

THE ROSARY IS THE WEAPON

WHY THE ROSARY?



Many great things have been said of the Holy Rosary by saints, popes, theologians and even devils. St. Padre Pio used to call the Rosary “*the weapon*.” Pope Pius IX said: “*I could conquer the world if I had an army to say the Rosary*” (Legion of Mary Handbook, chap.14). Pope Leo XIII speaks along the same lines, saying: “*The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying.*” Pope Pius IX testifies that: “*Among all the devotions approved by the Church, none has been so favored by so many miracles as the Rosary devotion.*” St. Louis de Montfort speaks of the “*true disciples of Jesus Christ, walking ...according to the Holy Gospel and not according to the maxims of the world... They shall carry on their shoulders the bloody standard of the Cross, the Crucifix in their right hand and the Rosary in their left, the sacred Names of Jesus and Mary in their hearts...*” (True Devotion, §59). That is why Our Lady, in this ‘Age of Mary’, has insisted upon the Rosary so much.

VICTORIES BROUGHT BY THE ROSARY

LEPANTO IN OCTOBER, 1571—When the Turks were over-running Europe in the name of Islam and were threatening to destroy Christianity, Pope Pius V organized a Rosary Crusade. He asked Catholics everywhere to pray the Rosary. Christian soldiers carried swords in one hand and Rosaries in the other. On October 7th, the Christian fleet, even though they were heavily outnumbered, defeated the Turks at the Battle of Lepanto.

HIROSHIMA AUGUST 6, 1945—An atom bomb was dropped killing 200,000. Among the survivors were four Jesuit priests. They were unharmed by the blast, heat, and radiation, and survived in a rectory, next to Church that was completely destroyed by the blast. They were only 8 blocks from ground zero. They attribute their survival to Our Lady, because they were living the message of Our Lady of Fatima, praying the Rosary daily and fulfilling her other requests. Some 200 scientists have examined the priests, trying to determine why they were unharmed. Speaking on American TV, the German Jesuit Father Hubert Shiffner gave the startling answer: “*In that house, the Rosary was prayed every day. In that house we were living the Message of Fatima,*” he said. His words seemed to repeat the essence of Sister Lucy’s statement in 1977: “*Our Lady will protect all her dear ones.*”

AUSTRIA 1955—After Russia invaded Austria, at Our Lady’s request—who promised to remove the Russian invaders without a shot being fired if people prayed the Rosary—approximately 10% of the population prayed the Rosary each day in the churches. Unlike Spain—which had

to fight a bloody civil war under General Franco from 1936 to 1939, in which over a million people were killed, in order to drive out Communism—Austria was spared such horrors because of the Rosary.

BRAZIL 1964—was on the verge of being completely taken over by Communism in their government. A demonstration was organized, and over 600,000 people marched through downtown São Paulo on March 19th, 1964, praying the Rosary and other prayers—in what they called “*The March of the Family with God towards Freedom*” By April 1st, the Communist leaders had fled the country. On April 2nd, the women of Rio de Janeiro led a “*March of Thanksgiving to God*” in which a million people marched through the streets.

THE POPES ON THE ROSARY

POPE PIUS IX—When a visitor was being shown the priceless collection of treasures in the Vatican, he asked the Pope what was the greatest treasure in the coffers of the Vatican. He was thinking of the many jeweled gold chalices, the art collections of some of the world’s greatest artists, etc. The Pope reached into his pocket and pulled out his Rosary beads, saying: “*This is the greatest treasure that the Church has in its possession.*”

POPE PIUS XI—“*The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin...It serves admirably to overcome the enemies of God and of religion.*”

POPE LEO XIII—“*Among the different ways of praying, there is none more excellent than the Rosary. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying...May the Christian nations cling more and more to the practice of the Rosary, to which our ancestors had recourse as an ever-ready refuge in misfortune.*”

POPE ST. PIUS X—“*Of all prayers the Rosary is the most beautiful and the richest in graces; of all it is the one which is most pleasing to Mary, the Virgin Most Holy. Therefore, love the Rosary and recite it every day with devotion: this is the testament which I leave unto you so that you may remember me by it.*”

POPE PIUS IX—“*Among all the devotions approved by the Church, none has been so favored by so many miracles as the Rosary devotion.*”

POPE LEO X—said that the Rosary “*was instituted to oppose pernicious heresiarchs and heresies.*”

POPE PIUS IX—“*Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world.*”



OUR LADY WANTS THE ROSARY

FATIMA, 1917—When Our Lady appeared each month to the three children at Fatima, from May 1917 to October 1917, at each an every apparition she always asked that the Rosary be prayed daily.

“*Pray the Rosary every day, in order to obtain peace for the world, and the end of the war.*” (May 13, 1917)

“*I wish you to come here on the 13th of next month, to pray the Rosary each day.*” (June 13, 1917)

“*Continue praying the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, in order to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war, because only she can help you.*” (July 13, 1917)

“*I want you to continue praying the Rosary every day.*” (August 19, 1917)

“*Continue to say the Rosary to obtain the end of the war.*” (September 13, 1917)

“*I am Our Lady of the Rosary. Continue to say the Rosary every day.*” (October 13, 1917)

At the first apparition she said that the little innocent, 8 year old boy, Francisco, would not go to Heaven until he had prayed MANY Rosaries! How many should we be saying!

SISTER LUCY OF FATIMA SPEAKS ON THE ROSARY

“*The Most Holy Virgin, in these last times in which we live, has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the Rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all, spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families, of the families of the world, or of the religious communities, or even of the life of peoples and nations, that cannot be solved by the Rosary. There is no problem I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary. With the Holy Rosary, we will save ourselves, we will sanctify ourselves, we will console Our Lord and obtain the salvation of many souls.*”

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As St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina said: “*The Rosary is the weapon!*” But a weapon is only as good as the one using it! If we have a weapon and do not use it in danger, we will be lost. If we have a weapon, and don’t know how to best use it, we will be in grave danger. If we have a weapon, use it, but use it badly, then we will also be lost. The best gun marksmen or snipers, are those who practice regularly and seriously. We see the same to be true of David in the Old Testament, who practiced with his sling and shot regularly. When he met Goliath, he knew what to do! Let that be your approach to the Holy Rosary. Use it regularly and pray it seriously. Then, when the time comes for battle, you will win and not lose!