

HISTORIES OF ROSARIES



Some Light on the Luminous Mysteries

... [Fr.] Ġorġ Preca did everything he could so more people come to love the Holy Rosary. He passionately repeated on end that, “*every day the Virgin Mary waits for us until midnight to recite the Rosary.*”

In 1957, Fr. Ġorġ wrote the five “Mysteries of Light”. What stirred him was John 8:12 “*The light of the world.*” [Ġorġ] had concluded that the

Rosary had a missing link – the public ministry of the Lord. Fr. Preca . . . relished praying these ‘new’ mysteries and contemplating the Lord, who is “the Light of the world.”

On 16th February 2002, the 25th anniversary of his pontificate, Pope St. John Paul II publishing an Apostolic Letter titled *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*(RVM), in which he inaugurated the Year of the Rosary (from October 2002 to October 2003). In this document, His Holiness also introduced the five new Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.

These new Mysteries delve into the public life of Our Lord. This addition to the Holy Rosary, which was unchanged for over 400 years, attracted huge interest and intense debate. . . . the media were quasi-entirely focused on the Mysteries of Light. Indeed, journalists from all corners of the world, Catholics and non-Catholics . . . [they] took the opportunity to highlight that the Pope could have been inspired by the work of a Maltese priest – whom he himself had declared Blessed a few months before, in 2001 – Blessed Ġorġ Preca.

. . . is not known whether St. John Paul II’s mysteries were actually inspired by Dun Ġorġ’s work, but the striking similarity (with the exception of a few minor differences), between these two Mysteries, conceived 45 years apart, does trigger significant inquisitiveness. Interesting as well are the almost identical titles. If this inspiration occurred, various suggestions have been put forward; on how His Holiness might have come across St. George’s work. Well, one thing is for certain – God works in mysterious ways – and nothing is impossible for God. Perhaps both saints were divinely and separately inspired to help people contemplate the public ministry of His only begotten Son Jesus Christ. Dun Ġorġ’s Mysteries of Light became “public property” after two publications, one in 1973 and the other in 1987. Following are the Mysteries of Light by Fr Preca, and by the Pope:

St.Ġorġ Preca’s work:



1. After Jesus was baptised in the Jordan, he was taken to the desert.
2. Jesus reveals himself as true God by word and miracles.
3. Jesus teaches the Beatitudes on the mountain.

4. Jesus is transfigured on the mountain.
5. Jesus takes his last supper with the Apostles.

St. Pope John Paul II's work:

1. Jesus is Baptised in the Jordan;
2. Jesus reveals Himself through the miracle of the wine at the wedding at Cana;
3. Jesus proclaims the Kingdom of God;
4. Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor;
5. Jesus institutes the Eucharist.

[The full article -- from which the above excerpt was extracted -- can be found on the excellent Aleteia website.]

  <https://aleteia.org/2020/12/08/meet-saint-gorg-preca-the-maltese-apostle-of-the-word/>

Light on Rosary's Luminous Mysteries.
Excerpted from longer article on --> Aleteia

Meet Saint Ġorġ Preca, the
Maltese Apostle of the Word,
through Mary