

The Assumption of Mary

Even though we should all have a personal relationship with Christ, it cannot be only “Jesus & me”, it must be “Jesus & we.”

Mary had the most personal relationship with Jesus but she knew that He was not there for her alone. She knew that He was there to save her family, “*the rest of her offspring**” as well.

No one, not even Mary, can get to Heaven on their own. We need others, we need family. This is God’s design, His plan from the beginning.

As Jesus reached out to bring the Blessed Mother into Heaven, let us reach out and bring others into our domestic family, parish family, or Catholic (universal) family. They need us and we need them.

*Revelation 12:17

“We are not made to be alone. Human beings need and complete each other. Friendship and community satisfy that longing with bonds of common interest and love.” LIOM #53

The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven & Earth

My grandmother always wanted all of her kids to be present for holidays, birthdays, and other special events. It was her motherly love that in a very real way pulled her children back to her for these times of family togetherness.

We see this same motherly love in Mary. She too wants all of her children to come home to Heaven. She too is “pulling” for our family to make it “home” to be with her and her Son, and all of our brothers and sisters.

During this mystery, let us pray that our earthly family will one day be together at home in the Kingdom with Jesus as our King and Mary as our Queen along with all of the saints and angels, our family.

“The family, in which the various generations come together and help one another grow wiser and harmonize personal rights with the other requirements of social life, is the very foundation of society.” LIOM #139

The Glorious Mysteries of the Family



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Meditations from the book—

Rosary Meditations for the Family

The Resurrection

Various members of my family have traced our ancestry back for generations to Germany and Ireland. Along those paths there have been bankers, merchants, farmers, coal miners, and inventors. There have also been sinners and saints.

No family is perfect. Regardless of our current family situation or family history, the Mystery of the Resurrection should give us hope.

It should give us hope that Jesus can take what is scarred, hurting, or broken in our family, and make it new. It should give us hope that He can breath new life into the darkest times in our family. He can make all things new, this is what He wants to do.

“...we trust that no matter what trials we face or wounds we inflict upon ourselves and others, God is faithful. His passion, crucifixion, and resurrection are the decisive evidence that he will not depart from his covenant. LIOM (Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive) Summary Statement

The Ascension

Recently my wife’s parents rented a nice place on the beach for us in Florida. Everything was set up and ready to go, all we had to do was get there, from Ohio.

As you can imagine, this 1000 mile trip is full of stops, detours, restlessness, frustration, and aching backs. When we arrived at our destination, all of that faded into the background.

The Ascension reminds us that Jesus has gone to prepare a place for our family in Heaven. We just have to get there.

There will be pain, suffering, detours, and frustration along the way but it will be worth it.

May this mystery of the Ascension encourage our family to keep our eyes on Heaven as we journey towards our true home.

“In Christ, God himself wishes to share this path with us and to offer us his gaze so that we might see the light within it. Chris is the one who, having endured suffering, is the “pioneer and perfecter of our faith.” LIOM #9

The Descent of the

Holy Spirit

Too often in our family we neglect to call upon the Holy Spirit for help, guidance, and power. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to lead our family into truth, yet we seldom invoke His divine outpouring upon our family.

During this mystery of the rosary, let us invite the Holy Spirit to descend upon our family as He descended upon Mary and the Apostles.

Into our family, come Holy Spirit

Into our home, come Holy Spirit

Into our struggles, come Holy Spirit

Into our joys, come Holy Spirit

Into our finances, come Holy Spirit

Into our work, come Holy Spirit

Into our bodies, come Holy Spirit

Into our technology, come Holy Spirit

Into our hearts, come Holy Spirit

Into our....., come Holy Spirit

“Any encounter with Christ brings healing to fallen humanity, and the Holy Spirit can always be invited into our hearts to enable repentance and conversion.” LIOM # 155