

# ROSARY

*For healing from abuse*



## Intro

Together, we can ensure that all are safe from sexual abuse and provide assistance and support to survivors who are on the path to healing.

You can help in these efforts by offering your prayers for healing and protection. This rosary will help you to lift up their needs in prayer, offering them to God through Mary who offers her loving protection to all her children.

## A Prayer for Healing Survivors of Abuse

God our Father, send us the Holy Spirit to breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.

Grant that all harmed by abuse find healing and peace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord, Amen.



# SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

## FIRST SORROWFUL MYSTERY

### THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

HE WAS IN SUCH AGONY AND HE PRAYED SO FERVENTLY THAT HIS SWEAT BECAME LIKE DROPS OF BLOOD FALLING ON THE GROUND. (LK 22:44)

MANY SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE SUFFER IN SILENCE FOR YEARS, WRESTLING ALONE WITH THE AGONY OF THEIR MEMORIES AND PAIN. WE PRAY THAT THE CHURCH MAY ALWAYS BE A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN COME TO SHARE THEIR STORIES, BE RECEIVED IN LOVE AND COMPASSION, AND BE SUPPORTED ON THE PATH TO HEALING.

## THE SECOND SORROWFUL MYSTERY

### THE SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR

THEN PILATE TOOK JESUS AND HAD HIM SCOURGED. (JN 19:1)

THE EXPERIENCE OF SEXUAL ABUSE MAY LEAVE SCARS NO LESS PROFOUND THAN THE SCARS OF A SCOURGING, THOUGH THEY OFTEN REMAIN UNSEEN. WE MUST STRIVE TO MAKE OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES PLACES WHERE SURVIVORS CAN FEEL SAFE TO SHARE THEIR BURDENS AND TO FIND HEALING AND PEACE.

## THE THIRD SORROWFUL MYSTERY

### THE CROWNING WITH THORNS

AND THE SOLDIERS WOVE A CROWN OUT OF THORNS AND PLACED IT ON HIS HEAD, AND CLOTHED HIM IN A PURPLE CLOAK, AND THEY CAME TO HIM AND SAID, "HAIL, KING OF THE JEWS!" AND THEY STRUCK HIM REPEATEDLY. (JN 19:2-3)

THOSE WHO HAVE SURVIVED SEXUAL ABUSE MAY FEEL ISOLATED FROM THE COMMUNITY, SET APART AND UNWELCOME. JESUS MUST HAVE FELT THE SAME AS THE SOLDIERS MOCKED AND TORTURED HIM. AS MEMBERS OF CHRIST'S BODY, THE CHURCH, WE ARE CALLED TO SEE CHRIST IN OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN NEED AND OFFER THEM OUR AID, COMFORT, AND SUPPORT.

## THE FORTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY

### THE CARRYING OF THE CROSS

THEY PRESSED INTO SERVICE A PASSER-BY, SIMON, A CYRENIAN, WHO WAS COMING IN FROM THE COUNTRY, THE FATHER OF ALEXANDER AND RUFUS, TO CARRY HIS CROSS. {MK 15:21}

SIMON HELPED JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS, HELPING HIM BEAR THE WEIGHT AND THE BURDEN. SO MUST WE HELP SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE BEAR THE WEIGHT AND BURDEN OF THEIR EXPERIENCES, HELPING THEM TO FIND OUR HEALING GOD WHO IS LIGHT AND LIFE.

## THE FIFTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY

### THE CRUCIFIXION

JESUS CRIED OUT IN A LOUD VOICE, "FATHER, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT;" AND WHEN HE HAD SAID THIS HE BREATHED HIS LAST. {LK 23:46}

WE COMMEND INTO GOD'S HANDS ALL THOSE WHO ARE AT RISK FOR SEXUAL ABUSE, THOSE WHO ARE DOING THE HARD WORK OF HEALING, AND THOSE WHO ARE NOT YET READY TO BEGIN THE HEALING PROCESS. THROUGH OUR PRAYERS, EFFORTS, AND SACRIFICES, MAY THEY COME TO KNOW THE PEACE AND WHOLENESS THAT ONLY GOD CAN BRING.

