

54 days to change the world. Day 14.

Today is the fourteenth day of this novena. We will be praying the Sorrowful Mysteries in a spirit of petition.

When faced with the power of the Rosary, evil can do nothing. An example of this is the life of Bartolo Longo

Bartolo was born in Naples in 1841 to a devout family. However, he drifted so far away from God and his religious upbringing that he eventually became a satanic priest. However, despite his offenses against God, his family never stopped praying for him. These prayers had a powerful result... One day when satanic forces were tormenting him, his family was able to break through the demonic attacks and convinced him to make a confession. Through the power of his family's intercession, Bartolo made a good confession. After his confession, a priest who encouraged him to develop a devotion to the Rosary.

This devotion to the Rosary transformed Bartolo.

In 1870, he became a third order Dominican and chose to live a life of penance in reparation for all the sins he committed while a satanist. One day, Bartolo nearly succumbed to despair over all the sins he had committed but was inspired to remember Mary's promise to help all those who encouraged others to pray the Rosary. Bartolo fervently prayed the Rosary and his despair dissipated.

After this event, he began a mission to promote the Rosary far and wide. Through his commitment to spread devotion to the Rosary, many conversions and miracles occurred. This increase of faith and miracles led to his community growing in their commitment to their faith. In thanksgiving, Bartolo began to restore a depleted church in Pompeii to honor Our Lady of the Rosary. After the restoration of this church, he was encouraged by Cardinal La Valletta to begin construction on a basilica in honor of Our Lady. Today, this beautiful church is still used and is known as the Basilica of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary of Pompeii.

In 1980, Pope John Paul II beatified Bartolo Longo calling him "*the man of the Madonna*" and the "*Apostle of the Rosary.*"