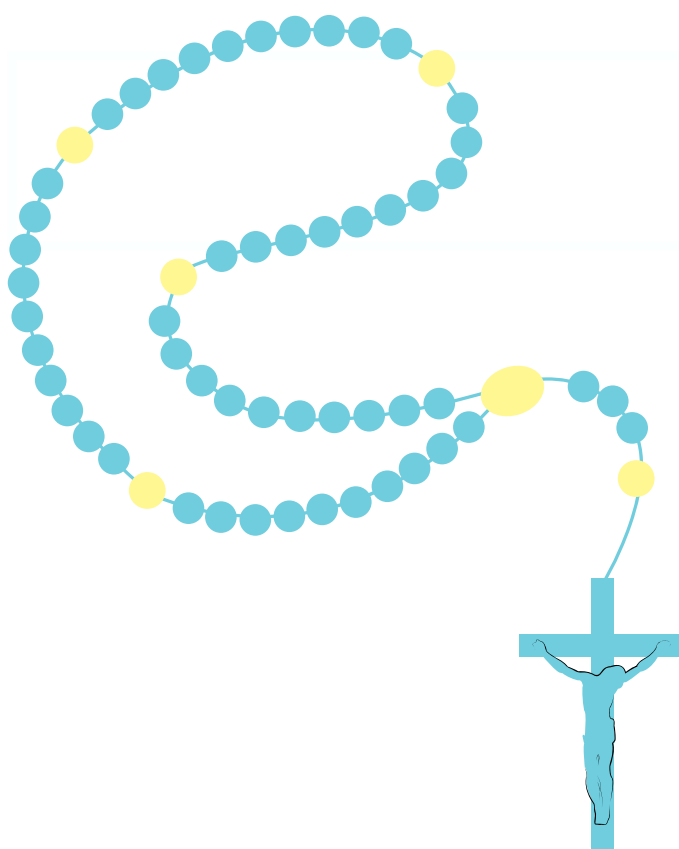




The ACN 'One Million Children' Praying the Rosary for Peace'





When one million children pray the Rosary, Heaven listens!

Dear families, teachers and friends,

As we read in the Gospel of John, in His farewell discourses, Jesus gave His disciples - and thus also the Church today - several instructions for the time between His Ascension and His return at the end of time. Among other things, he says: *"In the world you will have trouble but take courage; I have conquered the world"* (John 16:33). In many countries we encounter these two fundamental experiences: real tribulation and extraordinary consolation, often experienced and witnessed as a fruit of prayer.

With this in mind, we invite you to join our worldwide prayer campaign on the Feast of the Holy Rosary (7 October), during the first week of October:

"One Million Children Praying the Rosary"
united by this simple yet powerful prayer for peace.

This year's campaign is inspired by the message of Fatima: **"In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph."**

These words are at once a promise and a source of guidance. The Immaculate Heart of Mary represents a life completely filled with the Holy Spirit. In Mary, we see how God brings forth something new: through her *"fiat mihi"* – *"Let it be done unto me"* – she entrusts herself completely to the divine *"fiat"* – the *"Let there be..."* in which the origin and fulfilment of all creation are contained. Thus, in her pure and immaculate heart begins that new creation which is open to eternal life. This reality is not far removed from us, nor from the Church, of which Mary is the first and perfect model. Rather, it is already growing in our world wherever people, with pure hearts, respond to God in faith, love and prayer.

The prayer of the Rosary leads us along with Mary into the life of Jesus and opens our hearts to this work of God. The prayer of children has a particular power – simple, trusting and open to the grace of God. Saint Padre Pio is said to have remarked: *"When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change."*

Inspired by many beautiful experiences from numerous countries, we once again invite you to undertake the not always easy task of introducing children to the prayer of the Rosary through creative initiatives – in schools, families, parishes and kindergartens – and to pray it together with them yourselves. Whether prayed individually or in community, whether a full Rosary or a decade, every prayer is precious. On our website you will find helpful materials, child-friendly resources and spiritual inspirations for this purpose.

Help us ensure that, on the Feast of the Holy Rosary, a new wave of prayer envelopes the globe, offered by countless children with childlike trust, so that the promise of Fatima may be fulfilled and the Immaculate Heart of Mary may triumph.

With gratitude for your commitment and with every blessing,

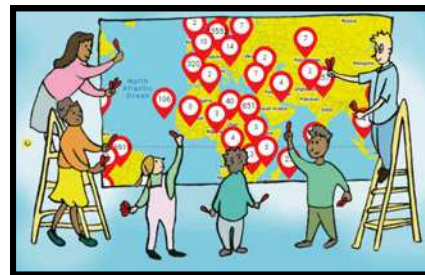
Kurt Card. Koch President

**ACN is delighted to announce that Cardinal Kurt Koch will be signing the
Certificates of Completion for this course.
Cardinal Koch is head of the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity and the president of ACN.**

SESSION PLAN

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

AIM:



- 1** Prepare a short presentation for a group of children about the rosary and ACN's One Million Children Praying the Rosary for Peace campaign.
- 2** To lead a group of children in praying the rosary for ACN's One Million Children Praying the Rosary on 7 October 2026, for peace, unity, and spiritual transformation. (The Feast of the Holy Rosary).

Use these sessions as a guide as each session has more material than you will need.

PLEASE USE ONLY THE ACTIVITIES AND SESSIONS YOU WISH TO MEET THE AIMS ABOVE.

Participants may wish to develop their understanding by working through some of the material independently between sessions.

You can tick off the boxes on page 3 after each session.

SESSION 1: ACN

Understand:

The mission and work of ACN.
Examples of ACN projects.

Discern:

The importance of 'Prayer, Information and Action'.

Respond:

Journal
Prayer

SESSION 2: THE ROSARY

Understand:

The place of the rosary in Christian belief.
Why the rosary is important.
How to pray the rosary.

Discern:

Explore different people's views about the rosary.

Respond:

Reflect on the meaning of what you have learned.
Prepare a two-minute speech/presentation about the rosary.

SESSION 3: THE CAMPAIGN

Understand:

ACN's 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary for Peace.'

Discern:

With reference to the apparitions at Fatima, play with possibilities by asking 'what if?'

Respond:

Consider how the lives of the primary-aged children involved with ACN's rosary campaign could be transformed.
Create an accessible and relevant presentation for children.

SESSION 4: BLESSING & PRAYER

Formation in Prayer:

The Glorious Mysteries.
Understanding how the rosary is used for personal and community prayer.

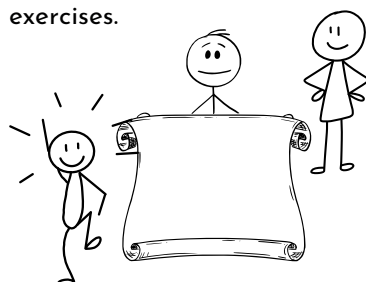
Blessing of rosary beads if a priest is available.

SESSION 5: ORGANISATION

By the end of this session:

Your presentation to the children should be planned and rehearsed.

You can grow in your skills as a public speaker by following the exercises.



SESSION 6: DISCUSSION

To take place after your prayer/presentation with the children:

Please share your experience having completed this course:

1. What have you learned?
2. Did you enjoy praying with the children?
3. Were you comfortable leading prayer?
4. What next?
5. Comments about your prayer journal.
6. Would you like to arrange a speaker from ACN or plan a fundraiser for the work of the charity?



COURSE OUTLINE

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



1 KNOWLEDGE

In order to lead a group of children in praying the rosary, you will need a working knowledge of the following:

ACN	THE ROSARY	THE CAMPAIGN	SAFEGUARDING
☐ Mission ☐ Work of ☐ The projects ☐ P.I.A.	☐ Teaching about ☐ Why important ☐ How to pray it ☐ 'Deeper Truths'	☐ What it's about ☐ Importance ☐ Who is involved ☐ Our Lady of Fatima	☐ Overview ☐ Responsibilities ☐ Protocol ☐ Awareness

2 PLANNING & ORGANISATION FOR 07-10-26

START	SESSION 5	SESSION 6	ON THE DAY
☐ Finding group ☐ Planning date(s) ☐ _____ ☐ _____	☐ Presentation ☐ Prayer aids ☐ Group roles ☐ _____	☐ Rehearse ☐ Check tech ☐ Timings ☐ _____	☐ Check tech ☐ Prayer aids ☐ Setting up ☐ Follow up

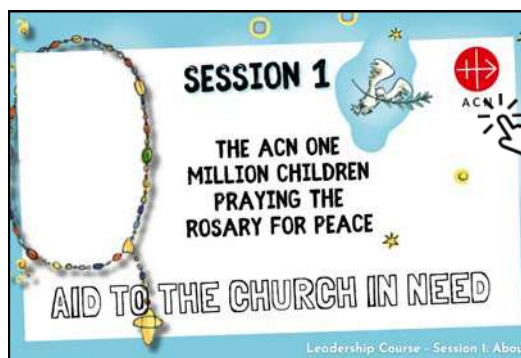
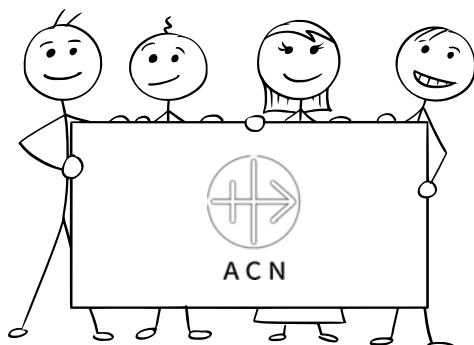
3 YOUR RESPONSE AND JOURNEY OF FAITH

In the spiritual life, it is impossible to give what you don't have, so this is a great time to consider your own relationship with God and to pray the rosary yourself. Suggestions are below - these are between you and God, but you may wish to share in the group.

JOURNAL	RESEARCH	PRAYER	OPENNESS
Recording your thoughts, prayers and any promptings from the Holy Spirit	Willingness to watch YouTube videos, read articles and find out more about the rosary	Making personal prayer a priority; attending Mass and or/receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation	Asking the Holy Spirit to guide you: allowing God into areas of your life that you have previously hidden from him

SESSION 1

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



5
CLICK TO LINK TO PRESENTATION

SESSION 1: ACN

Understand:

The mission and work of ACN.
Examples of ACN projects.

Discern:

The importance of 'Prayer, Information and Action'.

Respond:

Journal
Prayer



Groups can use as little or as much of the information provided as they like.

We know time is limited, so groups can decide how best to use what is provided.

The aim for your students and parish groups is that through this course, they become confident prayer leaders and grow in their own journey of faith.

SESSION STRUCTURE FOR LEADER/TEACHER/CHAPLAIN

1. Explain that they will be leading children in praying the rosary for peace on or sometime near 7th October. Play video on [SLIDE 2](#).

PLAY [SLIDE 3](#) ON PRESENTATION

2. Explain that in order to do this effectively, they will need to have some knowledge of:

- Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)
- The rosary
- What happened in Fatima in 1917
- The campaign One Million Children Praying the Rosary

3. Invite participants to keep a prayer journal. Ask them to write down their thoughts, prayers and feelings, when they can, for the duration of the course. [SLIDE 4](#)

[SLIDE 5](#)

4. Before playing the animation, ask students to look at the questions about ACN (page 6) and fill in any they already know (member groups may not need to do this stage). You might need to explain the word '**pastoral**' in this context and the term '**Pontifical Foundation**' (see below).

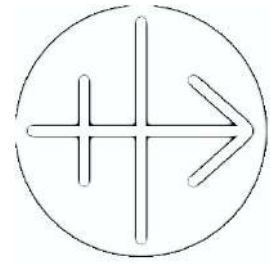
5. Watch the animation on [SLIDE 5](#). Discuss examples of ACN projects and go back to page 6. Fill in answers in pairs.

6. The video on [SLIDE 6](#) gives examples of some ACN projects. This can be used in this session or at any time during the course to highlight the work of the charity.

Independent Research: Complete the tasks on page 7.

.....
*A **Pontifical Foundation** is a charity officially set up or approved by the Pope and the Catholic Church. 'Pontifical' means it has a special link to the Vatican and works under the Church's guidance. This shows that the foundation is trusted by the Church and is committed to living out its beliefs, values, and mission in the world.





SESSION 1

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN
PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

Aid to the Church in Need

- 1 What does ACN stand for? _____
- 2 What makes ACN distinctive? _____
- 3 _____
- 4 In approximately how many countries does ACN have projects? _____
- 5 Why do you think the Church refuses to abandon people? _____

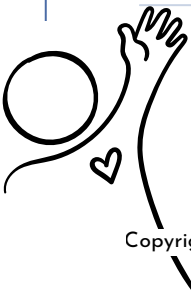
- 6 Name two ways in which ACN provide spiritual support. _____

- 7 Name one way priests/sisters help others that you may not have previously considered. _____

- 8 Why is religious freedom so integral to human rights? _____

- 9 State ways in which ACN provide long- and short-term aid. _____

- 10 Why is trauma healing needed? _____
- 11 What does P.I.A. stand for? _____
- 12 How is ACN UK supporting the people of Nigeria? _____



SESSION 1

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



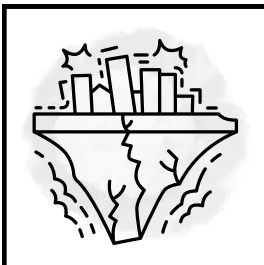
7

There are numerous charities that look after those in need. What distinguishes Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) from these organisations is that we are the only international Catholic organisation focusing on the pastoral and spiritual support of persecuted and suffering Christians.

Aid to the Church in Need was initially established in 1947 as a Catholic aid organisation for war refugees, and it has been recognised as a Pontifical Foundation since 2011. Under our guiding principle of "prayer, information and action", today we are committed to helping Christians across the globe, wherever they are persecuted or oppressed or suffer material hardships. In addition, we are committed to religious freedom and reconciliation across all faiths. Our foundation does not accept any support from government agencies. However, thanks to hundreds of thousands of benefactors who donate to Aid to the Church in Need, we are now active worldwide.

TASK

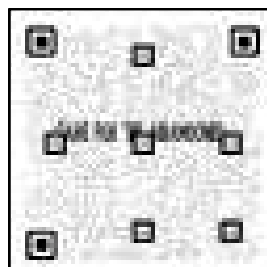
NATURAL DISASTERS



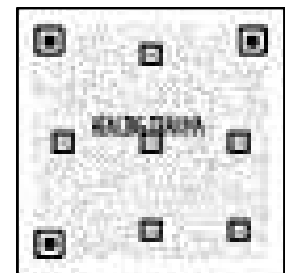
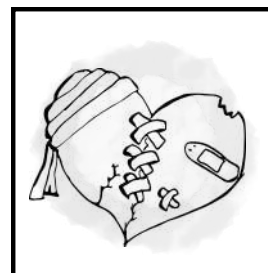
RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION



CARE FOR THE ABANDONED



HEALING TRAUMA

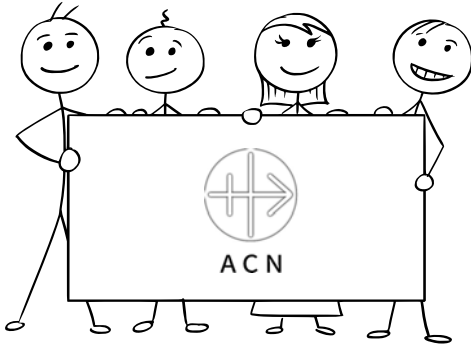


NOTE

YOU WILL NOT BE DISCUSSING THIS WITH ANY OF THE GROUPS YOU WILL BE LEADING 'ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY' WITH. THIS IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AS AN ACN AMBASSADOR.

SESSION 2

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



SESSION 2: THE ROSARY

Understand:

The place of the rosary in Christian belief.

Why the rosary is important.

How to pray the rosary.

Discern:

Explore different views about the rosary.

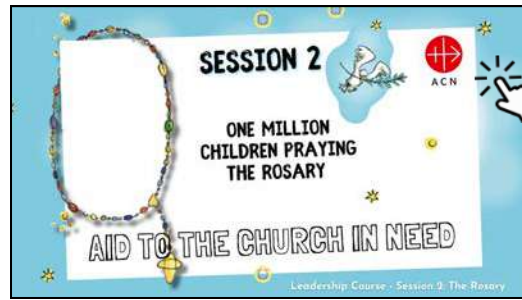
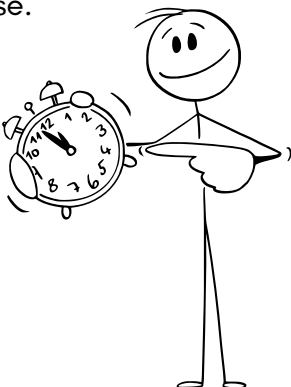
Respond:

Reflect on the meaning of what you have learned.

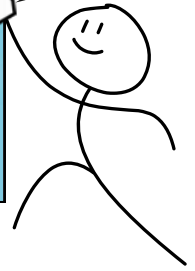
Begin preparing a two-minute speech/presentation about the rosary.

This session is the longest.

Sessions 5-6 are much shorter, so there is scope within the course structure to do the activities presented here later in the course.



CLICK TO LINK TO PRESENTATION



SESSION STRUCTURE

1. Read page 9.
2. Complete True/False Quiz.
3. Watch the 'Rosary Reflections' videos on [SLIDES 2-4](#).
4. Discuss and record your reactions – PLAY [SLIDE 5](#) ON THE PRESENTATION.
5. In pairs explain to each other how to pray the rosary, with one pair explaining to the group.

Respond:

Start thinking about how you will present this information to the age group you will be working with.

For personal prayer time and journal:

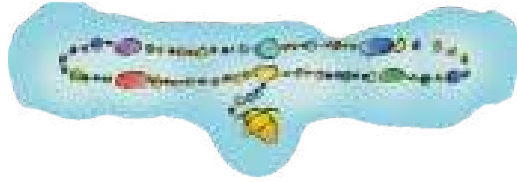
Reflect on the information in 'Deep Truths about the Rosary'. If any of the themes catch your interest, reflect and pray about them. Invite the Holy Spirit to lead your prayer.



ACN ambassadors

SESSION 2

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



The rosary transforms those who pray it. It can be prayed by everyone - and its depths can't be fully explained.

Each of us has an individual relationship with God and also with Our Lady, so the way in which the rosary impacts each person is also individual.

The sheet 'Deep Truths about the Rosary' is for you to look at and ponder in your own time. Don't worry if you can't grasp everything contained within it - you certainly are not expected to - but it should provide you with some theological truths which you may not have previously considered. You might want to use this as a start for prayer, come back to it, or research some of the statements independently.

DEEP TRUTHS ABOUT THE ROSARY

WHY THE ROSARY?
Is the rosary a nice prayer we say to make ourselves feel better? Is it something that brings us peace in our hearts a bit like mindfulness? No.

RELIEF ITSELF?
Now it might make us feel better and bring us peace, but these aren't the foremost reasons we pray it. In order to understand the rosary, we need to look up a bit and understand belief itself!

COMMUNICATION WITH GOD
When we pray, we communicate with God. God - the one who created the universe and holds our existence in his hands. The one who made the laws of physics that brought forth everything from a seed-like to exploding life (just think of a frog, fish & ladybugs), to the colour of your hair. The one who knows your name calls you into a relationship with him for ever.

SPIRITUAL REALITY
God gives us ways in which we can meet him, even if our logical minds can't comprehend him. One of these ways is prayer. When we pray something changes because we are in God's presence. We must not feel it - it is deeper than what we feel, it's about spiritual reality.

EPHESIANS 6:12
There isn't a person on the planet who could escape death - and if there were, two seconds watching the news would change their mind to fight against evil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

FREE WILL
Basically, God wants us to be free. He created us free and in eternity and one fundamental way we do this is through prayer. So yes, prayer is nice and may make us feel better, but to pray is just this: meeting the most powerful spirit in the universe, the one who created the universe and will into our reality. Of course God could do this without prayer, but because of free will, he gives us a choice.

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE
The rosary is a prayer that always accompanies me. It is also the prayer of the ordinary people and the saints... it is a prayer from my heart. (POPE FRANCIS)

RELATIONSHIP
Prayer is a decision - I am going to spend this time with God. Whether what I might feel, pray, and a moment of God's love or I might feel absolutely nothing, in fact I might be bored or distracted. This is why it is a good relationship even if I don't feel like it. This is worth saying long prayer - 30 minutes minimum.

THE ROSARY IS A PRAYER THAT ALWAYS ACCOMPANIES ME. IT IS ALSO THE PRAYER OF THE ORDINARY PEOPLE AND THE SAINTS... IT IS A PRAYER FROM MY HEART. (POPE FRANCIS)
Aid to the Church in Need is a Pontifical Foundation of the Catholic Church and a registered charity in England and Wales (1097984) and in Scotland (SC040748)

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY

DECADE

HOW MANY OTHER WORDS DO YOU KNOW BEGINNING WITH 'DEC'? WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

Originates from the mid-15th century, initially meaning "ten parts" of anything. According to www.etymonline.com, "[t]he term comes from the Old French "décade" (14th century), which in turn derives from the Late Latin "decadem" ...and...from the Greek "dekas", meaning "group of ten." When referring to the rosary, it means the ten Hail Marys prayed for each of the mysteries.

MYSTERIES (OF THE ROSARY)

The Mysteries of the Rosary are not like mysteries in terms of whodunits or things that have no explanation. There are twenty mysteries of the rosary, divided into four categories of five. The first three sets of five (the Sorrowful Mysteries, the Joyful Mysteries and The Glorious Mysteries) are like a chronological walk through the lives of Mary and Jesus. These episodes provide the focus of the meditation whilst the Our Fathers and Hail Marys are being recited. The final set of five (the Luminous Mysteries or, Mysteries of Light) were a later addition and focus on what Jesus did when he started ministering in public: his miracles and teachings.

TASK

True or False Quiz

Watch 'Praying the Rosary' and discuss.

Do you know anyone who has a devotion to the rosary? If so, chat to them and ask them to share their thoughts on this prayer.

ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

TRUE or FALSE



Read the sentences and circle true (T) or false (F). Correct the wrong information.



- | | | |
|----|--|-------|
| 1 | The practice of praying the rosary began around 500 years ago. | T / F |
| 2 | Mary is the 'New Eve'. | T / F |
| 3 | The rosary is a blend of mental (meditative) and vocal prayer. | T / F |
| 4 | Catholics worship Mary/Our Lady - the Mother of Jesus. | T / F |
| 5 | When Our Lady appeared in Fatima she told the children that the rosary has the power to stop wars. | T / F |
| 6 | You have to pray the rosary in church. | T / F |
| 7 | The rosary is known as 'the Bible on a string'. | T / F |
| 8 | The rosary is a prayer for peace. | T / F |
| 9 | Only Catholics can say the rosary. | T / F |
| 10 | The rosary is a powerful way to pray for others. | T / F |

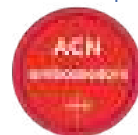


TRUE or FALSE



ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

- 1 Catholics have been praying the rosary as we know it today since the 13th century, but monks and hermits as early as the 3rd century used rocks and prayer beads in a similar way. **T / F**
- 2 Jesus is the 'New Adam' and he undid the sin of Adam, so Mary is the 'New Eve' because her obedience to God reversed Eve's disobedience. **T / F**
- 3 Yes, St Louis de Monfort said, "I know of no better way of establishing the kingdom of God than to unite vocal and mental prayer by saying the rosary." **T / F**
- 4 Many people misunderstand the honour Catholics give to Mary. She is honoured as the Mother of God, but not worshipped - only God can be worshipped. **T / F**
- 5 Yes, because the origin of the rosary is divine. It is a spiritual sword which defeats evil. Prayer is not wishful thinking; through prayer God intervenes and changes reality. **T / F**
- 6 The rosary can be prayed anywhere. It is referred to as a portable chapel. We can pull out our beads and pray anywhere (or use our fingers if we don't have rosary beads available). **T / F**
- 7 To pray the rosary you have to repeat the Our Father (Matthew 6 & Luke 11), and Hail Mary is how the Angel Gabriel greets Mary in Luke 1. The 'Mysteries' are based on Biblical events. **T / F**
- 8 Pope St John Paul II said, "The rosary is by its nature a prayer for peace, since it consists in the contemplation of Christ, the Prince of Peace, the one who is 'our peace' (Eph 2:14)." **T / F**
- 9 Non-Catholics can certainly pray the rosary – and in fact, many credit it with their conversion. Many Protestants recognise the rosary as a valid form of prayer. **T / F**
- 10 The rosary is a powerful way to pray for others because it takes time, dedication and the willingness to give your heart to God on behalf of another. It's therefore both a spiritual and selfless act of love. **T / F**



HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY



This bead ends the first decade. Here you pray the 'Glory Be to the Father' and the Fatima Prayer.

This bead also is the start of the next decade. So after the Fatima Prayer, you announce the Second Mystery and pray the Our Father again before moving on and saying the next ten Hail Marys.

Here we pray ten Hail Marys. You can think about the words of the Hail Mary, the mystery and the people you are praying for.

Pray the Our Father as you think about the mystery of 'The Resurrection. You can add any prayer intentions you have.

Pray three Hail Marys whilst asking God to give you faith, hope and charity (one for each of the three beads).

Pray the Apostles' Creed and one Our Father.

This bead is for praying the 'Glory Be'. When we praise God, we realise that all we have depends on his goodness. It's a way to make us less self-centred.

Begin with the Sign of the Cross. Take a moment to do this prayerfully. Remember that God is listening to your prayers and that the Mother of God is offering what is in your heart to Jesus. When we make the Sign of the Cross, it's like saying to God, 'this time is yours'. We are very privileged to be able to speak to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit whenever we want, so it's good to remind ourselves to whom we are speaking. Remember that Our Lady and the whole of heaven are praying with us too and cheering us on. Picture giving your 'intention' (the thing you are praying for) to God. You can pray for more than one thing.



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN UNITED KINGDOM

THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

1

The Annunciation

2

The Visitation

3

The Nativity

4

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

5

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

1

The Resurrection

2

The Ascension

3

The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost)

4

The Assumption

5

The Coronation of Our Lady as Queen of Heaven and Earth

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

1

The Agony in the Garden

2

The Scouring of Jesus at the Pillar

3

The Crowning with Thorns

4

The Carrying of the Cross

5

The Crucifixion

THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

1

The Baptism of Jesus

2

The Wedding Feast at Cana

3

The Proclamation of the Gospel

4

The Transfiguration

5

The Last Supper

WHY THE ROSARY?

Is the rosary a nice prayer we say to make ourselves feel better? Is it something that brings us peace in our hearts, a bit like mindfulness?

BELIEF ITSELF

Now, it might make us feel better and bring us peace, but these aren't the foremost reasons we pray it. In order to understand the rosary, we need to back up a bit and understand belief itself.

COMMUNICATION WITH GOD



When we pray, we communicate with God. God - the one who created the universe and holds our existence in his hands. The one who made the laws of physics that brought forth everything from a snowflake to crazy-looking fish (just Google Frog Fish & a Leafy Seadragon!), to the colour of your hair. The one who knows your name and calls you into a relationship with him for ever.

SPIRITUAL REALITY

God gives us ways in which we can meet him, even if our logical minds can't comprehend him. One of these ways is prayer. When we pray, something changes, because we are in God's presence. We may not feel it - it is deeper than what we feel; it's about spiritual reality.



EPHESIANS 6:12

There isn't a person on the planet who could argue that evil doesn't exist - and if there were, two seconds' watching the news would change their mind. In Ephesians 6:12, St Paul says, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

FREE WILL

Basically, God wants us on his evil-conquering team now and in eternit. One fundamental way we do this is through prayer. So yes, prayer is nice and may make us feel better, but to say it's just this is missing the main point. Through prayer God can bring his love, kingdom and will into our reality. Of course God could do this without prayer, but because of free will, he gives us a choice.

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



"THE ROSARY IS A PRAYER THAT ALWAYS ACCOMPANIES ME: IT IS ALSO THE PRAYER OF THE ORDINARY PEOPLE AND THE SAINTS...IT IS A PRAYER FROM MY HEART." (POPE FRANCIS)

BIBLICAL

The rosary is a special prayer because it's Biblical, it's simultaneously a meditation and a vocal prayer, it was given by God and it has spiritual power.

MEDITATION

When we pray using the Bible, we are actually uniting ourselves with God's Word. God's Word is so powerful it creates. In the rosary we meditate on real events in the life of Jesus and the Early Church. Meditation opens up our deepest self (often below the level of consciousness) to God; and as God's Word is living, it enters our entire self.



SPIRITUAL POWER

It is not a prayer 'to' Mary as she is not God. We are asking her to give our prayers to her son. Jesus honoured his mum and so do we. At her request he intervened at the Wedding Feast at Cana. This is a model of prayer - Mary is our mother too.

FIGHTING EVIL

The rosary is often referred to as a spiritual sword. This is a metaphorical description which emphasises its power in fighting evil. The term "spiritual sword" suggests that the rosary is a weapon against evil and a tool for spiritual defence.

PRAYER CAN BE HARD

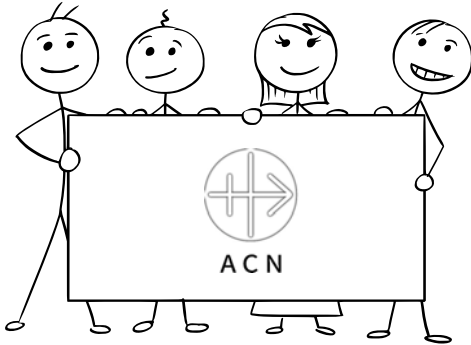
In our physical lives, when something good requires discipline we tend to accept it and get on with it. But when it comes to spiritual things we often forget that the health of our souls, which will live on long past everything else, needs careful attention too.

RELATIONSHIP

Prayer is a decision - I am going to spend this time with God no matter what. I might feel joy, peace and a sense of God's love or I might feel absolutely nothing - in fact I might be bored or distracted. This is the key to a good relationship with God; accepting that I may need to carry on even if I don't feel like it. This is worth saying when discussing the rosary, as it is a reasonably long prayer - 20 minutes minimum.

SESSION 3

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



SESSION 3: THE CAMPAIGN

Understand:

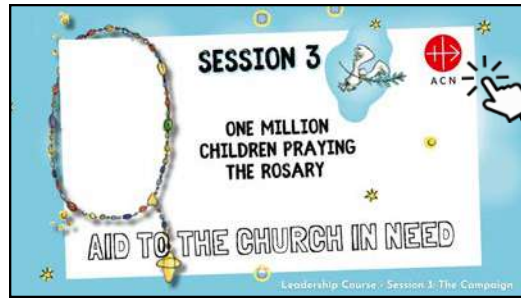
ACN's 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary for Peace.' The apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima.

Discern:

With reference to the apparitions at Fatima, play with possibilities, by asking 'what if?'

Respond:

Consider how the lives of the primary-aged children involved with ACN's rosary campaign could be transformed. Create an accessible and relevant presentation for children.



SESSION STRUCTURE

1. Read the letter from Cardinal Kosh on page 2.
2. Watch the videos on [SLIDE 2](#) and [SLIDE 3](#) of the presentation.
3. Look at the posters on page 16 and decide how you might use them with the group of children you will be praying with.
4. Listen to Fr Antonio's video explaining what happened at Fatima and discuss your reactions.
 - Is this new to you?
 - What does it mean for you?
 - Why is the message still relevant today?
 - Why do you think we don't speak about heaven and hell, even though Jesus frequently did?
 - Why do you think God wants us to be part of his plan?
5. Read the cartoon strip about Fatima.
 - How might you use this in your presentation to the children?
 - How could you explain what happened in an age-appropriate way (remembering the age of the children)?

Respond: How will you incorporate some of the information in today's session into your presentation with the children?

Explain that in order to do this effectively, they will need to have some knowledge of:

- Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)
- The rosary
- What happened in Fatima in 1917
- The campaign One Million Children Praying the Rosary



Discern:

What would you like to ask the children of Fatima?

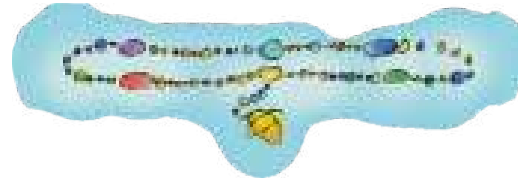
For information and eye-witness accounts see: [The Magis Centre](#)



ACN ambassadors

SESSION 3

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN
PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE




 ACN

One Million Children Praying the Rosary
**"IN THE END MY IMMACULATE
 HEART WILL TRIUMPH."**



For unity and peace
 On October 7, 2026

In collaboration with:


www.millionchildrenpraying.org

Children's Consecration to Our Lady

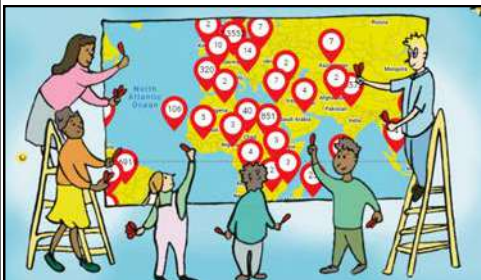
Mary, my Mother,
 today I come to you with joy,
 to give you my whole heart.
 I give you everything I have
 and everything I do,
 my whole life.
 To you I bring every single person,
 that I hold in love in my heart:
 my parents, my brothers and my sisters,
 all my friends,
 but also those who have hurt me.
 Be a Mother to us all,
 bless and protect us.
 I wish to be your child,
 to love you as my Mother
 and pray faithfully to you.
 Help me to remember, each day,
 that I belong to you.
 Mother, I am yours, now and for all eternity.
 With you and through you
 I want to belong completely to Jesus.



Amen.

These posters are available for you
to use with the group you will be
presenting to.

**Please go to: acninternational.org
to download these posters free.**



You can also register your school
or parish here so your prayers will
be visible on the international map.
The school or parish you are
praying with should also register
with ACN International



MAY 1917

FRANCISCO MARTO (9) AND HIS SISTER JACINTA (7) AND THEIR COUSIN LÚCIA DOS SANTOS (10) WERE THREE LITTLE SHEPHERDS FROM FATIMA IN PORTUGAL. THEY CAME FROM HUMBLE FAMILIES AND LIVED A SIMPLE LIFE. WHAT OCCURRED ON MAY 13TH, WOULD CHANGE NOT ONLY THEIR LIVES, BUT THE CHURCH AND THE GEOPOLITICS OF THE WORLD.

Today seems different somehow...

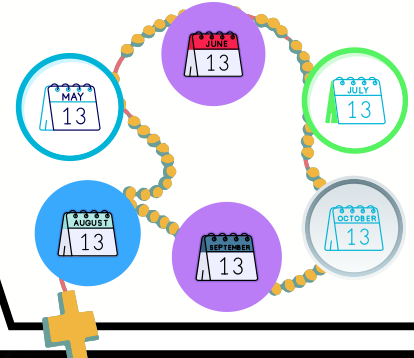
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY.

Our Lady asked us to pray the rosary for peace.

We need to pray for an end to this war.

Our Lady said, "If my requests are granted, there will be peace."

THE MOTHER OF GOD APPEARED ANOTHER FIVE TIMES TO THE CHILDREN. EACH TIME WAS ON THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH. THE SIXTH AND THE FINAL TIME WAS ON OCTOBER 13TH 1917.



NEWS!



NEWS SPREAD AND SOME PEOPLE BELIEVED WHILST SOME PEOPLE WERE SCEPTICAL.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA GAVE THE CHILDREN THREE SECRETS – CONCERNING WORLD EVENTS IN THE FUTURE THAT THEY HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING – AND URGED THEM TO PRAY THE ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE AND FOR SOULS FAR FROM GOD TO GO TO HEAVEN.

"MIRACLE OF THE SUN"

OUR LADY PROMISED THE CHILDREN THAT A MIRACLE WOULD HAPPEN. THIS MIRACLE WOULD SHOW THE TRUTHFULNESS OF THE APPARITIONS.

People think we are lying...

ON THE DAY THERE WERE AROUND 70,000 PEOPLE GATHERED. SOME WERE BELIEVERS, SOME HAD COME TO PROVE THAT IT WAS ALL FALSE.

ACCORDING TO VARIOUS ACCOUNTS, A CROWD OF SOME 70,000 PEOPLE – BELIEVERS AND SCEPTICS ALIKE – GATHERED TO SEE THE MIRACLE THAT WAS PROMISED: THE RAINY SKY CLEARED UP, THE CLOUDS DISPERSED, AND THE GROUND, WHICH HAD BEEN WET AND MUDDY FROM THE RAIN, DRIED UP. A TRANSPARENT VEIL CAME OVER THE SUN, MAKING IT EASY TO LOOK AT, AND MULTICOLORED LIGHTS WERE STREWN ACROSS THE LANDSCAPE. THE SUN THEN BEGAN TO SPIN, TWIRLING IN THE SKY, AND AT ONE POINT APPEARED TO VEER TOWARD THE EARTH BEFORE JUMPING BACK TO ITS PLACE IN THE SKY.*

Some present saw the sun dance, others said it appeared to zoom toward Earth.

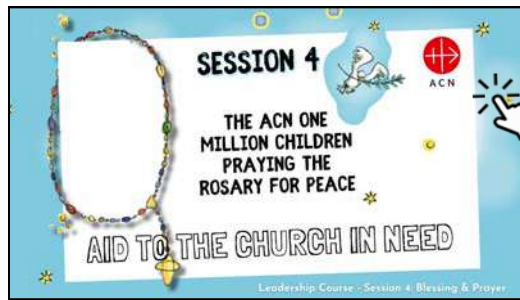
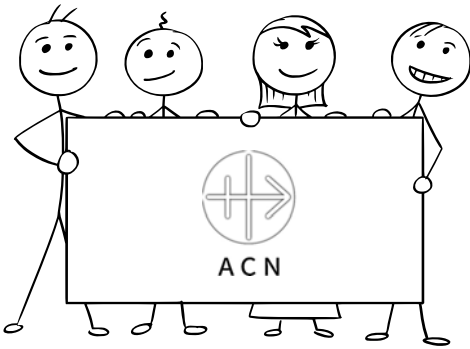
IN 1918 JACINTA TOLD LÚCIA THAT MARY HAD APPEARED TO HER AND PROMISED TO TAKE HER AND FRANCISCO TO HEAVEN SOON. THEY BOTH DIED IN THE GREAT 1918 FLU EPIDEMIC. LÚCIA

BECAME A NUN AND LIVED TO AN OLD AGE. MILLIONS OF PEOPLE HAVE VISITED SINCE, E.G. OFFICIAL VISITOR NUMBERS IN 2019 WERE 6.3 MILLION PILGRIMS. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS HEALINGS AND MIRACLES.

*<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/36019/miracle-of-the-sun-broke-darkness-of-portugals-atheist-regimes>

SESSION 4

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



CLICK TO LINK TO PRESENTATION

"Because of the evils and injustices that accompany war, the Church persistently urges everyone to prayer and to action so that the goodness may free us from the ancient bondage of war."

Catechism of the Catholic Church 2306

SESSION 4: BLESSING & PRAYER

Formation in Prayer:

The Glorious Mysteries.
Understanding how the rosary is used for personal and community prayer.

Blessing of rosary beads if a priest is available.

Discuss the quotes on the sheet:

The Saints: What the Rosary meant to them. Choose one to stick into your prayer journal.



SESSION STRUCTURE

This session provides the opportunity for you to pray the rosary together as a group.

Watch Fr Frankie discuss the rosary and why having your rosary beads blessed is important.

SLIDE 3.

Pray some or all of the rosary together.

**AFTER THE SESSION
WRITE YOUR THOUGHTS
AND PRAYERS INTO YOUR
JOURNAL.**



THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

These mysteries are about the completion of Jesus' victory over death. The Assumption shows Mary being taken body and soul into heaven, sharing fully in the new life that Jesus won through his resurrection. The Coronation shows her honoured as Queen of Heaven because of her faith and her closeness to God.

When we pray these mysteries, we are reminded that death is not the end, but a passage to eternal life. Mary's Assumption is a sign of hope for us, showing that Jesus' victory over death is real and meant for everyone. It reminds us that, like Mary, we are called to trust God and share in his glory.

PLACING OURSELVES IN GOD'S PRESENCE

When we make the Sign of the Cross, it's good to remind ourselves that we are now entering a different space. We are using our will, our minds and our actions to place ourselves in the presence of God. Think about the meaning of the words, the message being presented and the fact that you are now actively communicating with God.

THE RESURRECTION



BIBLE QUOTE: (LUKE 24:5-8 NRSVCE)

"Why look for the living among the dead? He is not here—he has risen. Remember: he told you he would be crucified and rise on the third day."

MEDITATION

The resurrection changes everything. If Jesus didn't rise, Christianity falls apart—but we believe he did. That means hope is real. No matter the weight of life: stress, loss, fear, Jesus brings new life. Darkness doesn't win. Love does. The risen Lord is calls your name and wants you to share in his glory.

PRAYER IDEA:

Think of those who feel stuck in darkness. Ask Jesus to meet them with his light and peace. Picture the empty tomb—quiet, then Jesus appearing, alive. Speak to him, in the knowledge that he is listening.

THE ASCENSION



BIBLE QUOTE: (ACTS 1:9-11 NRSVCE)

And when he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

MEDITATION

The Ascension isn't Jesus "leaving"—it's him taking our humanity into heaven. "He did not leave heaven when he came down to us, and he did not leave us when he went up into heaven."* Jesus, now, brings us to the Father, as individual children, constantly helping and blessing us. (St Augustine: *Sermo de Ascensione Domini, Sermon 98*)

PRAYER IDEA:

Jesus never leaves us. Offer those who feel alone, misunderstood and rejected. Ask for healing for them and for yourself for times you have felt like this.

THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



BIBLE QUOTE: (ACTS 2:3-5 NRSVCE)

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

MEDITATION

On this day the apostles were transformed from fearful followers into bold witnesses. This shows us that Pentecost is when God's own presence comes to dwell **within** believers, not just among them.* (See [Brant Pitre](#))

PRAYER IDEA

The Holy Spirit enables us to bring the love of God to others. Pray for strength to be a true disciple of Christ ask the Holy Spirit to help charites, like ACN, who work to preach the Gospel and help the suffering.

THE ASSUMPTION



BIBLE QUOTE: (LUKE 24:5-8 NRSVCE)

Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a severe hailstorm.

MEDITATION

Mary is the 'New Eve' and because she was sinless her body did not corrupt. She is part of Jesus' victory over sin and death and provides us with a way to meet God in a deeper way.

PRAYER IDEA:

Let us ask her to lead us and all closer to God. We can pray for those who have died; family members, friends, those who died in war or other tragic circumstances as well as the bereaved.

THE CORONATION OF OUR LADY



BIBLE QUOTE: (REVELATION 12:1 NRSVCE)

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head.

MEDITATION

Mary's queenship is about participation, not equality, with Christ. As the first fully glorified human, after Christ, Mary is what we are meant to become. Let us consider what this means.

PRAYER IDEA:

This mystery reminds us that the here and now and the concerns of our lives are the smaller part of our whole story. We pray that we will be less concerned with material wealth, comfort, popularity and achievements so that we can focus more on the eternity. We can ask Our Lady to show us how.

THE SAINTS: WHAT THE ROSARY MEANT TO THEM



RECITING THE ROSARY IS
"THE MOST
IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT
OF THE DAY."
(St Carlo Acutis)



"THE ROSARY IS A LONG CHAIN THAT
LINKS HEAVEN AND EARTH.
ONE END OF IT IS IN OUR HANDS
AND THE OTHER END IS IN
THE HANDS OF THE HOLY VIRGIN..."
(St Therese of Lisieux)



"THE HOLY ROSARY IS A POWERFUL
WEAPON.
USE IT WITH CONFIDENCE AND
YOU'LL BE AMAZED AT THE RESULTS."
(St Josemaría Escrivá)



"TO PRAY THE ROSARY IS TO HAND
OVER OUR BURDENS TO THE MERCIFUL
HEARTS OF CHRIST AND HIS MOTHER."
(Pope St. John Paul II)



"WHEN ONE MILLION CHILDREN
PRAY THE ROSARY,
THE WORLD WILL CHANGE."
(St Padre Pio)



"LET US DEVOUTLY SAY A HAIL
MARY WHENEVER WE ARE TEMPTED,
AND WE'LL BE SURE TO WIN."
(St John Bosco)



FOR ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA,
THE ROSARY WAS VITAL,
PRAYING TO JESUS "WITH MARY." SHE WOULD
PRAY THE ROSARY CONSTANTLY: WHILE IN THE
STREETS AND IN THE SLUMS, WHILE TRAVELING
AND WHILE WORKING.



WHEN ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE WAS ARRESTED AND
SENT TO PAWIAK PRISON IN WARSAW, HE WAS
ASKED REPEATEDLY BY A GUARD IF HE REALLY
BELIEVED IN THE ROSARY. NEVER DENYING IT, HE WAS
BEATEN SO FIERCELY THAT HIS COMRADES THOUGHT HE
WAS DEAD.

HE ULTIMATELY AROSE AND ENCOURAGED
ALL TOWARDS HOPE.



SESSION 4

PRAYERS TO LEARN

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
(At the words that follow, up to and
including Virgin Mary, please bow your head)
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell; on the third day
He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sits at
the right hand of God the Father almighty,
from thence He shall come
to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and life everlasting.
Amen.

THE HAIL HOLY QUEEN

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this exile
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.

THE FATIMA PRAYER

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,
save us from the fires of hell,
and lead all souls to Heaven,
especially those in most need of Your Mercy.
(Our Lady at Fatima, 13th July 1917)

PRAYER GUIDANCE

These prayers are all part of the rosary. The Apostles' Creed is prayed on the first bead at the start of the rosary. This is a proclamation of what we believe.

The Fatima Prayer was given by Our Lady to the children when she appeared to them. This is a prayer for all of the human race to ask God to save everyone.

The Hail Holy Queen (or "Salve Regina" in Latin) is prayed every day by the whole Church. It is an anthem to Our Lady which has been in use since the 11th century. You can hear it being sung in Latin here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0YWKLNhTvE>

These prayers may well be too advanced for the children you will be leading the rosary with. Please discuss with the teacher in charge. The guidance in the Prayer and Liturgy Directory for schools (*To love You more dearly*) states that The Apostles' Creed is suitable for ages 7-9 upwards and the Hail Holy Queen for ages 11-14.

SESSION 5

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

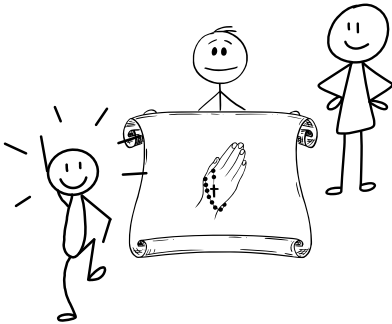


SESSION 5: ORGANISATION

By the end of this session:

Your presentation to the children should be planned and rehearsed.

You can grow in your skills as a public speaker by following the exercises.



Use this session as you please in order to prepare for your presentation about the rosary, One Million Children Praying the Rosary for Peace and ACN.

You may want to use some of the clips from this course and/or adapt some of the worksheets. Please contact marie.fahy@acnuk.org if you would like the material in an alternative format.

You will know by now whether you are visiting the school or parish group once or twice. Either way, you should have a presentation prepared and have worked out how you will lead them in praying the rosary.

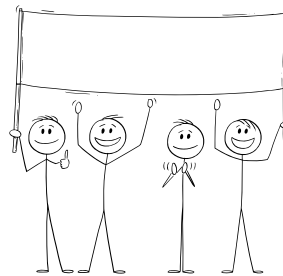
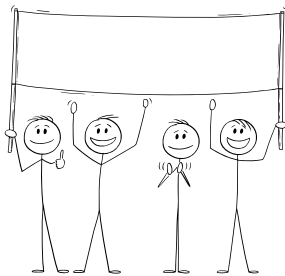
Points to consider:

Will you need any props?

Who in your group will do what.

Have you arranged everything with the group leader or teacher?

Use the 'Public Speaking Guides' on pages 22-23 to help you with your presentation skills.



SAFEGUARDING

- ☐ Overview
- ☐ Responsibilities
- ☐ Protocol
- ☐ Awareness

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Your teacher or group leader will outline any safeguarding guidelines you need to be aware of.

You will be attending the school in a group, with a member of staff. Remember to stay with the group at all times and a staff member will accompany you if you need to leave the group for any reason.

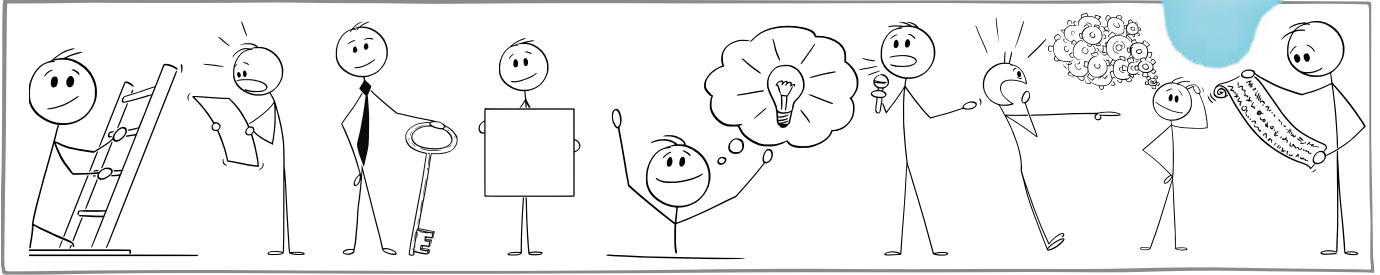
Tick off the boxes on the left when your teacher/leader has spoken to you about the general principles you need to be aware of.



ACN

PUBLIC SPEAKING

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE



When we imagine ourselves speaking in public, we often feel daunted. The distance between where we are and where we want to be as a speaker or presenter can seem vast and the ladder between, steep. Many of us look at others who seem to have natural confidence and compare ourselves negatively. The truth is that speaking in public is a skill which can be learned. You speak all the time in everyday life and therefore already have and use effectively the skills you need: arranging information, varying pitch, reading the reactions, telling stories, conveying emotion, showing empathy and getting your message across. Below you will find some tips and exercises to help you further develop your skills. When you are well prepared you can be more relaxed and able to let your personality shine through. This is the intention of these exercises and tips.

TASK

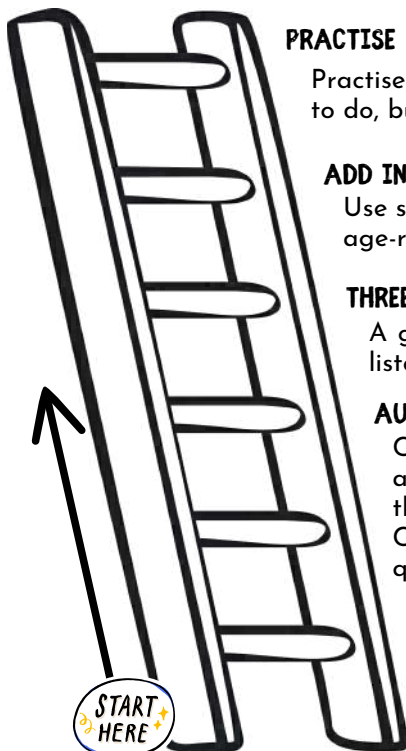
Using the information below, prepare a two-minute speech/presentation about the rosary for the age-group you will be presenting to. When you have written it, look at the 'Helpful Tips' on page 23 and complete the exercises. Rehearse your speech in front of the group.

WORK OUT TIMING

TIME



How long have you got? The average speaking rate is about 125-200 words a minute (presentations around 140 wpm). There are lots of apps available online which allow you to work out your own speaking pace. From there, ascertain how many words your presentation should contain and stick to it.



PRACTISE

Practise in front of friends, the mirror, video yourself and practise again. This is hard to do, but it is by far the best way of becoming a proficient public speaker.

ADD INTEREST

Use stories, statistics (sparingly), short quotes, humour, examples, news, cultural or age-related references to add interest and to keep engagement high.

THREE POINTS

A good rule of thumb is to have three main points. This is easy for you and the listeners. Make sure each point directly references your one-sentence summary.

AUDIENCE & CONTENT

Consider your audience: What are their expectations, interests and attention span and how can you adapt your content or the way you say it to reflect this? Are there issues you need to be aware of?

Consider your content: Have they heard this before or is it all new? What questions might they want to ask?

SUMMARISE YOUR WHOLE PRESENTATION / TALK IN ONE SENTENCE

Work out the aim of your talk. What do you want the audience to go away with?



PUBLIC SPEAKING



THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

Choose one or two of the tips below that you would like to work on. You are not expected to incorporate all of these! Are there any you didn't know? Which is the most useful?

1	2	3
Be yourself. This sounds like a cliché, but it is the key. Do not think you have to be 'more' extrovert/comedic/interesting or any other label.	Find an interesting fact. Something your audience doesn't know and will want to share.	If the audience starts getting restless, ask them to stand up. Have a game that involves movement ready. This will encourage oxygen to the brain.
4	5	6
Consider your beginning and ending. It elevates your whole presentation if you get these right and they are memorable.	If you use slides, never read bullet points from them. This sends most people to sleep! Know your material rather than relying on the slides.	If someone looks bored, anxious or hostile, try to ignore it. You have no idea what's happening in their heads and it's probably nothing to do with you.
7	8	9
Imagine your voice is rising above the audience and hitting the back of the room in an arc. This helps you project your voice.	Check technology before. Back-up presentations and check again - especially if you are in a new environment.	Chat with the group before you start and try to find out a name or two. Refer back to them in your talk. This shows interest and warmth.
10	11	12
Own the space. Stand tall with your weight balanced equally. Try not to fiddle with your hair, lanyard, hands or notes.	Remember that the audience are not judges who are about to jump on any mistake. They are likely to be on your side.	Focus on the ideas you are communicating, not how you will be perceived. This helps with nerves.
13	14	15
Some nerves are good - they give you the adrenaline and therefore energy you need. Professional speakers try to turn their nerves into excitement.	Act: put acting skills to good use. Even if you feel out of your depth, act like a person who feels completely in control. It works!	Smile - this goes a long way!
16	17	18
If it goes wrong it is not the end of the world! Often people won't notice and even if they do, they will understand as they have probably been there themselves.	Let your passion for your topic show.	Don't rush; use silence and vary the tone of your voice if you can. Use stories, as people always remember them.



SESSION 6

THE ACN ONE MILLION CHILDREN PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

Thank you

SESSION 6: DISCUSSION & EVALUATION

This session should take place after your prayer/presentation with the children:

Please share your experience having completed this course:

1. What have you learned?
2. Were you comfortable leading prayer?
3. Were the children responsive? Explain why you think they were/were not.
4. What surprised/impressed/made you think most about ACN, the rosary and Fatima?
5. How have you grown as a public speaker?
6. What next?
7. Why do you think you were invited to keep a prayer journal?
8. How has this course impacted your life and/or general attitude to prayer?
9. How might you help ACN with its mission?
10. Is there something you can start planning now to support ACN?

MEMBERSHIP

If you are not a Member School/Parish Group yet and would like to join our free Membership Programme, please contact: marie.fahy@acnuk.org

Thank you from all at ACN for your participation. Your prayers are vital to our work and those we help are very grateful for your prayerful support.



AGES 11-16

ACN ambassadors



AGES 16-18+

ACN advocates

CERTIFICATES

Please contact us to let us know you are participating. All individuals who complete the course will be issued with a certificate which will be signed by Cardinal Koch (President of ACN). Some certificates will be co-signed by the relevant diocesan bishop.

The following excerpt is adapted from the book "10 Wonders of the Rosary" by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC.

In December 2014, Jesus appeared to a Bishop Oliver and instructed him that the rosary was the weapon that would overcome Boko Haram. Bishop Oliver claims that one evening, while he was praying his rosary, Jesus appeared to him holding a sword. During the vision, Jesus extended the sword toward the bishop. When the bishop went to take the sword from Jesus, it miraculously transformed into a rosary! Once the bishop had the rosary-sword in his hands, Jesus looked at him and said three times, "Boko Haram is gone! Boko Haram is gone! Boko Haram is gone!"

After the bishop of Maiduguri had his vision, he began to promote the rosary in his diocese in Nigeria. In many of his interviews, he repeats his vision and informs his listeners of his interpretation of the vision in the following words: "As soon as I received the sword, it turned into a rosary. I didn't need any prophet to give me the explanation. It was clear that with the rosary we would be able to expel Boko Haram." On October 13, 2016, dozens of kidnapped girls were suddenly released by Boko Haram from captivity. In May 2017, another 83 girls were released. Then, on July 3, 2017, 700 members of Boko Haram surrendered their weapons and turned themselves in to Nigerian authorities.

You can see a short interview here: <https://youtu.be/83Klv9tIC0Y>



One Million Children Praying the Rosary
**"IN THE END MY IMMACULATE
HEART WILL TRIUMPH."**



For unity and peace
On October 7, 2026

In collaboration with:



www.millionchildrenpraying.org

APPENDICES



These are materials which you can use with the younger children when you deliver your presentation. If they are going to pray the rosary after your presentation (and/or on 7 October), you can invite the teacher to use these resources with them.

Remember to remind the teacher/group leader at the primary school to register their school so they will appear on ACN's International map (you should register your school/parish/group too).

- ☐ FR ANTON LÄSSER FROM AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED
- ☐ POSTER
- ☐ FLYER
- ☐ WHY WE PRAY THE ROSARY
- ☐ GLORIOUS MYSTERIES POSTERS
- ☐ GLORIOUS MYSTERIES COLOURING SHEETS
- ☐ ACTIVITY CARDS: THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...





Dear Children,
God listens especially to the prayers of you children. We can see this in many countries. That is why today I warmly ask you to take part in our worldwide prayer campaign

“One Million Children Praying the Rosary.”

You children have an important mission in the world and for the Church.

Very often we see children and families suffering because of war. Sometimes fathers and mothers are killed. Many children are no longer able to go to school. Homes and houses are destroyed. Families have lost their homeland and cannot return. Many people are crying.

For them, on the Feast of the Holy Rosary, 7 October, we want to pray together with hundreds of thousands of children all over the world. We ask Our Lady and Jesus to stop the wars and to let people live again in peace.

In Fatima, in Portugal, Our Lady came down from Heaven and appeared to the shepherd children Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco. She urgently asked the children to pray the Rosary, because through it she can help the people on earth. She promised:

“In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.”

Then people will live in peace. Mary, the Mother of God, is the “Queen of Peace.” She can help us so that peace may come.

In Italy there was an especially holy priest, Saint Padre Pio. He was very close to God and is said to have once declared:

“When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change.”

That is why your prayer is so important. It brings peace into the hearts of people and changes the world. Imagine this: all around the world, children are praying at the same time — in schools, families and churches. A great wave of prayer goes around the earth and rises up to Heaven. And you are part of it.

1/2

In collaboration with:



Pope's Worldwide
Prayer Network





On our website www.millionchildrenpraying.org you will find many beautiful ways to join in: colouring pictures, prayers, craft ideas and help for praying the Rosary. You can also share these things with your friends and pray together with them. There you can also register your name and show:

"I am helping Our Lady and praying for peace!"

I am very happy if you join us, and I bless you.

Yours,

Fr Anton Lässer from Aid to the Church in Need



2/2

In collaboration with:



**Pope's Worldwide
Prayer Network**





A C N

One Million Children

Praying the Rosary

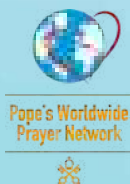
For unity and peace



"In the end my Immaculate Heart will Triumph."

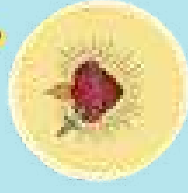
On October 7, 2026

In collaboration with:



www.millionchildrenpraying.org

Children's Consecration to Our Lady



Mary, my Mother,
today I come to you with joy,
to give you my whole heart.
I give you everything I have
and everything I do, my whole life.
To you I bring every single person,
that I hold in love in my heart: my parents,
my brothers and my sisters, all my friends,
but also those who have hurt me.
Be a Mother to us all, bless and protect us.
I wish to be your child,
to love you as my Mother
and pray faithfully to you.
Help me to remember, each day,
that I belong to you.
Mother, I am yours,
now and for all eternity.
With you and through you
I want to belong
completely to Jesus.

Amen.



A C N

One Million Children Praying the Rosary For unity and peace



"In the End my Immaculate Heart will Triumph."

On October 7, 2026

In collaboration with:



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Why we pray the Rosary

An invitation to all children



The Rosary is a precious treasure in our Church. It's a special prayer that is prayed by millions of people, including children, all over the world. The reason it's so special is that it brings us closer to Jesus and Mary. When we pick up our Rosary, it's not just a string of beads, but a band of love that we hold in our hands. A band that binds us together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and with God.

Whenever we pray the Rosary, we repeat the words "Hail, Mary" over and over. It sounds like a lot of "Hail Marys", but each time we say these words, it's like offering the Mother of God a beautiful little rose. And when we pray them lots of times, it's like presenting a large and beautiful bouquet of roses to Our Lady.

It might sometimes seem repetitive, saying the same words over and over again. But if you were to tell your mummy or daddy every day "I love you", would they find that boring? No! For love is never boring – in fact it grows stronger every time we express it.

The Rosary is like a treasure trove in which we discover about Jesus and his Mysteries – how he was born, how he lived and worked so many miracles, how he suffered and died for us, how he rose again and went up into heaven... Whenever we think about the life of Jesus, we learn just how much he loves us. And Mary, his Mother, helps us to get to know and understand him better.

Even if you are still only little, you can still join in and pray. Maybe only part of the Rosary – just a few "Hail Marys" perhaps? Even this is very precious – for every little prayer counts. Each time you pray, Jesus and Mary are delighted with each little flower you give them. In fact all of heaven smiles down on you! The Rosary is like a ladder, which brings us, step by step, closer to God in heaven.

In our great prayer campaign "A million children praying the Rosary" you are not praying alone. All around the world – in schools, churches, houses and villages – children like you are joining together at the same time and praying the Rosary with you. And so thousands and thousands of children are all praying to God for peace in the world, for people who are lonely or unhappy, or who are suffering and having a hard time.

And so, step up bravely and join in! Take up the Rosary in your hands and pray! Jesus can hear you; Mary can hear you and smiles joyfully at you! And you will discover that you are never alone!

"In the End my Immaculate Heart will Triumph."



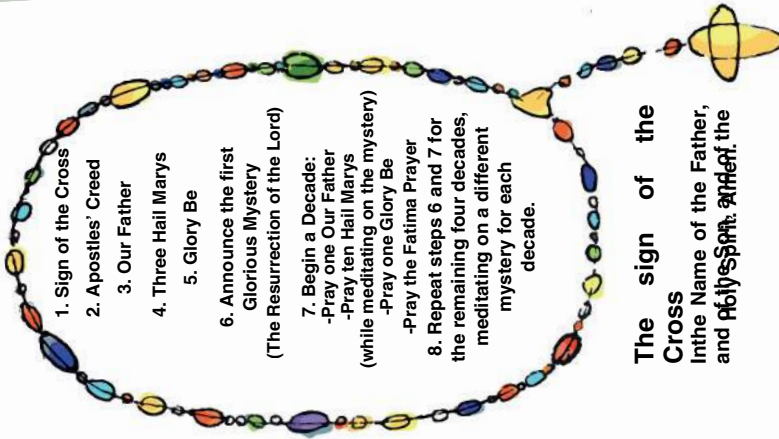
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Pope's Worldwide
Prayer Network



How to pray the Rosary



1. Sign of the Cross
2. Apostles' Creed
3. Our Father
4. Three Hail Marys
5. Glory Be
6. Announce the first Glorious Mystery (The Resurrection of the Lord)
7. Begin a Decade:
 - Pray one Our Father
 - Pray ten Hail Marys (while meditating on the mystery)
 - Pray one Glory Be
8. Repeat steps 6 and 7 for the remaining four decades, meditating on a different mystery for each decade.

The sign of the Cross
 In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Under Pontius Pilate He was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who most need thy mercy.



The Glorious Mysteries

love to others. Help especially Christians who are persecuted because they believe in Jesus. Mary, Queen of the Apostles - pray for us.

4. The Assumption of Mary Into Heaven

Because Mary loved God with all her heart and always remained united with Him, she was, while still on earth, already beautiful and ready for Heaven. Therefore, Jesus took her, body and soul, into Heaven. From Mary we learn that loving God is the most important thing in life. This love makes us beautiful and leads us to Heaven.

Holy Mary, our Mother in Heaven, help us always to love God and remain faithful to Him as you did. Help us never forget that you always desire to help all people and lead them to God. Mary, please help all peoples and nations to live in peace and to love one another.

Mary, Mother of Fair Love - pray for us.

5. The Coronation of Our Lady as Queen of Heaven

Mary, the Mother of God, was taken up into Heaven by God. There, everyone rejoices in her great beauty and holiness. God Himself rejoices in Mary, whom He created so wonderfully, and He crowns her Queen of Heaven and Earth. What began in the pure and Immaculate Heart of Mary is now visible to everyone in Heaven. Mary is forever Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Holy Mary, our loving Mother and Queen, help us children, parents, and families to love you and lead us ever closer to Jesus. Please care for those who are dying and have mercy on the poor souls in Purgatory. Help all who believe in God never to lose hope in eternal life in Heaven.

Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth - pray for us.

1. Jesus, who rose from the dead Jesus died on the Cross in a terrible way. But He is much stronger than all of evil and rose from the dead. In this way, He even conquered death and opened the door to eternal life for everyone. If we love Jesus, we will share in His victory and live forever with Him. That's why I do not need to be afraid of anything - not even dying.

Holy Mary, even when your Son Jesus died on the Cross, you trusted with a pure heart in His Resurrection and waited in hope. Please help us always trust in Jesus. Comfort especially all people who suffer because of war, and all children and families who have lost someone they love. Mary, Queen of Peace - pray for us.

2. Jesus, who ascended into Heaven

After Jesus told His Apostles that He was preparing a place for us in Heaven, He ascended to His Father in Heaven. That is why we believe Heaven is our true home. All who love Jesus will one day live there forever in joy and great beauty.

Holy Mary, help us all to be happy one day together in Heaven. Please help all people who do not yet know Jesus find Him. Comfort especially those who have lost their homeland or someone they love. Let them know that their true home is in Heaven.

Mary, Star of the Sea - pray for us.

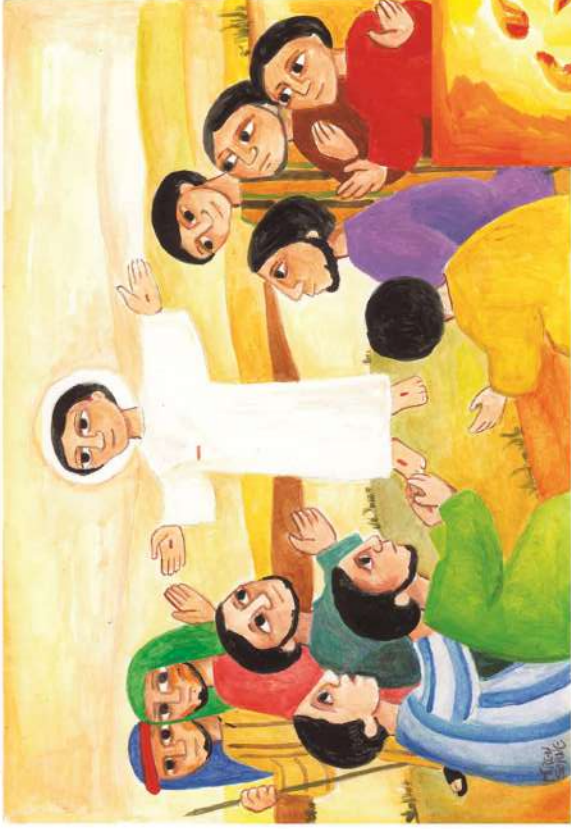
3. Jesus, who sent us the Holy Spirit

Jesus promised His disciples that He would never leave them alone, even when He returned to the Father in Heaven. We rejoice that Jesus is now with His Father and that He sends us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us to understand what Jesus said and did. He shows us what is true and fills us with His love, so that we can love like Jesus.

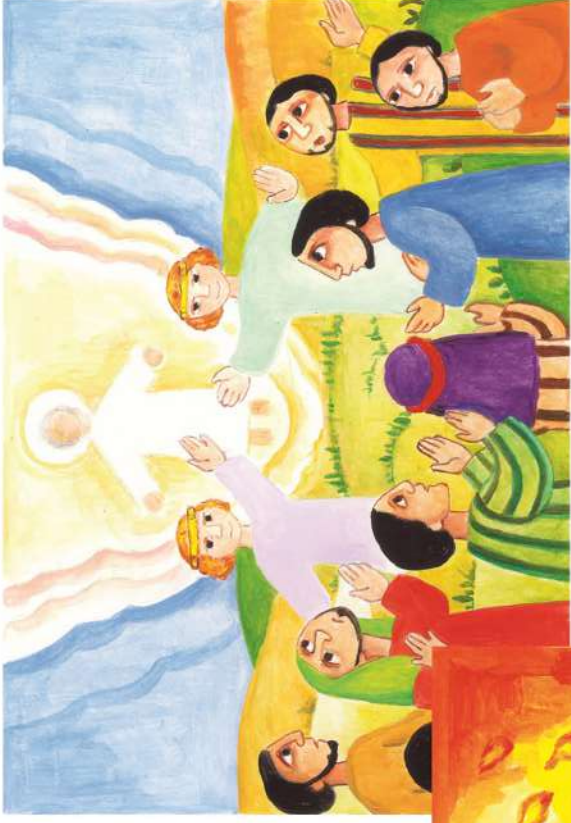
Holy Mary, the Holy Spirit always lived in your pure heart. On earth, you were His temple and His bride. Show us who the Holy Spirit is, how to listen to Him, and how to remain united with Jesus. Please help all Christians to speak courageously about Jesus and to show His



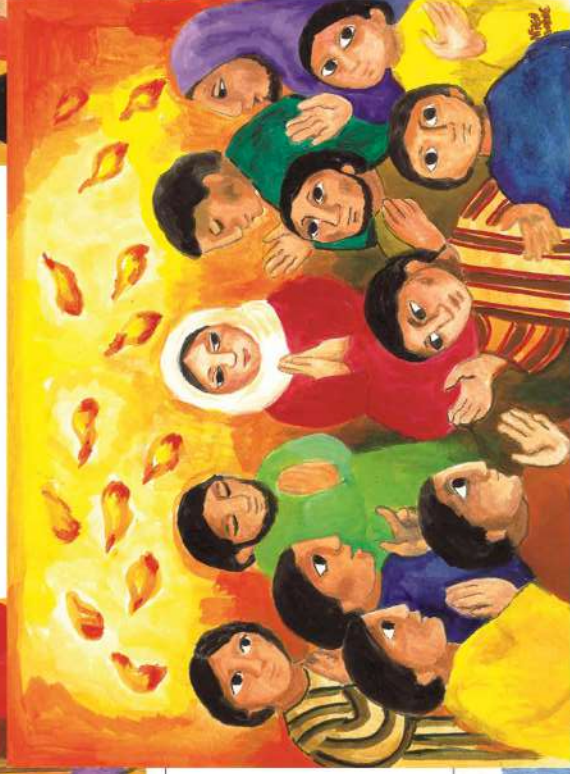
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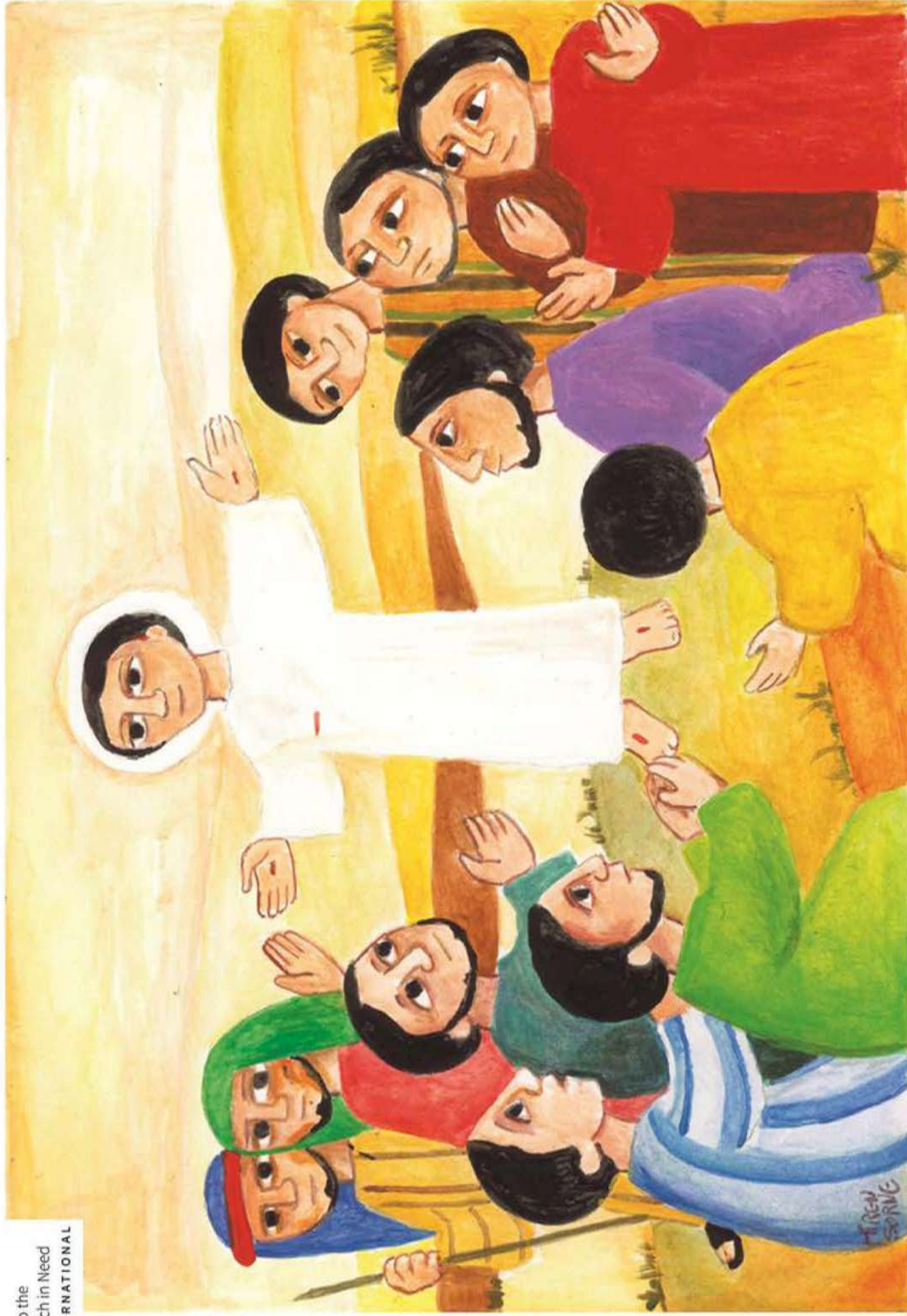
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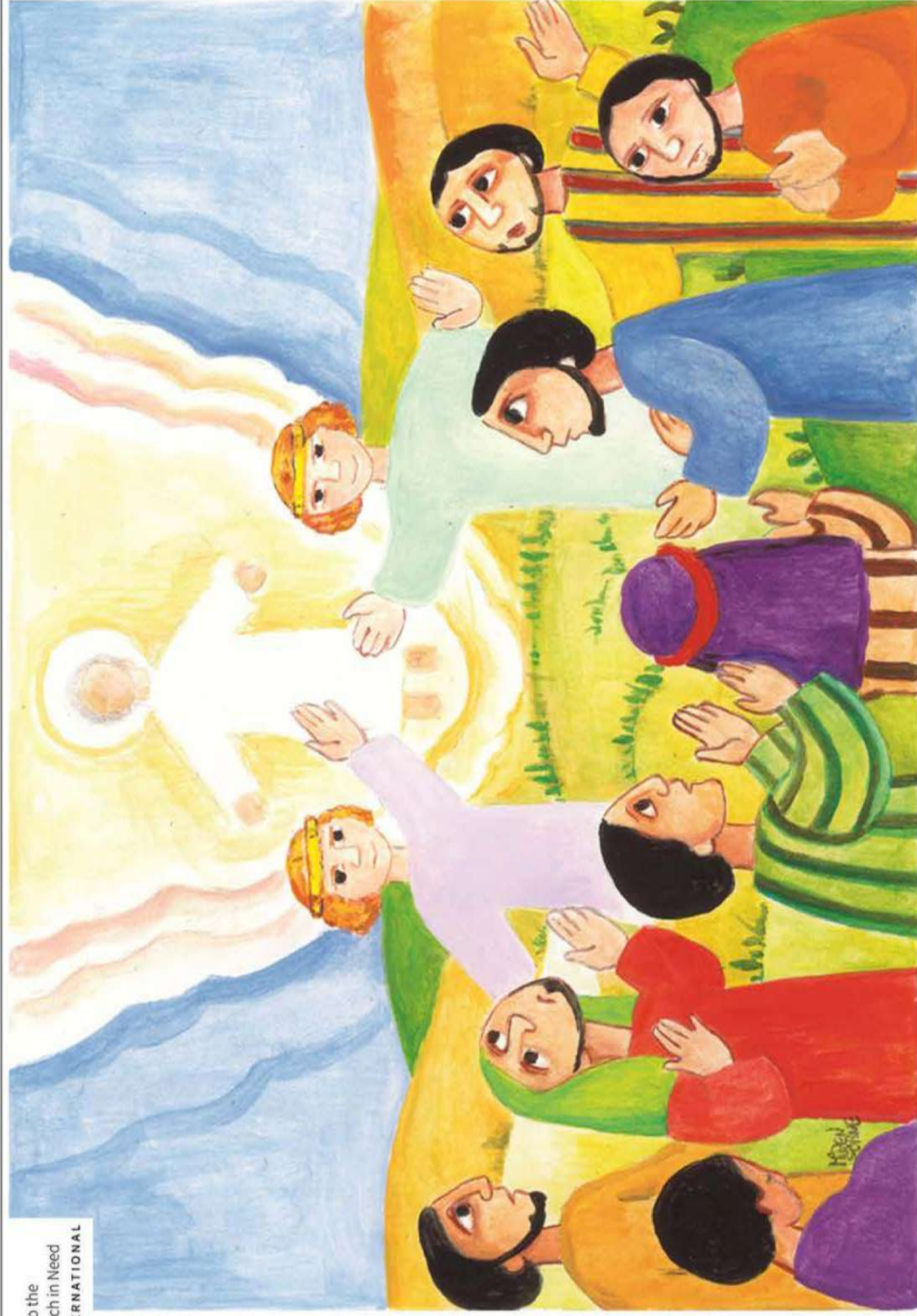


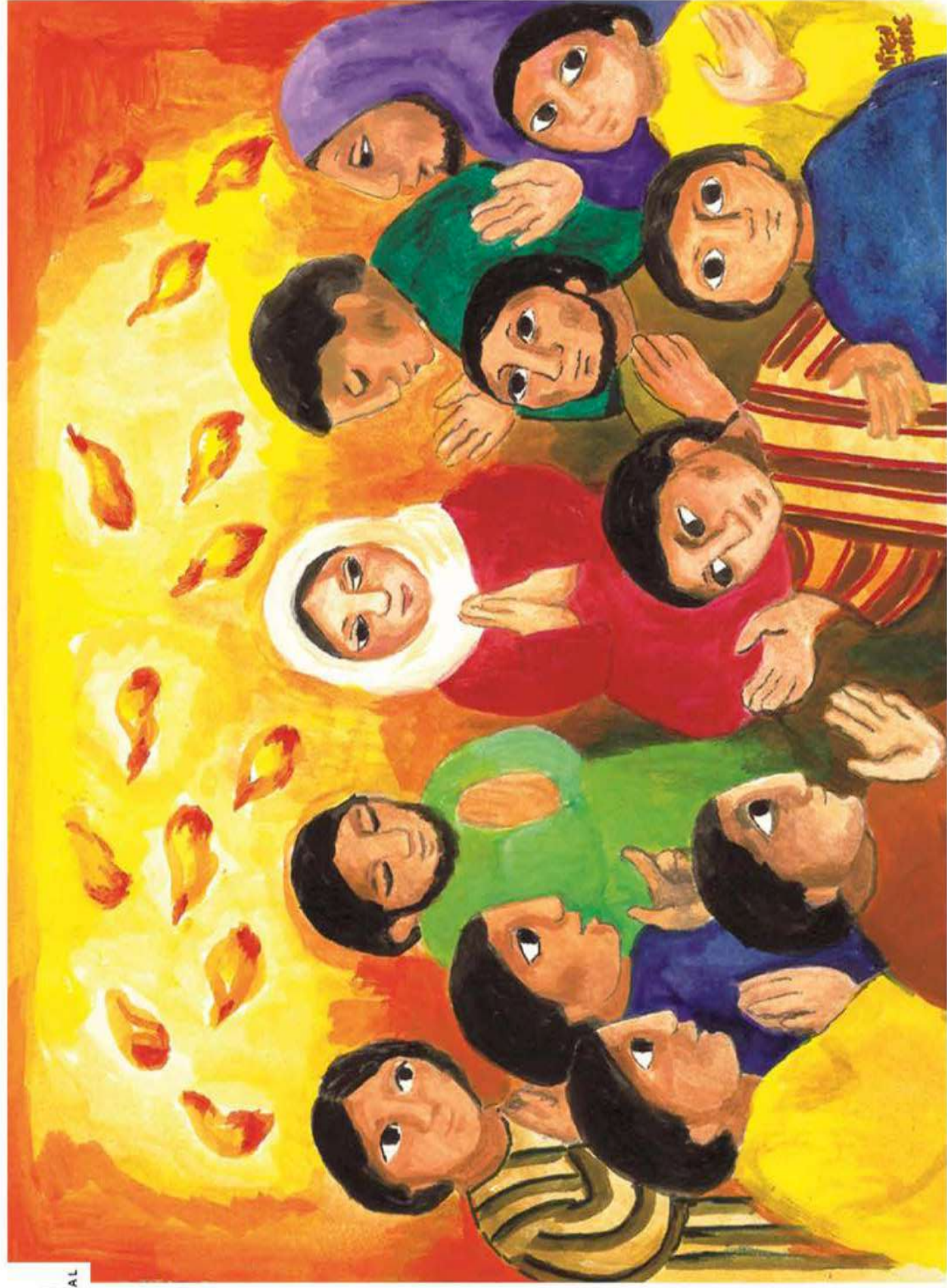
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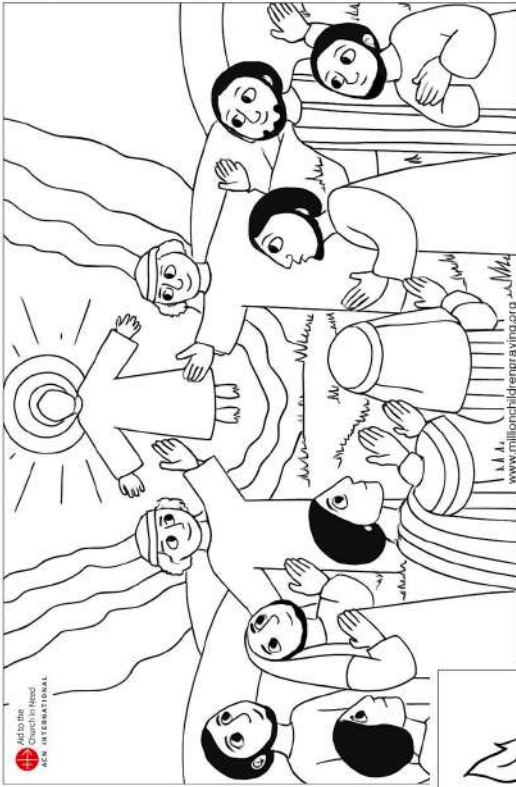




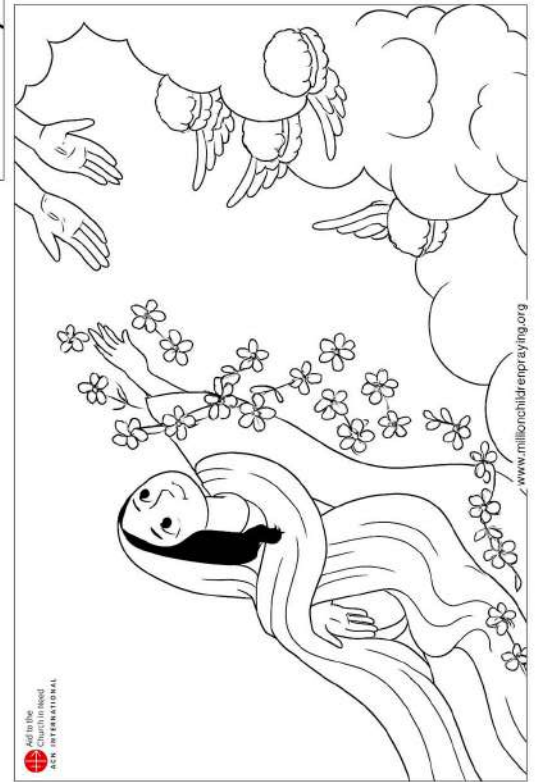
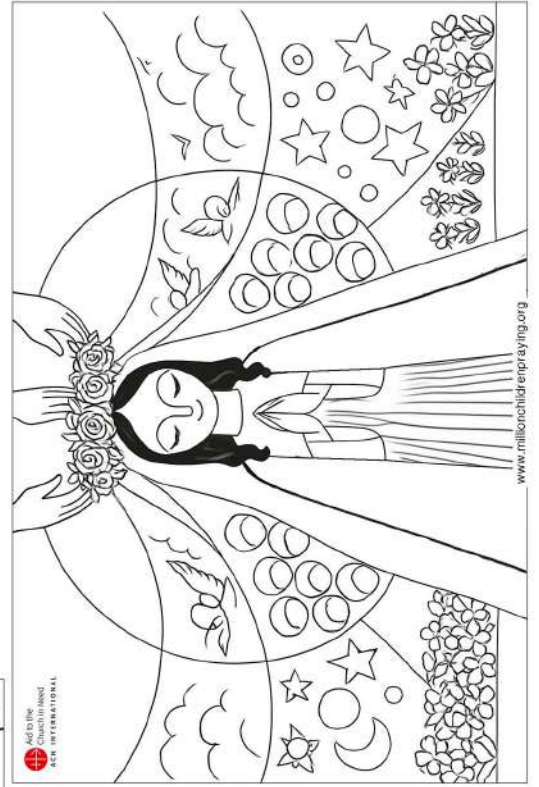


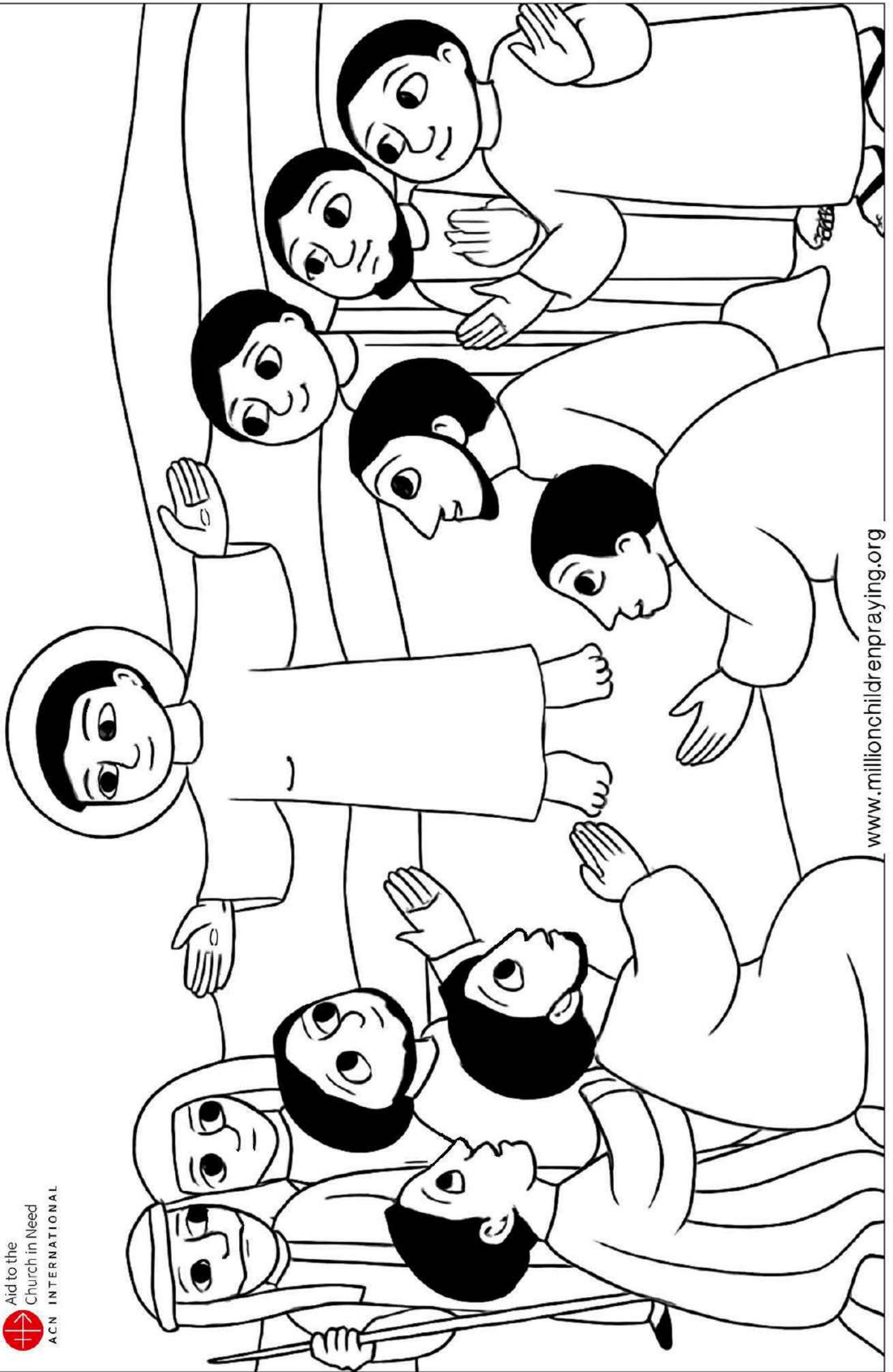


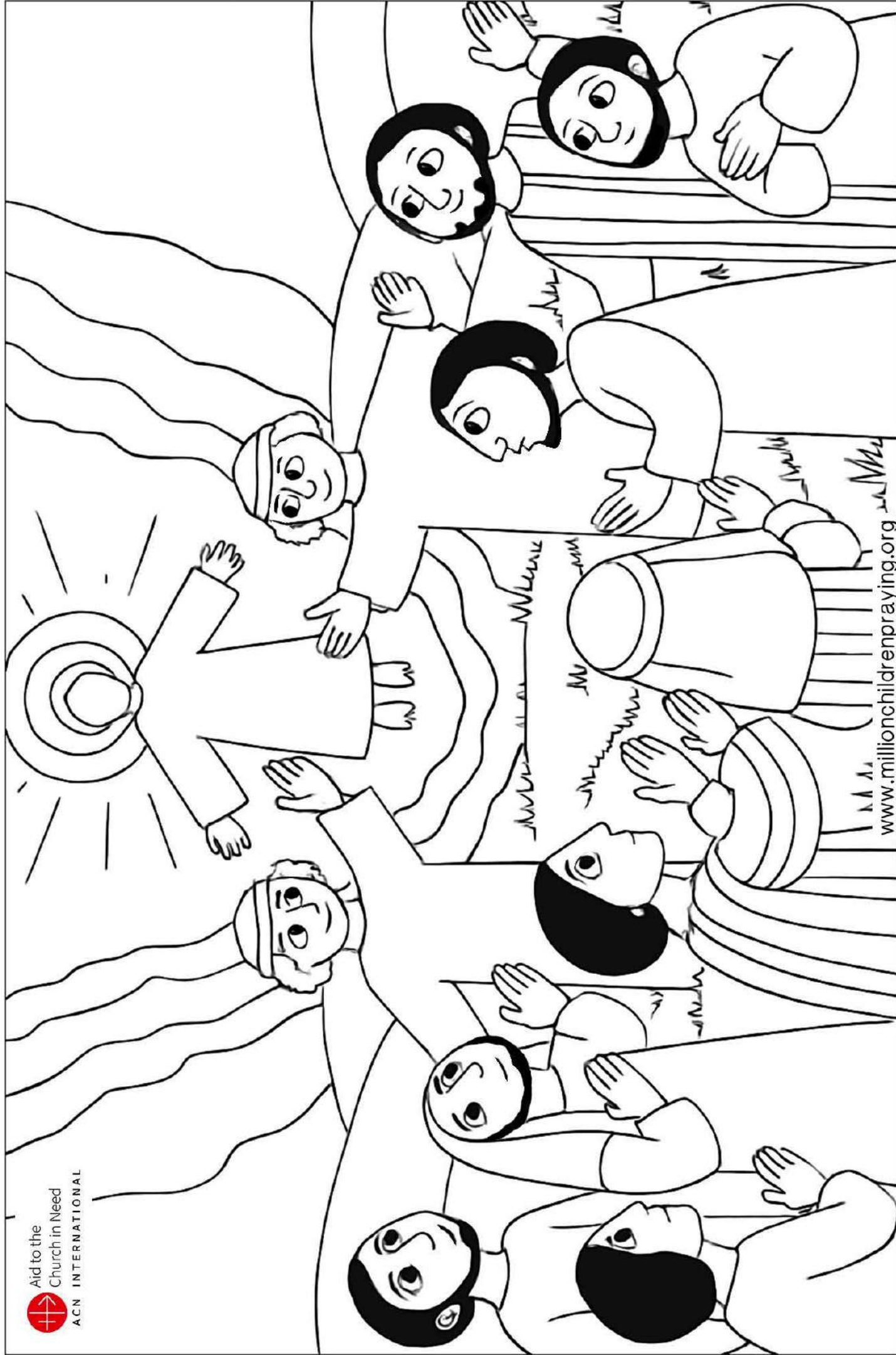




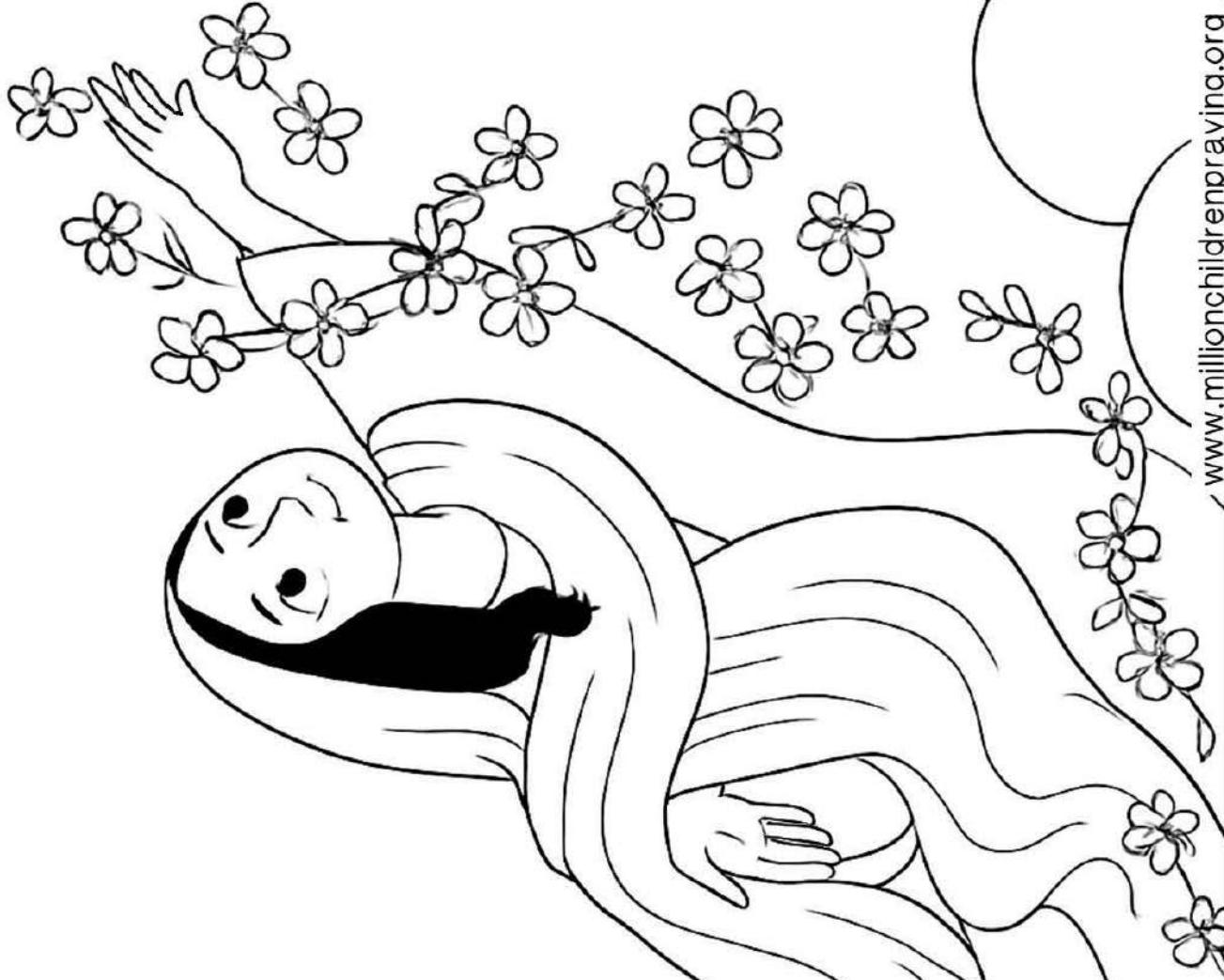
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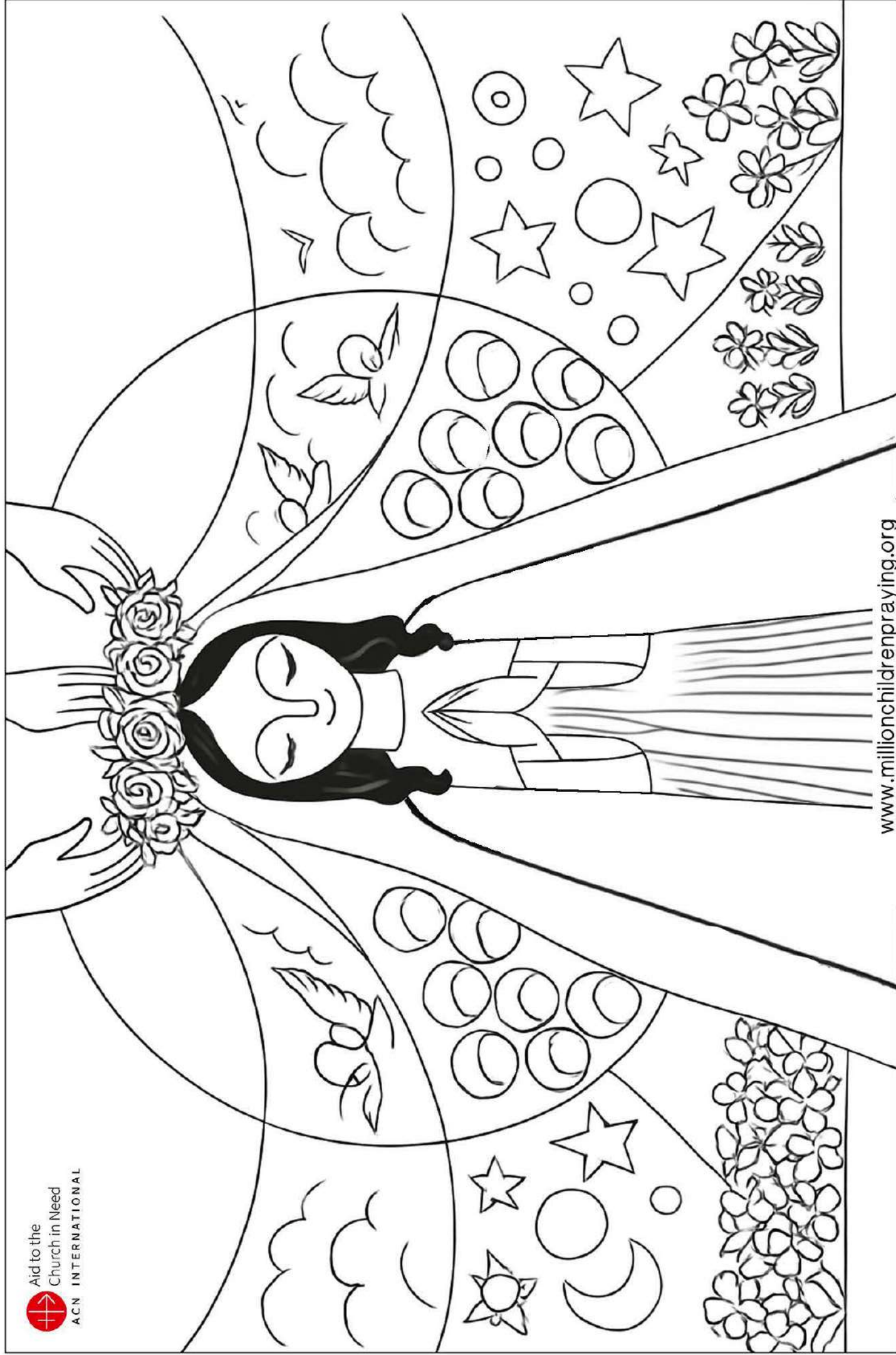








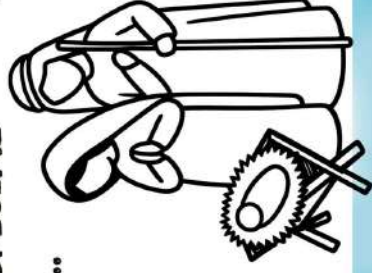




THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL

BECAUSE...

We stand with Our Lady, looking at Jesus and God's plan for us all.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL

BECAUSE...

The Bible is not a 'dead' book. It is alive in a way that each time we read it prayerfully, God speaks to our hearts and our situations.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL

BECAUSE...

Our Lady has appeared all over the world for centuries. Each time she told the visionaries to pray the rosary. It is a spiritual weapon.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL

BECAUSE...

The rosary contains the 'Our Father', Jesus gave us this prayer.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL

BECAUSE...

It is based on the Bible. Everything in the Bible is important for our lives even if we don't sometimes understand it.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL

BECAUSE...

All of the saints were very devoted to it and the saints are an example to us.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

We are being
unselfish when we
pray for others.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

It takes trust to pray the
rosary. Sometimes it
seems repetitive, but
we trust that God
blesses our efforts.



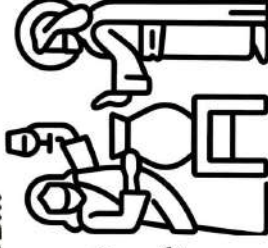
THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

Our Lady told the children at
Fatima that praying the rosary
brings God's love to the lives to
those who pray it, their loved
ones and the world. This is called
giving us graces and blessings.



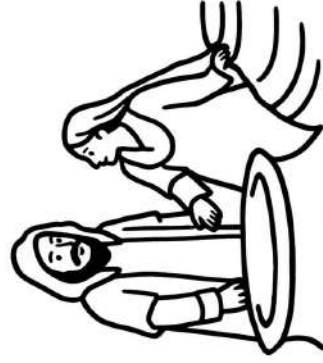
THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

When we pray it we
meditate on the life
of Jesus.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

God hears our prayers. He
listened to his mother, Mary,
when on earth and he listens
to her now. When we pray the
rosary we are asking Mary to
pray with us.



THE ROSARY IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

The rosary contains the Hail Mary -
the first part of the Hail Mary is a
direct quote from the Bible. During
the second part we are simply asking
Mary (Our Lady) to pray with us.

