# THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

#### **1 - THE RESURRECTION**

Jesus' Resurrection brought joy to His sorrowful followers. Never were their lives to be the same again.

We pray for grace in the hearts of those who are called to be priests and religious. May they experience the great joy of giving God their entire lives and saying "yes" to His call. Help them realize that their "yes" will change their lives forever.

# 2 - THE ASCENSION

Jesus ascended into Heaven not to abandon us but to be our hope. He intercedes for us at the Father's throne and prepares a place for His faithful followers in the heavenly Kingdom.

We pray for an increase in the number of priests and religious to help us strive faithfully to attain a heavenly homeland. May these men and women always recognize the mission they have in the plan of our salvation.

# **3 - THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit transformed the timid Apostles into bold witnesses for the Gospel, going forth with courage and zeal!

We pray for the Holy Spirit to touch all He has chosen to labor as priests and religious. May they respond boldly to the invitation to lay down their lives for Christ and His Church.

# 4 - THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

The Second Vatican Council reminds us that Mary's role in salvation history did not end with her Assumption. She continually intercedes for us, her children, as we journey through life.

We pray for Mary's intercession. Through her prayers may the Church see an abundance of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

# 5 - THE CORONATION OF MARY

We celebrate the faithfulness of Mary, Jesus' first disciple. She who called herself "the handmaid of the Lord" is exalted above even the Angels. She who said, "yes" to God in all things is now the Queen of heaven and earth.

We pray that those who have been called may see that the sacrifices they make to live the mission God gives them will pale in comparison to the glory reserved for His faithful. The Franciscan Friars St. John the Baptist Province Vocation Office

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# THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

#### **1 - THE ANNUNCIATION**

Mary answers "yes" to God's call. Even though it was unexpected and the Archangel gives her only the details she needs to know at the present moment, she responds generously.

We pray for those being called to the priesthood or religious life that, like Mary, they respond whole-heartedly.

### 2 - THE VISITATION

Mary wastes no time in acting on the grace of her vocation. By her cooperation the plan of salvation is already unfolding.

We pray for those who have been called but are hesitant May God's grace hurry them forward to answer the call and thus begin to labor for the harvest.

# 3 - THE NATIVITY

Our Savior comes to us in the midst of a family How crucial is the role of the family.

We pray for all parents that they may provide an atmosphere of love and faith in the home. May parents thus help foster their children's vocations.

# **4 - THE PRESENTATION**

Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the Temple and dedicated Him to Almighty God. They knew their Son was a gift from God to be given back to Him.

We pray for the grace parents need to recognize the gift of their children and thus offer them to the divine plan of God. May His will determine every moment of their lives.

# **5 - THE FINDING OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE**

This mystery tells of a very unplanned event in the life of Joseph and Mary. For days their hearts ached with sorrow until they found their Son.

We pray for those parents who find it difficult to understand and thus support their child's vocation as a priest or religious. May they be graced with the faith to support God's will for their children, and, like Joseph and Mary, to hold the mysterious ways of God in their hearts.

# THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

### **1 - THE BAPTISM OF JESUS**

In Baptism Jesus takes up the mission of the Messiah. Thus begins His public ministry.

We pray for those who are called to the priesthood and religious life, but are afraid to answer because of what others may say or think. Grant them courage, O Lord, to accept the mission you are giving them.

# 2 - THE WEDDING FEAST AT CANA

Through the intercession of Mary, Jesus transforms ordinary water into extraordinary wine. What incredible things God's grace can do in our lives.

We pray for those who are being called, but doubt that they have much to offer. May they trust in the power of God to bring all things to completion and say "yes" to His call.

# **3 - THE PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM**

Jesus begins His public ministry by announcing the arrival of the Kingdom of God. What wonderful news for all humanity!

We pray for an increase in vocations that there might be many more priests and religious who will proclaim this truth and bear witness to it with their lives.

# **4 - THE TRANSFIGURATION**

Jesus strengthened the faith of His Apostles by momentarily revealing his divinity. He wished them to gain a supernatural perspective of His forthcoming Passion and Death.

We pray for all those who are being called as priests and religious that they may have the grace to recognize God's call in the midst of life and courageously accept carrying the Cross.

# **5 - THE INSTITUTION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

The gift of the Most Holy Eucharist is a mystery beyond our ability to fully comprehend. Our Lord's abiding Presence in the Blessed Sacrament, the saving mystery of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass—the world would suffer a great loss without these miracles. Jesus gives Himself in the Holy Eucharist through the ministry of His priests.

We pray for more priests for our diocese. May God call many more men to share in the Priesthood and may they respond generously

# THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

# **1 - THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN**

Jesus asked His Apostles to pray so that they "might not enter into temptation." Our Lord knew they needed to pray in order to endure what would soon happen.

We pray for those whom God is calling to be priests and religious. May they have a deep life of prayer to strengthen them to respond courageously to God's call.

# **2 - THE SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR**

Our Lord's suffering during the scourging was excruciating. For our sake Jesus offered Himself to obtain our salvation.

We pray that many young people might feel the desire in their hearts to offer themselves to God as priests and religious.

# **3 - THE CROWNING WITH THORNS**

Jesus endured the terrible ridicule and mockery of the solders even to the point of accepting the painful crown of thorns.

We pray for those called to the priesthood or religious life, but find it difficult to say 'yes' because of obstacles in their lives. May God remove all obstacles to fulfilling His will.

# 4 - CARRYING OF THE CROSS

On the way to Calvary, our Lord found comfort and assistance from a number of people: Simon the Cyrene, the women of Jerusalem, His Mother and Veronica. How much those acts of love must have meant to Jesus

We pray for the grace to always support, with our prayers and sacrifices, those whom God is calling to become priests or religious. May God bless us in this important apostolate!

# **5 - THE CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH OF JESUS**

At the foot of the Cross, there came into existence a new type of family. Before Jesus died He entrusted to the maternal care of Mary all of humanity, represented in the person of the "beloved disciple." Through the New Covenant the notion of family is greatly enlarged, it takes on a different dimension.

We pray for those who are being called., but are hesitant because of fears of not having a family and living a lonely life. Help then , O Lord, to see that in serving you are a priest or religious, their personal needs for connection with others will indeed be completely fulfilled.