

OF THIS CHRISTO-CENTRIC ECUMENICAL ROSARY'S 21 MEDITATION/MYSTRIES, 20 SCRIPTURALLY CONNECT TO JESUS

Gabriel announces
the Incarnation
-- Luke 1:26-38

Elizabeth calls Mary
"Mother of my Lord"
-- Luke 1:39 - 45

Nativity of Jesus
in Bethlehem
-- Luke 2:4 -18

Holy Family's
flight into Egypt
-- Matt. 2:1 – 18

Presentation of
Jesus in the Temple
-- Luke 2: 22-35

Finding Boy Jesus
in the Temple
-- Luke 2:41-50

The Baptism
of Jesus
-- Luke 1:9 - 11

Jesus changes
water into wine
-- John 2:3 -18

Jesus proclaims
Kingdom of God
-- Matt. 2:3 – 5

Transfiguration
of Jesus
-- Matt. 17:1 – 8

Jesus institutes
the Eucharist
- Luke 22: 19-20

Jesus' agony
in the garden
-- Luke 22:39-45

Jesus' scourging
at the pillar
-- Luke 1:9 - 11

Jesus crowned
with thorns
- Matt. 27: 27 - 31

Jesus carries
the cross
-- Matt. 2:3– 5

Jesus crucified
--*John* 19: 26-30

Resurrection
of Jesus
- *Mark* 16: 9-14

His Ascension
-- *Acts* 1:3-9

Advocate Jesus
promised, comes
- *Acts* 1:12, 2:1-4

Heavenly Queen,
Son Jesus seen
In *Revelation*
--11: 19; 12:1-17

THE MEDITATION/MYSTERY OF MARY'S ASSUMPTION

Belief in Mary's Assumption, body and soul into Heaven, rests primarily on Apostolic Tradition and early Christian awareness of Old Testament references and beliefs held by many in BCE Judaism that Enoch, Elijah, and Moses each experienced having been "taken up" or "knew not death." Paul's Epistle passages reflect those beliefs. Early, many saw such for her as fitting.

Given that background, the inclusion of this standard Rosary meditation/mystery in our Ecumenical arrangement provides participants planning these intra-faith events an opportunity to explore and earnestly share their faith understanding of Mary's status as they work out whether to pair that meditation/ mystery with an alternate; e.g. the Byzantine 'Holy Family Flight to Egypt.'

OUR ROSARY INCLUDES BYZANTINE *FLIGHT INTO EGYPT* 'REMEMBRANCE'



Eastern church tradition has the Mother of God teaching a Coptic monk in the 8th Century the Rule of the Theotokos (God bearer), very similar to the Rosary which

evolved in the Western church. Seraphim of Sarov, the renowned 18th/19th Century Orthodox saint, revived interest in the Rule (Rosary) among many Eastern Christians, including Byzantine rite adherents. Its Meditation/Mysteries, titled Remembrances, closely match the Rosary's, but one not on the latter's list is the *Flight to Egypt* (Matt., Ch. 2) which also recalls the magi's visit to the New King, presenting gold, myrrh and frankincense.



THE 21 MYSTERIES/MEDITATIONS OFFERED TO STIMULATE PARTICIPANTS' OWN CONTEMPLATIONS ACCOMPANYING RECITATIONS OF THE PRAYER DECADES

R = Roman (Western) quote source B = Byzantine (Eastern) quote source

Annunciation. “Today is the dawn of our Salvation ... We cry out with angel Gabriel to Mary, Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with Thee.” B



Nativity. “The Star of the Wise Men announces, and angels sing with the shepherds of your spotless Motherhood, O Highly Favored One.” B

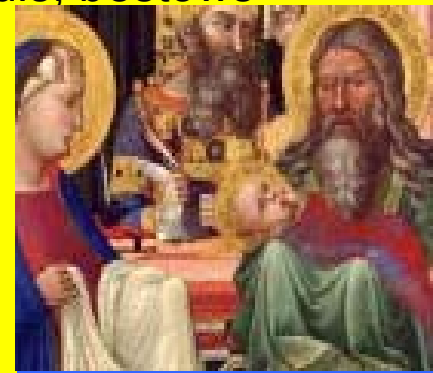


Visitation. “Elizabeth bears the herald of God’s Grace, Our Lady bears the Christ, the King of Glory. The mothers embrace and the child leaps for joy.” B

Presentation. “Rejoice, wise Simeon, for in your arms you have held the Lord who redeems our souls, bestows Resurrection.” B



Flight Into Egypt. “As we reflect on the Holy Family fleeing Herod, be alert. Who are holy families today in your midst fleeing from perils and needing help along the way? You may encounter them when you least expect it.” B



THE 21 MYSTERIES/MEDITATIONS OFFERED TO STIMULATE PARTICIPANTS' OWN CONTEMPLATIONS ACCOMPANYING RECITATIONS OF THE PRAYER DECADES

R = Roman (Western) quote source B = Byzantine (Eastern) quote source

Finding Boy Jesus in the Temple. “Imagine the distress the afflicted mother felt those 3 days searching for her beloved Son; had she failed Him?” R



Jesus Baptism. “To Jordan came our Lord, To do God’s pleasure willing, Was there by Saint John baptized, all righteousness fulfilling.” Lutheran Hymn



Jesus Proclaims Kingdom of God. St. Augustine views Christ’s “Sermon on the Mount’ as giving us a “perfect pattern for Christian life.’

Cana Water/Wine St. Augustine notes Providentially provided processes turning rain water into wine lose their wonder by their constant repetition.



Transfiguration. Saint Augustine notes Peter wanted to set up three tabernacles, one each for Moses, Elijah and Jesus. But a cloud instead made, as it were, “one tabernacle,” for only Jesus remains after the Law and the Prophecies.



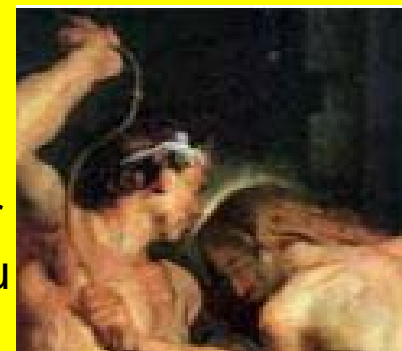
THE 21 MYSTERIES/MEDITATIONS OFFERED TO STIMULATE PARTICIPANTS' OWN CONTEMPLATIONS ACCOMPANYING RECITATIONS OF THE PRAYER DECADES

R = Roman (Western) quote source B = Byzantine (Eastern) quote source



Institutes the Eucharist. Augustine says “Recognize in the bread what hung on the cross, and in the cup what flowed from his side.”

Scourging. “You bore Your Passion in Your Own Body to free us from our passions, . . . out love for us” B



Crown of Thorns.

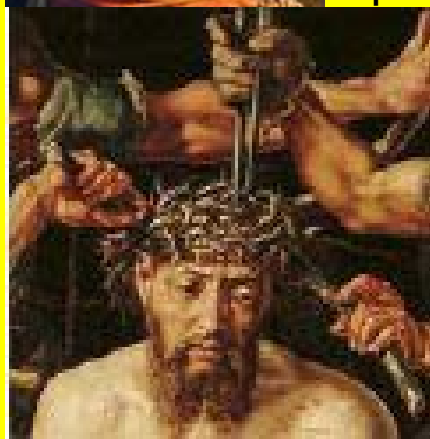
“The King of Angels is crowned with thorns. He who clothed the sky is mocked with a purple cloak.” B .



Garden Agony. “The hour has come when Christ will be seized, handed over to death. You will desert but I gather you up again to proclaim My love to all.” B .

Carrying the Cross.

“The Virgin Mary watched her Lamb led to slaughter. . . God, Your Son, spurned and broken, carried His cross to Golgotha.” B



THE 21 MYSTERIES/MEDITATIONS OFFERED TO STIMULATE PARTICIPANTS' OWN CONTEMPLATIONS WITH THE PRAYER DECADES

R = Roman (Western) quote source

B = Byzantine (Eastern) quote source

Crucifixion. “Born of the Virgin,
You have suffered for us death of
the Cross, and through Your Death
have conquered Death and shown
us Your Resurrection” B



Resurrection. “Descended to the
grave, O Immortal One, You
crushed the power of Hell and rose
triumphant, Christ our God.” B



THE 21 MYSTERIES/MEDITATIONS OFFERED TO STIMULATE PARTICIPANTS' OWN CONTEMPLATIONS WITH THE PRAYER DECADES

R = Roman (Western) quote source

B = Byzantine (Eastern) quote source

The Ascension. “You united us earthly creatures with the heavenly spirits, and were then taken up into glory without taking even one step away from us” B



Pentecost. “Once the Almighty descended to confound tongues and scatter nations. Now He sends tongues of fire to summon all to unity.” B



The Assumption . “He who once dwelt in her virginal womb has now taken her up to Eternal life, she who is the Mother of Life.” B



Queen of Heaven.

“Your womb became His (the God child’s) throne, which He has set high above the Heavens.” B

