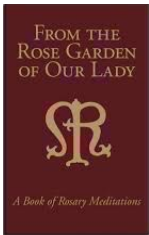


Meditation on the mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary



The Second Glorious Mystery

The Ascension of Christ



Method of meditation

To do a good meditation we ought to use the main three faculties of our soul: memory, intelligence, and will. This is a brief explanation of how to meditate:

- 1) Memory: firstly, I try to remember some principles, great realities of our faith or events of Our Lord's life and bring them into my mind so that they may be meditated upon.
- 2) Intelligence (knowledge of God): secondly, I consider these thoughts and try to understand their meaning and the consequences which are attached to them.
- 3) Will (love of God): finally, after a while of consideration, I produce some acts of will in order to apply concretely what I have drawn from my meditation into my own life and I ask God to help me to do so.

With this support, this method can be done like this:

- 1) Memory: read slowly the **extract from the Gospel and the Imitation of Christ** (page 2).
- 2) Intelligence: read and think longer about the **first series of considerations** (page 3).
- 3) Will: read the **second series of considerations** which apply in a more practical way the message of the Gospel (page 4).

End by reading the last consideration which should lead us to make **a real resolution** to apply the examples of this mystery of the rosary in our own life (page 4).

As part of the 1st Saturdays devotions, let us do this **meditation in spirit of reparation** in order to console Our Lady against the outrages committed towards her Immaculate Heart.

1. Gospel Text

And eating together with them, He commanded them, that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but should wait for the promise of the Father, which you have heard (saith He) by my mouth. For John indeed baptised with water, but you shall be baptised with the Holy Ghost, not many days hence.

They therefore who were come together, asked Him, saying: "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom of Israel?"

But He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or moments, which the Father has put in His own power: But you shall receive the power of the Holy Ghost coming upon you, and you shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem and Samaria and even to the uttermost parts of the earth."

And when He had said these things, while they looked on, He was raised up: and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they were beholding Him going up to Heaven, behold two men stood by them in white garments. Who also said: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand you looking up from you into Heaven, shall so come, as you have seen Him going into Heaven.

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount that is called Olivet, which is nigh Jerusalem, within a sabbath-day's journey (Acts 1:4-12).

2. The Imitation of Christ

O most happy mansion of the city above! O most bright day of eternity, which no night darkeneth, but the highest truth ever enlighteneth, a day always joyful, always secure, and never changing its state for the contrary.

O! that this day would shine upon us, and all those temporal things come to an end.

O! when will there be an end of these evils? When, O Lord, shall I be so happy as to think of Thee alone? When shall I to the full rejoice in Thee?

When shall I enjoy a solid peace, never to be disturbed and always secure, a peace both within and without, and a peace every way firm?

O good Jesus! when shall I stand to behold Thee? When shall I contemplate the glory of Thy kingdom?

I am left a poor exile in the enemy's country, where there are wars every day and very great misfortunes.

Blessed is the man who for Thee, O Lord, leaveth all things created, who offereth violence to his nature, that so he may be worthy to be admitted among the choirs of the angels to praise Thee in their company (from Book III, Chapter 48).

3. Considerations

1st series

1. Jesus, accompanied by His Apostles, ascends the Mount of Olives. There the traces of His bitter agony are still visible. Once again He rests His gaze upon the various scenes of His sufferings. For the last time, He gazes down on Golgotha, on Jerusalem, on the temple, on Bethlehem, on the streets that His feet so often trod.
2. Jesus sees gathered around Him the little company of His dear ones: His beloved Mother whom it is His will to leave behind Him for a while, clad in the vesture of mortality, His Apostles and disciples,— that little flock, which He loves so much and from whom He must now part. The Heart of Christ aches, as if with homesickness, at the thought of the impending separation.
3. Jesus now imparts the last blessing of His earthly sojourn. And then before the eyes of all He ascends up to Heaven. With painful longing and still with infinite joy, His Mother and His disciples stand watching Jesus ascend on high.
4. The invisible, uncounted host of the just from Limbo proceed with their Saviour into their eternal home. Their jubilant chant resounds up to Heaven: “Be ye lifted up, O eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall enter in.”
5. Glorious beyond all human understanding is the entrance of Jesus into Heaven. After accomplishing the hardest of all tasks, after the strictest obedience, the Eternal Son returns to the bosom of His most dearly loved Father. The reward that Jesus receives in the everlasting love of His Father and the undying gratitude of the redeemed.
6. At the right hand of His Father Jesus Christ, the God-Man, is enthroned as Eternal King of the World.

2nd series

7. But the Good Shepherd in Heaven does not forget His flock here below. Then also He shall one day take unto Himself. Meantime, He prepares for them glorious mansions in Heaven. As for us, we must look up to Heaven every day and get ready for it.
8. Unceasingly Jesus displays before the eyes of His Father, especially at the consecration of the Mass, the wounds of His bloody sacrifice and thus makes intercession for us. I shall now dispose myself in the best way possible when attending Mass so that I may benefit from all the graces I need daily to make my journey to Heaven.
9. The glorified Saviour will come again on the last day. He will reveal His Kingdom to all, both the good and the bad, and He will judge the whole world. O Jesus, be Thou unto me not a stern judge but a gracious redeemer.

Resolution

10. My resolution: "Love not the world nor what is in the world, for the world passeth away and the concupiscence thereof." "Seek ye the things that are above, where Christ sits at the right hand of the Father." I will then ever live in such a manner, that my way of life may be a path leading to Heaven.