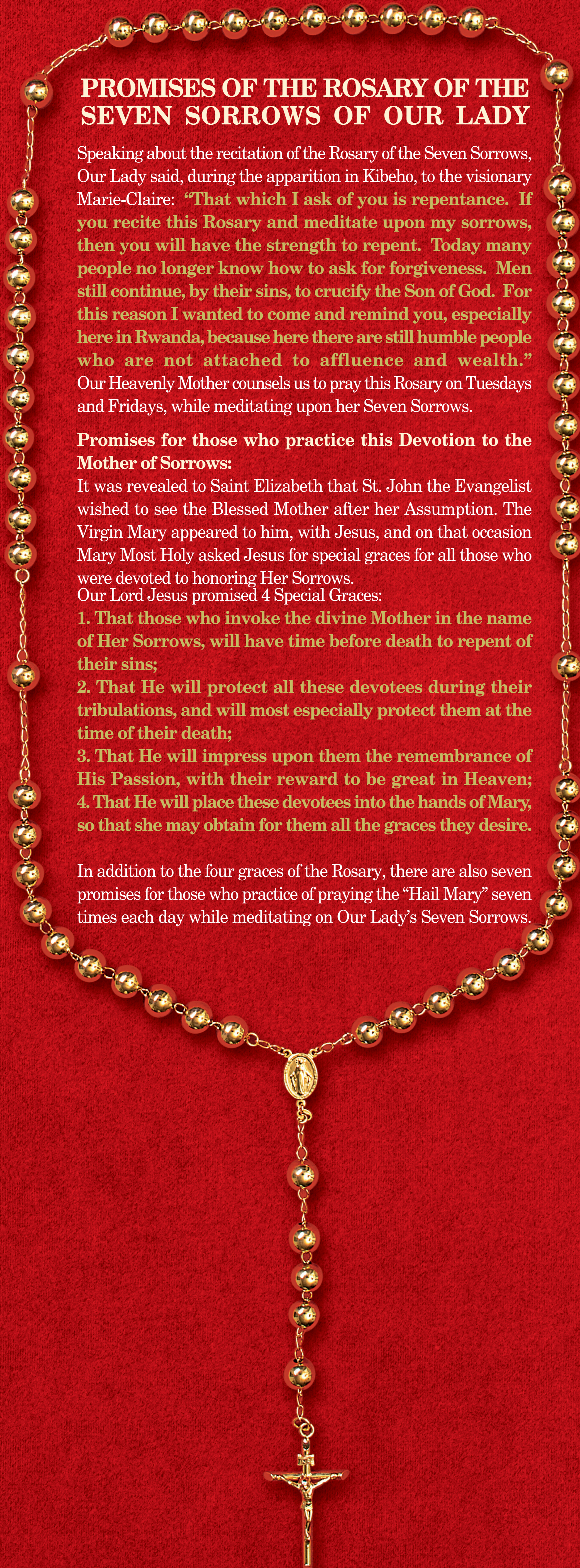


The Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows

THE HOLY ROSARY



PROMISES OF THE ROSARY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS OF OUR LADY

Speaking about the recitation of the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows, Our Lady said, during the apparition in Kibeho, to the visionary Marie-Claire: "That which I ask of you is repentance. If you recite this Rosary and meditate upon my sorrows, then you will have the strength to repent. Today many people no longer know how to ask for forgiveness. Men still continue, by their sins, to crucify the Son of God. For this reason I wanted to come and remind you, especially here in Rwanda, because here there are still humble people who are not attached to affluence and wealth." Our Heavenly Mother counsels us to pray this Rosary on Tuesdays and Fridays, while meditating upon her Seven Sorrows.

Promises for those who practice this Devotion to the Mother of Sorrows:

It was revealed to Saint Elizabeth that St. John the Evangelist wished to see the Blessed Mother after her Assumption. The Virgin Mary appeared to him, with Jesus, and on that occasion Mary Most Holy asked Jesus for special graces for all those who were devoted to honoring Her Sorrows. Our Lord Jesus promised 4 Special Graces:

1. That those who invoke the divine Mother in the name of Her Sorrows, will have time before death to repent of their sins;
2. That He will protect all these devotees during their tribulations, and will most especially protect them at the time of their death;
3. That He will impress upon them the remembrance of His Passion, with their reward to be great in Heaven;
4. That He will place these devotees into the hands of Mary, so that she may obtain for them all the graces they desire.

In addition to the four graces of the Rosary, there are also seven promises for those who practice of praying the "Hail Mary" seven times each day while meditating on Our Lady's Seven Sorrows.



FIRST SORROW: Mary hears the prophecy of Simeon in the Temple
Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary, His Mother: "Behold, He is set for the fall and the rising of many in Israel, and for a sign of contradiction, and that the thoughts may be revealed out of many hearts. And also to you, thy own heart a sword (of sorrow) shall pierce." (Luke 2:34-35).

"Most Merciful Mother, remind us always of the Sorrows of your Son, Jesus" + 7 Hail Marys



SECOND SORROW: Mary flees with Joseph into Egypt to save Jesus

An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said to him: "Arise, take with you the Child and His Mother, and quickly flee into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod is seeking the child in order to kill him." Joseph, awakened, took the Child and His Mother by night and fled into Egypt. (Matt 2:13-14). After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph asleep in Egypt, and said: "Arise, take with you the Child and His Mother, and go into the land of Israel; because they are dead those who threatened the life of the Child." (Matt 2:19-20).

"Most Merciful Mother, remind us always of the Sorrows of your Son, Jesus" + 7 Hail Marys



THIRD SORROW: Mary loses Jesus, and finds him again, in the Temple

Jesus remained in Jerusalem, without his parents having realized it. Believing he was in the caravan, they journeyed for one day, and then they began to search for Him among the relatives and acquaintances. After three days they found Him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, while he was listening to them and asking them questions. Upon seeing Him they were astounded, and His Mother said to Him: "My Son, why have you done this unto us? Behold, your father and I, anguished, were looking for you." (Luke 2: 43-44, 46, 48).

"Most Merciful Mother, remind us always of the Sorrows of your Son, Jesus" + 7 Hail Marys



FOURTH SORROW: Mary meets Jesus carrying the Cross on the Way to Calvary

"All you who pass this way, consider and see if there be any sorrow like my sorrow." (Lam. 1:12). Mary witnessed Jesus carrying the heavy cross. He fell down, exhausted. At that moment, Mary's eyes, so full of tender love and compassion, met her Son's eyes, which were pained and covered in blood. Their hearts shared the anguish; every pain He felt, she felt as well. "Jesus saw His Mother present there." (John 19:26).

"Most Merciful Mother, remind us always of the Sorrows of your Son, Jesus" + 7 Hail Marys.



FIFTH SORROW: Mary is present at the Crucifixion and Death of Jesus

Present at the foot of the Cross of Jesus were His Mother, His Mother's sister, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalen. Jesus, upon seeing His Mother there and standing next to her the disciple whom he loved, he said to His Mother: "Woman, behold your son!" After that he said to his disciple: "Behold your mother!" From that moment the disciple took her into his own home. (John 19:25-27). And after having taken the vinegar, Jesus said: "It is finished!" And he bowed His head, and died. (John 19:30). Pray one Our Father and seven Hail Marys, followed by this verse:

"Most Merciful Mother, remind us always of the Sorrows of your Son, Jesus" + 7 Hail Marys



SIXTH SORROW: Mary receives the dead body of Jesus in her arms

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, took down His Body from the Cross and placed It in the outstretched arms of the Blessed Virgin. Then Mary washed It with deep love and respect because she was His mother, to prepare It in the manner of the Jews for burial. (John 19:38-40)

"Most Merciful Mother, remind us always of the Sorrows of your Son, Jesus" + 7 Hail Marys



SEVENTH SORROW: Mary accompanies Jesus to His Burial

Joseph of Arimathea, a noble member of the Sanhedrin, who was also seeking the kingdom of God, had boldly gone to Pilate to ask for the body of Jesus. He bought new fine linen, took down His Body, had Him wrapped in the linen, and placed Him in a new tomb hewn out of a rock. Then a large stone was rolled in front of the sepulchre. Mary Magdalen, and Mary the mother of Joseph, beheld where he was laid. (Mk 15:43, 46-47).

"Most Merciful Mother, remind us always of the Sorrows of your Son, Jesus" + 7 Hail Marys