

Pray the World Mission Rosary!

What is the World Mission Rosary?

The World Mission Rosary was envisioned by Archbishop John Fulton Sheen, then the national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, in 1951. He made the request on a radio show that his listeners "Embrace the world in prayer." To do so he introduced this Rosary.

Its uniqueness is in the five colors represented in each of the decades. Color symbolism in a rosary is a gentle reminder on which to focus our prayers.

This rosary honors the work of mission, our call to be missionaries, and world unity and peace through its special emphasis on each of the Earth's regions, where prayers are needed and our brothers and sisters in Christ live and play and pray just like each of us! Each region is represented by a different color; it is not only a beautiful rosary, but rich in symbolism.



**What are the colors/regions of the Mission Rosary?

- **Green** - for the forests and grasslands of **Africa** (green is also a sacred color for the Muslims)
- **Red** - calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the **Americas** (US, Canada, Latin America and Native Americans)
- **White** - symbolizing **Europe**, the home of the Holy Father
- **Blue** - for the ocean surrounding the **Islands of the Pacific** (Australia/Oceania)
- **Yellow** - symbolizing the morning light of the East and 'beginning of civilization' for **Asia/ Middle East**

***Note: These colors do not need to go in any particular order in the making of the Rosary; it is the colors, not the order that is of significance and makes this Rosary experience special!*

How do you pray the Mission Rosary?

The Mission Rosary can be prayed in the same way that you would pray any other Rosary, be that in a group, with your family or individually. Begin by praying the Creed, the LORD's Prayer, 3 Hail Mary's and the Glory Be, followed by whichever mysteries you choose to pray at the time and their corresponding prayers for each decade. As you do so, simply keep in mind the area and other people of the world that each decade's color represents, and perhaps offer a special petition relating to that region after you announce the mystery.

The Mission Rosary can also be prayed in an extra special way, using the "**Mission Mysteries**" developed by Maryknoll's mission organization. These mysteries are:

- The 1st Mission Mystery: **The visit of the Magi** (Matthew 2:1,11)
- The 2nd Mission Mystery: **Jesus talks with the Samaritan woman** (John 4:28)
- The 3rd Mission Mystery: **Jesus cures the centurion's servant** (Luke 7:2)
- The 4th Mission Mystery: **The conversion of Paul** (Acts 9:20)
- The 5th Mission Mystery: **Jesus sends out His disciples** (Mark 16:15)

You can purchase Rosary supplies, including World Mission Rosary kits, online or via telephone from Our Lady's Rosary Makers in Kentucky; visit their website: www.olrm.org Their website also has information on how to make Rosaries.