

CATHOLICMOM.COM
CELEBRATES

Venerable Patrick Peyton

WITH NINE DAYS OF PRAYER
FOR FAMILY UNITY

January 1-9, 2020

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

ON JANUARY 9, 1909, Patrick Peyton was born in County Mayo, Ireland into humble beginnings. He found his way to the United States and into the Congregation of Holy Cross. While a seminarian and studying at Holy Cross College in Washington, D.C., Patrick was stricken with tuberculosis. For almost a full year Patrick languished in his hospital bed at Notre Dame. A wise, elderly priest encouraged him to put his trust in the power of Mary's intercession. Almost immediately doctors saw signs of improvement and could not explain his recovery. Patrick was convinced that he had regained his health and strength through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin.

In gratitude to Our Lady, he was determined to spend the rest of his life promoting devotion to her so everyone would come to know the blessings that she is eager to bestow on those who turn to her with confidence and love.

And so he did. Venerable Patrick Peyton made it his life's work to promote the Rosary and it continues today through Holy Cross Family Ministries.

We can learn so much from Patrick Peyton's life: the power of prayer, the importance of persistence, and most especially, that ordinary people are able to accomplish extraordinary things when we surrender ourselves to the mission God has for our lives.

To celebrate and recognize his birthday, it's only appropriate to welcome you and your loved ones to join us in praying a Novena for family strength and unity around the world.

With this petition, we are confident that through the grace of God you and your family will be spiritually enriched, thus living out Venerable Patrick Peyton's belief that *"The Family That Prays Together Stays Together."*

LET US PRAY

Take a moment to gather your family. It's helpful to find a quiet space, turn off all digital devices, light a candle and perhaps have a statue or image of Our Lady or the Holy Family.

Discuss as a family what intentions you will pray for today. Is a family member ill, out of work, struggling with their studies? Were you blessed in some way today that you would like to offer a petition of thanksgiving? What else is on your heart?

DAILY OPENING PRAYER

Each day of this Novena, begin with the following prayer:

O Jesus, on the Cross you gave us Mary as our Mother. Her faithful servant, Father Patrick Peyton C.S.C., the Family Rosary priest, was inspired by the Holy Spirit to proclaim an important message about the power of family prayer. He believed and preached that The Family That Prays Together Stays Together.

Through Mary and his intercession, we ask for this favor for our family _____.

Let our praying of the Rosary be a way for us to become more united as a family. Amen.

JANUARY I – GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

HOPE

As we pray the Glorious Mysteries together today, we seek a deeper understanding of Mary's virtue of Hope and strive to emulate it in our lives.

First Glorious Mystery: **The Resurrection**

"They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." John 20:2

When Jesus told the disciples of his fate, they were sorrowful. Though understandable, this showed they needed to grow in hope for the Glorious Easter Resurrection. Lord, help us to love you more this day and grow in hope that the Mystery of the Resurrection truly drives out discouragement and despair.

Second Glorious Mystery: **The Ascension of Our Lord**

"The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven...they went forth and preached everywhere." Mark 16:19-20

The disciples were reeling from Jesus' Passion and Death; they, like we are at times, were brokenhearted. But on the day of His Ascension, they are filled with joy! They were beginning to better understand God's way of doing things. Jesus, help us to see your Ascension as a sign of your plan to grow in hope for life eternal.

Third Glorious Mystery: **The Descent of the Holy Spirit**

"And it happened that while they were conversing...Jesus drew near and walked with them." Luke 24:15

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit upon His disciples in the form of tongues of fire, igniting their hearts to immediately go out and preach the hope of Jesus Christ. Lord, help our family to be receptive to your Holy Spirit. Give us a greater sense of hope for our lives each and every day.

Fourth Glorious Mystery: **The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven**

"Mary, preserved free from all stains of original sin, when the source of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory." Pius XII Munificentissimus Deus (1950)

The Church calls Mary the Mother of Sacred Hope, for she is the most exalted model of perfect confidence in God. Let our Blessed Mother's Assumption into Heaven cause us to grow in hope for what you have promised us, Lord.

Fifth Glorious Mystery: **The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

"There, 'in the glory of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity,' in the communion of all the saints, the Church is awaited by the one she venerates, as Mother of her Lord and as her own mother."

At her Immaculate Conception, Mary's soul was endowed with an intense degree of Hope; but the full perfection of that Hope was crowned in Heaven only after a lifetime of joy and trials. Let us also grow into what is possible when we live a life of Hope rooted in God.



JANUARY 2 – LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

FAMILIES

As we pray the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary together today, let us ask for a special blessing for all families. May God grant every family a deep love and longing for spiritual enrichment.

First Luminous Mystery: The Baptism in the Jordan

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:17

The Baptism of Jesus marked the beginning of His ministry, service to others. As a family we are called to serve one another. From our service we gain the strength, love and support to extend ourselves to serve our greater community.

Second Luminous Mystery: The Wedding at Cana

*“On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee and the Mother of Jesus was there.”
John 2:1-12*

The fact that Jesus first revealed his power and purpose at a wedding is significant. It tells us that marriage and family life are of primary concern to God. The small ways in which we appreciate and respect one another can strengthen family relations in mutual love and faithfulness.

Third Luminous Mystery: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

*“And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”
John 20:22-23*

The Spirit appears to help us realize the Kingdom of justice, peace and love proclaimed by Christ. May we feel the loving energy and presence of the Spirit in our family, especially in moments of forgiveness, reconciliation and new beginnings.

Fourth Luminous Mystery: The Transfiguration

*“While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.”
Luke 9:29*

In the Transfiguration Jesus is no longer represented as a symbol of light, but we see Him as Light itself, unfading, unending and undying. Ask Christ to light up our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we might appreciate our own family.

Fifth Luminous Mystery: The Institution of the Eucharist

“He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.” John 13:1b

Everything about the institution of the Eucharist speaks to us about self-giving and service. We ask Jesus to give all of us an understanding and determination to be more like Christ by emulating His actions.

JANUARY 3 – SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

PATIENCE

As we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries together, we discover that even in challenging times a commitment to patience leads to eternal life with Christ.

First Sorrowful Mystery: **The Agony in the Garden**

“Christ Jesus displayed all his patience as an example for those who would come to believe in him.” 1 Timothy 1:16

Time after time Jesus asked more of His disciples than they were ready to give. Even as they stumbled, Jesus was patient and knew that in time they would understand. Being patient can be painful, especially during times of uncertainty and fear of the unknown. Strengthen our faith, O Lord.

Second Sorrowful Mystery: **The Scourging at the Pillar**

“We commend ourselves as ministers of God through ... patience and kindness in the power of God.” 2 Corinthians 6:6

Who among us hasn't sinned? Our merciful Jesus calls each of us to have forgiving and compassionate hearts. Lord, help our family to be merciful to those suffering.

Third Sorrowful Mystery: **The Crowning with Thorns**

“The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob has glorified his servant Jesus whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence.” Acts 3:13

When Jesus' royalty was made sport of in His Passion, He bore the humiliation patiently. Jesus knew He was doing what was right and good. Help us, Lord, to do the same.

Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: **The Carrying of the Cross**

“As they led Jesus away they took hold of a certain Simon.” Luke 23:26

On his long journey back to Jerusalem, Simon found himself helping Jesus Christ carry His cross. Simon was the first to discover that the yoke of Christ is sweet and His burden light. “Come to me when you are weary.”

Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: **The Crucifixion**

“Father into your hands I commend my spirit.” Luke 23:46

Jesus had worked a thousand miracles, spoke the truth, helped so many but was, in the end, betrayed, deserted, condemned to death and crucified. It was His vocation, so Jesus was patient until His last breath. We can do the same, by uniting our silent endurance to His.



JANUARY 4 – JOYFUL MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

CARE & GUIDANCE FROM GOD

As we pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary together today, let us remember God's presence in our lives. He is always there to guide and care for us.

First Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation

"Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." Luke 1:28

The angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would be the Mother of Jesus. Mary loved God so she said yes, then left everything else to him. Help our family remember that we are also in God's hands, through the good, bad and uncertain times.

Second Joyful Mystery: The Visitation

"For at the moment that the sound of thy greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy." Luke 1:44

As Mary cared for Elizabeth, God also cares for us in every way; from the tiniest details to the very big events in our lives. God asks us to care for our family, friends, faith, talents, responsibilities and circumstances. That is God's will for each of us.

Third Joyful Mystery: The Birth of Our Lord

"There was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7

Jesus wasn't born in comfortable or fancy circumstances but Mary and Joseph were still at peace. They understood that God was always with them, in everything and in every place. We pray to remember that nothing is without Him.

Fourth Joyful Mystery: The Presentation in the Temple

"Blessed are you who are poor for the Kingdom of God is yours." Luke 6:20

Anna and Simeon met baby Jesus at the temple. Anna was beloved by everyone but Simeon was rather unknown. God uses all of us with varying talents, abilities and personalities in different ways. Lord, help us to see that we are all equally important instruments of God.

Fifth Joyful Mystery: The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find." Luke 11:9

The story of Jesus being separated from his parents and getting lost makes us uneasy. If one of our family members were lost, we would search as hard as we could. Mary and Joseph did the same. After they searched, God reunited them. Help our family remember that in all circumstances, if we search for Jesus, God will assist us.

JANUARY 5 – GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

HOPE

As we pray the Glorious Mysteries together today, we embrace the same Hope Mary placed in Our Father.

First Glorious Mystery: **The Resurrection**

“They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him.” John 20:2

Christ’s Resurrection was not just a marvelous event, it also drove despair out of the world. It was Christ’s way of promising that we too shall live forever.

Second Glorious Mystery: **The Ascension of Our Lord**

“The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven ... they went forth and preached everywhere.”

Mark 16: 19-20

Jesus told his disciples that He must leave them so the Spirit could come. In times of trouble, remember we are not alone, the Spirit of God is with us. Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Third Glorious Mystery: **The Descent of the Holy Spirit**

“And it happened that while they were conversing ... Jesus drew near and walked with them.”

Luke 24:15

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit upon His disciples in the form of tongues of fire. The Apostles, convinced of their own hopelessness, learned from the Holy Spirit to hope in Christ. Let us always rely on the Spirit of God.

Fourth Glorious Mystery: **The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven**

“Mary, preserved free from all stains of original sin, when the source of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory.” Pius XII Munificentissimus Deus (1950)

From the moment of His conception in Mary’s womb, Jesus knew His Father. He would live a very down-to earth life and would need the hope that only God can offer. May we, like Jesus, forever trust in the hope that only God can provide.

Fifth Glorious Mystery: **The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

“There, ‘in the glory of the Most High and Undivided Trinity,’ in the communion of all the saints, the Church is awaited by the one she venerates as Mother of her Lord and as her own mother.”

At her Immaculate Conception, Mary’s soul was endowed with an intense degree of hope. Her hope, like all her virtues, centered around her trust in God. Mary was hopeful, even as Jesus died on the cross, because she saw God’s will in everything. Hopefulness is a virtue God expects of us.



JANUARY 6 – JOYFUL MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

LOVE OF NEIGHBOR

As we pray the Joyful Mysteries today, we grasp tangible ways to show God's love to all those around us.

First Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation

"I urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received." Ephesians 4:4

God's love for us is infinite, that is the meaning of the Annunciation. God so loved the world, He sent Jesus to be our brother. Jesus lived his life for others. What do our neighbors need from us today?

Second Joyful Mystery: The Visitation

"Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible." 1 Corinthians 9:19

At first glance, Mary seems to have had a choice: to stay at Nazareth and "love the Lord her God" newly conceived in her womb, or to "love her neighbor" by visiting Elizabeth. But really there was no choice: the way we treat others is the way we love God!

Third Joyful Mystery: The Birth of Our Lord

"But I say to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:44

Jesus was born for those who loved Him and for those who didn't, even washing the feet of those who betrayed Him. To like everyone is impossible; but with Christ, we can love all by being kind to everyone.

Fourth Joyful Mystery: The Presentation in the Temple

"She never left the temple but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer." Luke 2:37

Anna was not merely noticed; she was studied. She quietly put the proud Pharisees to shame; Anna had won a public without advertising. Good example shines on the just and the unjust. It is one way for us to love everyone.

Fifth Joyful Mystery: The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

"All who heard him were astounded." Luke 2:47

It was an uncomfortable day for the doctors. A small boy telling them they'd been missing the point. Truth was in this Child who discussed religion with more than authority. Zeal is love outspoken. If we love others as Christ, we'll not just "keep the faith," we'll spread it.



JANUARY 7 - SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it. You may want to have different family members read the reflections and lead the prayers:

MODEL TO FOLLOW

As we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary today, let us remember the enduring love of Jesus in our lives. His patience, compassion, care, concern, and gratuitous love is always a model for us.

First Sorrowful Mystery: The Agony in the Garden

"Christ Jesus displayed all this patience as an example for those who would come to believe."

1 Timothy 1:16

As we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary today, let us remember the enduring love of Jesus in our lives. His Patience, compassion, care, concern, and gratuitous love is always a model for us.

Second Sorrowful Mystery: The Scourging at the Pillar

"Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him scourged." John 19:1

Jesus did not beg for mercy in his hour of darkness. In this act, He gave us a lesson in humility, patience and long-suffering. Lord help us to hold our tongues so we do not lash out in anger toward others.

Third Sorrowful Mystery: The Crowning with Thorns

"The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob has glorified his servant Jesus whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence." Acts 3:13

Jesus always did the will of His Father knowing what was right and good. When we are crowned with the thorns of everyday life, Jesus, grant us the grace to see your will in them. Give our family peace and a willingness to forgive.

Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: The Carrying of the Cross

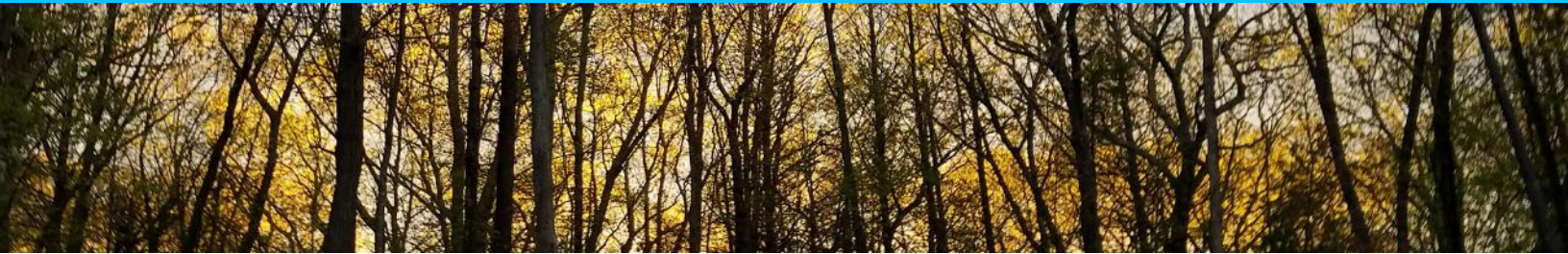
"Whether Jews or Greeks ... we were all driven to drink of one Spirit." 1 Corinthians 12:13

Like Christ, born as a Jew of a Jewish maiden who reached out to us, we are called to welcome and treat people of other creeds, nationalities, and races as children of God. When we see others bearing their crosses, help them with a kind word and unending concern.

Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion

"Into your hands, I commend my spirit." Luke 23:46

Jesus' incredible commitment to the Father is a great lesson. He gave gratuitously and keeps giving of himself completely for others, even today. Sustain us in trouble, Lord; comfort us in pain; console us in sorrow; and help our family to imitate you with patience in our commitments.



JANUARY 8 – GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

MARY AND JESUS

As we pray the Glorious Mysteries together, we ask Mary to lead and teach us through her loving Son.

First Glorious Mystery: The Resurrection

“I am the way and the truth and the life.” John 14:6

Jesus is our road to God, and all our strength for the journey comes from Him. The more we love Jesus Christ now, the more the reign of God will be realized.

Second Glorious Mystery: The Ascension of Our Lord

“I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory as yet unrevealed which is waiting for us.” Romans 8:18

After death we shall know and love God in a way that is beyond our imagination. This world that God created is filled with beauty and wonder – how much more beautiful will be what is to come!

Third Glorious Mystery: The Descent of the Holy Spirit

“Love is patient.” 1 Corinthians 13:4

Nothing disturbs Him, nothing provokes Him, nothing excites Him. He has been sinned against a million times. Why does God continue to forgive us? Because He sees us, not only as we are, but as we shall be. Lord, help me to love others as you love me.

Fourth Glorious Mystery: The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven

“It is the whole human person that is intended to become, in the body of Christ, a temple of the Spirit.” Catechism, no. 364

Mary is with God, body and soul. The light of glory that now fills her will pour out over all of us, transforming our own hearts. Mary, gently lead us to your Son.

Fifth Glorious Mystery: The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

“The prayer of the church is sustained by the prayer of Mary and united with it in hope.” Catechism, no. 2679

Mary, you are our Mother. The more God exalts you by His grace, the quicker we run to you. Help us, Mary, to humbly and devoutly pray the Rosary every day.



JANUARY 9 – LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

Pray the Daily Opening Prayer and then proceed to the reflections and prayers below. Read one mystery and reflection at each Our Father and spend a few quiet moments reflecting on it.

FAMILIES

As we pray the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary together today, let us ask for a special blessing for all families. May God grant every family a deep love and longing for spiritual enrichment.

First Luminous Mystery: The Baptism in the Jordan

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:17

The Baptism of Jesus marked the beginning of His ministry, service to others. As a family we are called to serve one another. From our service we gain the strength, love and support to extend ourselves to serve our greater community.

Second Luminous Mystery: The Wedding at Cana

*“On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee and the Mother of Jesus was there.”
John 2:1-12*

The fact that Jesus first revealed his power and purpose at a wedding is significant. It tells us that marriage and family life are of primary concern to God. The small ways in which we appreciate and respect one another can strengthen family relations in mutual love and faithfulness.

Third Luminous Mystery: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

*“And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”
John 20:22-23*

The Spirit appears to help us realize the Kingdom of justice, peace and love proclaimed by Christ. May we feel the loving energy and presence of the Spirit in our family, especially in moments of forgiveness, reconciliation and new beginnings.

Fourth Luminous Mystery: The Transfiguration

*“While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.”
Luke 9:29*

In the Transfiguration Jesus is no longer represented as a symbol of light, but we see Him as Light itself, unfading, unending and undying. Ask Christ to light up our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we might appreciate our own family.

Fifth Luminous Mystery: The Institution of the Eucharist

“He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.” John 13:1b

Everything about the institution of the Eucharist speaks to us about self-giving and service. We ask Jesus to give all of us an understanding and determination to be more like Christ by emulating His actions.



CLOSING

End with Venerable Patrick Peyton's Prayer for Beatification:

Dear Jesus, Father Peyton devoted his priestly life to strengthening the families of the world by calling them to pray together every day, especially the Rosary. His message is as important for us now as it was during his life on earth. We beg you, therefore, to hasten the day of his beatification so that your faithful people everywhere will remember his message that *The Family That Prays Together Stays Together*, will imitate him in his devotion to your Mother and ours, and will be inspired by his holy life to draw ever closer to you with childlike confidence and love. Amen.

All in honor of Venerable Patrick Peyton, founder of Holy Cross Family Ministries, we thank you for joining us in this Novena for **family strength and unity around the world**.

Please continue to pray for Father Peyton's Cause so that one day he will become "Blessed," then a "Saint." After all, the world needs "A Saint for Family Prayer." We encourage you to continue praying with your family every day, wherever you are.

For additional online resources for family prayer including a Prayer Petition Page and the World at Prayer Blog, please visit FamilyRosary.org.

This eBook and all our resources represent a sample of Father Peyton's passion for family unity through prayer. We hope our services will enhance your family's prayer life particularly remembering Father Peyton's famous words: "*The Family That Prays Together Stays Together*" and "*A World at Prayer is a World at Peace.*"