

THE HISTORY OF THE ROSARY

PRE-CHRISTIAN

ANCIENT NINEVEH: SCULPTURE OF TWO WOMEN STANDING BEFORE A SACRED TREE IN THE ATTITUDE OF PRAYER. THEIR RIGHT HAND IS EXTENDED, AND IN THEIR LEFT HAND THEY HOLD A GARLAND OR ROSARY

NON-CHRISTIAN

MARCO POLO FOUND KING OF MALABAR USING A ROSARY OF 104 BEADS OF PRECIOUS STONES
MOSLEMS HAVE ROSARIES OF 33, 66, 99 BEADS TO INVOKE THE NAME OF ALLAH
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER FOUND BUDDHISTS IN JAPAN USING ROSARIES

CHRISTIAN

BEGINNINGS

- 1) ANCIENT HERMITS COUNTED PRAYERS
- USING PEBBLES, HOLDS IN A BOARD
- NUMBERS RANGING FROM 100 TO MULTIPLES OF 100
- 2) PRAYERS SAID: KYRIE ELEISON, OUR FATHER, 150 OR 50 PSALMS
- 3) REGULAR MEANS OF SUPPLICATIONS FOR POOR SOULS
- 4) BY 1000 A.D. STRINGS OF PEBBLES, BERRIES, DISCS OF BONES
- 5) BY 1150 THE HAIL MARY CAME INTO COMMON USE
- ORIGINALLY A SALUTATION
- THEN BOTH SALUTATION AND INVOCATION
- 6) "ROSARIES" OF RELIGIOUS AND LEARNED PSNS = PSALMS
ROSARIES OF THE FAITHFUL = AVE MARIAS (50 OR 150), BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PSALMS. THIS BY 1200 A.D.

ROLE OF ST. DOMINIC

- 1) ENCOURAGEMENT FROM POPE
- 2) RAGING OF HERESY, ESP ALBIGENSIANISM
- 3) AWARENESS OF THREAT OF ISLAM
- 4) REALIZATION THAT OUR LADY MUST BE INVOKED TO WORK MIRACLES OF 1) CONVERSION TO 2) PROTECTION OF THE TRUE CATHOLIC FAITH.
- 5) ST. DOMINIC'S ROLE WAS TO INSPIRE HIS FOLLOWERS WITH DEVOTION TO MARY. ATTRIBUTION TO DOMINIC AS ORIGINATOR DATES FROM 1470.

CHURCH'S OFFICIAL ATTITUDE

- 1) THE ROSARY IS OUR LADY'S REALTER
- 2) THE ROSARY IS PRE-EMINENTLY THE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE
- 3) NUMEROUS PAPAL COMMENTARIES, EXHORTATIONS
- 4) FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY
- DEFEAT OF ALBIGENSIANS AT MURET (1213)
- VICTORY OVER MUSLEMS AT LEPANTO (1571), 1ST SUN OF OCT.
- LEO XIII EXT. TO WHOLE CHURCH
- PROPER OFFICE BY LEO XIII (1888)
- 5) CONFRATERNITY OF THE HOLY ROSARY
- 6) RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES
- 7) O.L. OF LOURDES
- 8) O.L. OF FATIMA

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROSARY