

54 days to change the world. Day 1.

Today is the first day of this novena, we will be praying the Joyful mysteries in a spirit of petition.

Welcome to the 54-Day Rosary Novena! We're so happy you're here. As we enter into these 54 days of transformative prayer, let us take a moment to consider what we are about to undergo.

The traditional 54-Day Rosary Novena comes directly from Our Lady of the Rosary Herself. In 1884, 33 years before Her apparition at Fatima, Our Lady appeared to a young girl, Fortuna Agrelli. Fortuna was terminally ill with not just one but three incurable diseases when she was graced with an apparition from Our Lady of the Rosary. Our Lady guided her to pray six consecutive novenas, three in a spirit of petition followed by three in a spirit of thanksgiving. After which, Fortuna was miraculously cured of her terminal illnesses.

Since this initial apparition and consequent miraculous healing, several key details have become more properly understood. As our Blessed Mother urges, we shall pray six consecutive novenas, the first three shall be done in petition and the latter three shall be done in thanksgiving. Although Holy Mother Church graciously suggests the faithful pray certain mysteries of the Rosary on specific days, this Novena has its own particular rhythm in which to pray the mysteries. It is traditional to begin each novena with the Joyful mysteries, the following day will be the Sorrowful mysteries, and on the third consecutive day, the Glorious mysteries will be prayed. This cycle of Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious mysteries will be repeated throughout the 54 days.

While the Luminous mysteries are a beautiful practice, the initial apparition occurred before their institution in 2002. Thus, the traditional 54 days are prayed omitting these mysteries. Now that we have the general rhythm to the Novena, let us look at the daily Rosary we are asked to pray:

Today, let us take a moment together to prayerfully enter into the spirit of petition for these first 27 days. To make a petition is to simply ask for God's help. Consider the Philippians verse, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God" (Philippians 4:6-7). The proper disposition for a petition begins with the recognition of how deeply dependent we are on God. All that we have comes from Him! On our own, we are nothing! Rather than allowing this reality to dishearten us, let it empower us to the realization of the Generosity of our Father. With humility, ask God to illuminate your needs with His grace, drawing to your attention that which is most present in your heart and His. With this petition of need in mind, cry out to God for His aid! Throughout these 27 days, keep this prayerful petition close to your heart and ask our Holy Mother to bring it to Her Son, nothing She asks for will be neglected! (Rosary.com)