WHAT IS THE ROSARY CONFRATERNITY?

The Rosary Confraternity of the Catholic Church is a spiritual association, the members of which strive to pray the entire Rosary during the course of each week. They form a union of countless hundreds of thousands of the faithful throughout the world who, along with their own intentions, include the intentions and needs of all other members of the Rosary Confraternity both living and dead.

Since Pope St. John Paul II added the five luminous mysteries, it would seem that members of the Confraternity should strive to include that extra weekly Rosary. However, we have received no official statement regarding this matter. Those who recite only the fifteen traditional mysteries will continue to share in the benefits of the Confraternity until an official source declares the contrary.

As Pope Leo XIII said in his apostolic constitution on the Confraternity, “whenever a person fulfills his obligation of reciting the Rosary according to the rule of the Confraternity, he includes in his intentions all its members, and they in turn render him the same service many times over.” (Ubi Primum, 1898 n1)

Each member includes deceased fellow members as well; and thus he knows that in turn he will be included in the prayers of hundreds of thousands both now and hereafter. This led the Cure of Ars to say: “If anyone has the happiness of being in the Confraternity of the Rosary, he has in all corners of the world brothers and sisters who pray for him.” The deceased cannot be enrolled in the Confraternity.

OBLIGATIONS

Each member strives to pray fifteen mysteries of the Rosary each week (this does not bind under sin), and must have his/her name inscribed in the register of the Confraternity.

BENEFITS

1. The special protection of the mother of God.
2. A share in the prayer of countless thousands of members the world over, and this even after death.
3. A share in the prayers, Masses and apostolic works of the entire Dominican Order.
4. The intercession of the entire heavenly court.
5. Various plenary and partial indulgences.
6. Six times a year the Rosary Center publication THE ROSARY LIGHT AND LIFE is sent to those members who wish it. Its purpose is to provide sound doctrine and spiritual guidance for readers everywhere.
INDULGENCES IN GENERAL

1. An indulgence is the cancellation of temporal punishment due for sin, when the sin’s guilt has already been pardoned.

2. An indulgence is **partial** if it frees the Christian partially from the temporal punishment due for his sins, **plenary** if it frees him wholly.

3. Both partial and plenary indulgences can always be applied to the dead, but only by way of suffrage.

4. Since the Apostolic Constitution of Pope Paul VI on Indulgences, a partial indulgence is no longer expressed in reference to time, i.e. days or years.

5. A plenary indulgence can be gained only once a day, except by those on the threshold of death.

6. To gain a plenary indulgence the person must perform the indulgenced act, and satisfy these conditions: Sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, prayer for the Pope’s intention, and freedom from all attachment to sin, even venial sin. If this detachment is not present, or if any of the above conditions are not fulfilled, the indulgence is partial.

ROSARY INDULGENCES

1. For members of the Rosary Confraternity, a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, is granted:

   a) on the day of enrollment. (When application is made, a certificate of membership is sent, indicating the day of the enrollment.)

   b) on the following feast days: Christmas, Easter, Annunciation, Purification, Assumption, Our Lady of the Rosary, and Immaculate Conception.

2. For those who pray the Rosary, a plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions, when the Rosary is prayed in Church, or in a Public Oratory, in a family (family Rosary), Religious Community, or Pious Association. Otherwise a partial indulgence is granted.

CONFRATERNITY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY
(An Archconfraternity)

A World-Wide Movement of Prayer
Entrusted to the DOMINICAN ORDER
by the HOLY SEE
More than 500 Years Ago.

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