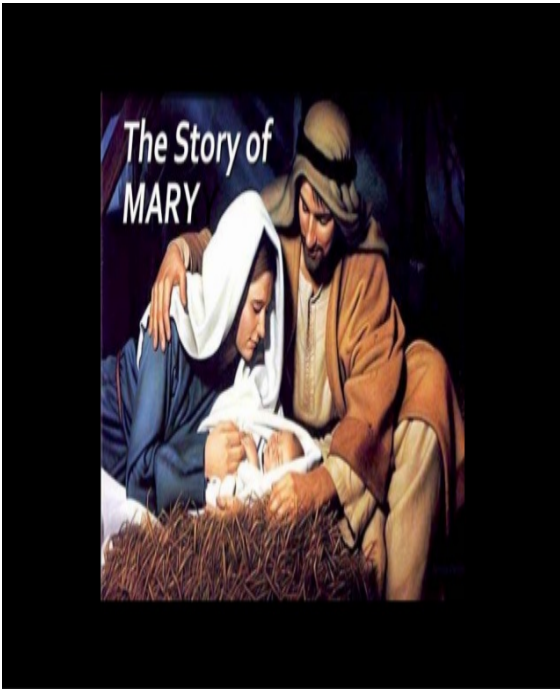


## Rosary Month

October is a very busy month in the church. As well as being 'Mission Month', it is also '**Rosary Month**' (see last week's post for information on Mission Month).

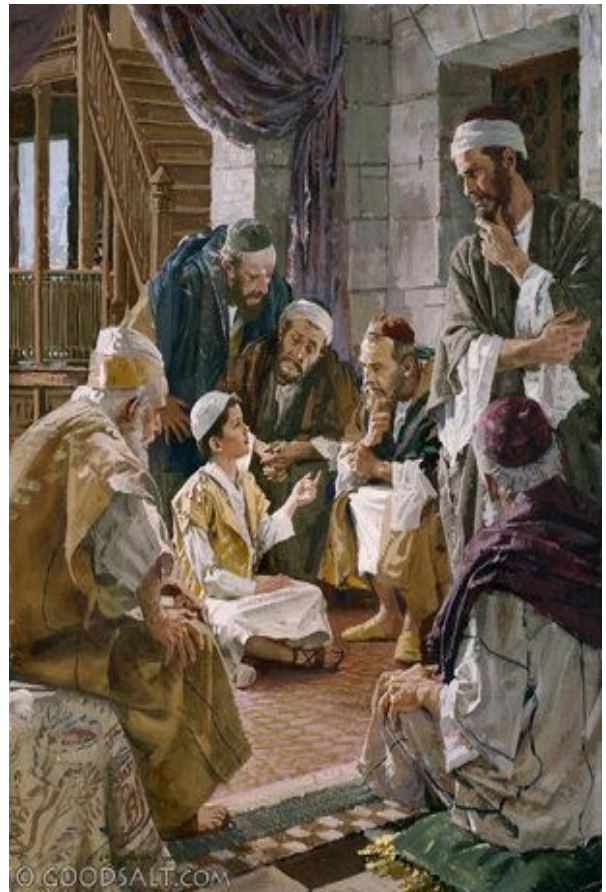


Do you know what the Rosary is? It is a special set of prayers we pray while thinking about important stories from the life of Mary and her son, Jesus, the son of God.

Can you think of any stories you know about Mary? I'm sure you can tell the story of the birth of her wonderful and amazing son!

What other stories about Mary can you think of? There are happy ones, like in the picture above but also sad ones too, like when she saw her son carrying the cross. If you have a bible, have a look through it and see if you can find any more stories about her, either happy ones or sad ones.

What about the story about Mary & Joseph losing Jesus and not being able to find him for 3 days! Would you say that was a happy story or a sad one? The picture opposite shows what he was doing when they found him.



People often use **rosary beads** to help them pray the rosary. Each bead stands for 1 prayer. As you can see from the picture that means that a whole rosary is **a whole lot** of prayers. Can you work out how many?

### What are the rosary prayers?

Well, most of the beads stand for the prayer to Mary, the Hail Mary. They are the beads in groups of ten (called a decade).



Can you see that some beads are on their own? These beads are either for the Our Father or for ‘The Glory be’. Before every 10 Hail Marys you say an Our Father and after every 10 Hail Marys you say the Glory prayer.

If you are very observant you will have noticed that there are 5 beads together near the cross or crucifix (a cross with the figure of Jesus on it). These are for 1 Our Father, 3 Hail Marys and a Glory be that start off the whole rosary.

Now you know how to pray the rosary!!

*When people pray the rosary they think about the different types of stories from the life of Jesus and his mother, on different days:*

- *On Mondays and Saturdays they think about the joyful or happy stories,*
- *On Tuesdays and Fridays they think about the sad or sorrowful stories,*
- *On Wednesdays and Sundays they think about the stories to do with Jesus showing his glory*
- *On Thursdays they think about how Jesus brought light into the world by teaching people about God!*