLORIOUS MYSTERY THE CORONATION (show picture) MAY

As we pray our rosary, let us think about Jesus and the angels crowning Mary, Queen.....(Heaven) and Queen of the .....(World). God was so happy with Mary because she really lived what the Bible says so perfectly all her life! So He thanked Mary by crowning her the Queen. Do you think God will be happy with us too when we go to heaven?... Yes, because we are trying to live perfectly too, by being....(obedient, kind, forgiving...) Mary has already been crowned by Jesus, but we can **crown her today** too....with our Love, our prayers and these flowers. (student crowns Mary)

3. Now let's begin **the Rosary** and think about this mystery.
4. & 5. **Hymn**: O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today (repeat these 2 lines as many times
   Queen of the angels, Queen of the World. as needed)

directions – page 2 →

END-OF-YEAR NOTES: VOLUNTEERS, please collect all your rosaries and/or do as your leader wishes. In October, recount & label according to the new timetable.

Remember to inquire about the Appreciation Mass at the end of May and the date of the first October meeting (usually the first Monday @ 1pm. At St. George Parish for ALL.
God Bless your summer!

OPTIONS FOR PRIMARY CLASSES ---------- MAY CELEBRATION

*1. Ask to **join the gr. 4-8 power point presentations** at the May assembly where primary students could be given a task, ie Lead the first decade, bring up flowers, crowning Mary. So speak with your rep, so you are not left out.

NOTE: Praying the Rosary with lots of **participation at the assembly**, especially for your primary students, is enhanced with **singing "Ave"** between decades and getting the assembly of students to **raise their rosaries up high** while singing the "Ave." This provides lots of interest, and hands-on for all levels.

Also reading the story with lots of expression and animation is crucial to maintain their attention.

2. Otherwise, **All primary classes could be combined** and volunteers organize their own separate assembly in a large space--with props and actors in costume role-playing/miming the story. Volunteer or teacher narrates and the 5-steps of a rosary visit are all included. Assign tasks to all primary volunteers. **Ask Rosemarie about availability of costumes & props.**

OVER →

3. **In-class presentations of two classes**, if space allows, (30 min. max.) Volunteer narrates story, preferably with at least one child in costume ie. Mother Mary (may bring their own costume) and be given lines to say or read. A play-format is always more memorable.

With this option, you will have to be more brief in reading or telling the story in your own words, because you also need time to pray a decade of the rosary and to complete the 5-steps of a rosary visit as usual..

***At the very least, if a volunteer has 3 classes, she could either find a room to accommodate 3 classes safely for one unrushed 30- minute presentation OR do 2 presentations (2 + 1)**Give a copy of the story to the teachers and Get their advice and assistance**.

4. The least preferred option is to do a 20-minute visit in each class—requiring an extremely brief story-telling and managing to complete all 5-steps of a regular visit in an unrushed manner.