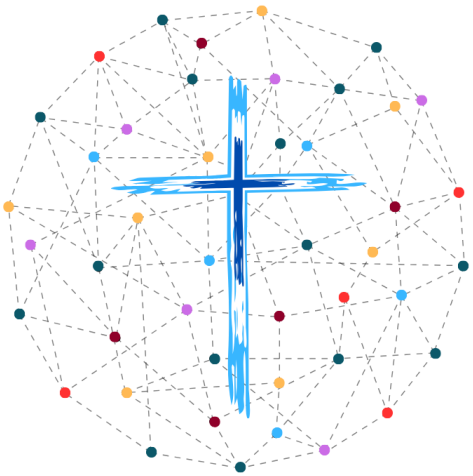
PAPAL BASILICA OF SAINT MARY MAJOR

Saturday 17 October 2026 · 7:00 pm

MARIAN VIGIL

Praying the Rosary for peace in the world

Presided over by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State of the Holy See



CATHOLIC ACTION

SYNODALITY AND MISSION

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Rome, Italy | 15 - 18 October 2026

PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION

THE GUIDE

As we gather in prayer at the feet of the Virgin Mary, we carry in our hearts the intense and luminous day we have lived today, in the experience of communion lived and responsibility shared. Our loving thoughts go out to the Holy Father Leo XIV, as we pray for his speedy recovery. The Pope invites us to pray for peace throughout the world.

At the end of this journey and of so much shared richness, we can only place everything in Mary's hands.

May the lighting of a candle before her image be a sign of our living faith, of the hope that does not disappoint, and of our desire to entrust to her the journey of our associations and the future steps of our service.

At the end of the prayer, Cardinal Pietro Parolin will venerate the image of the *Salus Populi Romani* with incense, and we will join in this gesture of deep devotion, entrusting to the Mother the Church, our families and our journey.

As the Cardinal goes to the chair, the choir sings

Ave Generosa gloriosa et intacta Puella,
gloriosa, tu pupilla castitatis,
tu materia sanctitatis,
Ave Generosa gloriosa et intacta Puella.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

THE CARDINAL

O God, come to my aid.

THE ASSEMBLY

O Lord, make haste to help me.

THE CARDINAL

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

THE ASSEMBLY

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

THE CARDINAL

Dear brothers and sisters, welcome to this time of prayer for peace with Mary.

Gathered before the Lord, coming from different continents, we present the wounds of our world caused by the sin of humanity: the desire for power, pride, arrogance, violence, discrimination and indifference.

We know that sin and death do not have the last word; the last word belongs to Jesus Christ, for he has conquered through his death and resurrection, and life and hope are once again finding their way.

We feel the spiritual presence of Pope Francis, who came to this place as a pilgrim many times, and who today urges us to walk the roads of the world.

We take up the invitation that Pope Leo XIV addressed to all the faithful and all Christian communities from Lourdes, where the Immaculate Virgin appeared to Saint Bernadette with the rosary and, as it were, guided her prayer: let us pray the holy Rosary during the month of October, with the particular intention that wars may cease and peace be made between peoples in conflict.

Let us accompany our prayer with concrete acts of penance and mercy, and with the commitment always to foster dialogue and reconciliation.

In this prayer we will contemplate the first mysteries of the life of Jesus Christ, mysteries in which his mother, Mary, was especially present. Mary welcomes the mystery, and it makes its way in her and in our his-

tory. Let us learn from her to open ourselves docilely to the plan of peace that God has for our world.

A representative of the participants lights a candle placed before the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary

FIRST MYSTERY

The Annunciation of the Angel to the Virgin Mary

FIRST READER

In the first joyful mystery we contemplate the Annunciation of the Angel to the Virgin Mary.

SECOND READER

> *In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.*
>
> *The angel came to her and said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you." She was greatly troubled at these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. Behold, you will conceive and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."*
>
> Lk 1:26-31

FIRST READER

God, who has never stopped listening to the cry of his people, when the fullness of time had come, chooses to become flesh of our flesh; he enters our history thanks to the generous "yes" of a young woman, Mary. Jesus is God's "yes" to humanity and humanity's "yes" to God, and Mary, with her "yes", makes it possible.

Let us pray that many young people may say "yes" to God, committing themselves to peace and giving their lives to make it possible.

WE REMEMBER IN PARTICULAR

the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region, Sudan and South Sudan, the countries of the Sahel.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Pater noster, qui es in caelis,
sanctificetur nomen tuum,
adveniat regnum tuum,
fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo et in terra.

Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie,
et dimitte nobis debita nostra,
sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris.
Et ne nos inducas in temptationem,
sed libera nos a malo.
Amen.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Je vous salue, Marie... IN FRENCH

THE CHOIR

Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui Sancto.

THE ASSEMBLY



SECOND MYSTERY

The Visitation of Mary to Saint Elizabeth

FIRST READER

In the second joyful mystery we contemplate the visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Saint Elizabeth.

SECOND READER

> *In those days Mary set out and went in haste to a town in the hill country of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.*
>
> *When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She cried out with a loud voice: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!"*
>
> Lk 1:39-42

FIRST READER

Mary, filled with the Holy Spirit, sets out on the road in a spirit of service. It is the generous dedication of one who knows she is loved by God and transformed by his presence, because "love is in a hurry". Mary's greeting awakens deep joy in those who hear it.

Let us pray that all of us, open to the action of the Holy Spirit, may place our words and our service at the service of the peace that transforms hearts.

WE REMEMBER IN PARTICULAR

Ukraine, Moldova, Russia and Afghanistan.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Pater noster, qui es in caelis,
sanctificetur nomen tuum,
adveniat regnum tuum,
fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo et in terra.

Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie,
et dimitte nobis debita nostra,
sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris.
Et ne nos inducas in temptationem,
sed libera nos a malo.
Amen.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Ave, o Maria... IN ITALIAN

THE CHOIR

Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui Sancto.

THE ASSEMBLY



THIRD MYSTERY

The Birth of Jesus in the cave of Bethlehem

FIRST READER

In the third joyful mystery we contemplate the birth of the Son of God in the cave of Bethlehem.

SECOND READER

> *In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This first census took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to be enrolled, each to his own town.*
>
> *Joseph too went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child.*
>
> *While they were there, the time came for her to give birth, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*
>
> Lk 2:1-7

FIRST READER

We contemplate the birth of the Son of God, God from God. There was no room for them... And today, immersed in the throwaway culture, there is no room for many people, no room for dialogue, no room for justice, no room for peace. But the birth of this Child, the Prince of Peace, will make it possible for peoples to seek peace, for adversaries to reach out their hands to one another, and for harmony between peoples to become a reality.

WE REMEMBER IN PARTICULAR

Myanmar, India, Pakistan, Taiwan and China.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Pater noster, qui es in caelis,
sanctificetur nomen tuum,
adveniat regnum tuum,
fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo et in terra.

Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie,
et dimitte nobis debita nostra,
sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris.
Et ne nos inducas in temptationem,
sed libera nos a malo.
Amen.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Hail Mary... IN ENGLISH

THE CHOIR

Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui Sancto.

THE ASSEMBLY



FOURTH MYSTERY

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

FIRST READER

In the fourth joyful mystery we contemplate the presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

SECOND READER

> *When eight days had passed and it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.*
>
> *When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the Law of the Lord: "Every firstborn male shall be consecrated to the Lord," and to offer a sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, as the Law of the Lord prescribes.*
>
> Lk 2:21-24

FIRST READER

They gave him the name Jesus, because God is saving his people, longing to meet you, me, each one of us. God comes to meet us, once again, in every person, in every event, in every situation.

Let us too present to the Lord a humanity wounded by discord and enmity, where violence, in every area of life, seems to be the only possible option. May peace overcome hatred, and mercy overcome revenge.

WE REMEMBER IN PARTICULAR

Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela, Colombia and the United States.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Pater noster, qui es in caelis,
sanctificetur nomen tuum,
adveniat regnum tuum,
fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo et in terra.

Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie,
et dimitte nobis debita nostra,
sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris.
Et ne nos inducas in temptationem,
sed libera nos a malo.
Amen.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Dios te salve, María... IN SPANISH

THE CHOIR

Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui Sancto.

THE ASSEMBLY



FIFTH MYSTERY

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

FIRST READER

In the fifth joyful mystery we contemplate the finding of Jesus in the Temple.

SECOND READER

> *Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom; and when the days of the feast were over, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it.*
>
> *Thinking he was in the caravan, they travelled for a day and then looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.*
>
> *After three days they found him in the Temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.*
>
> Lk 2:41-47

FIRST READER

Easter is always at the centre. It is the mystery of our faith: Christ who died and rose again. Mary and Joseph search for Jesus and find him after three days. God invites us to wait for the third day, when, in the darkness of our lives, we glimpse the Easter light.

Jesus listens and asks questions. Lord, help us to listen to one another, to welcome, value, accept and understand one another, and put on our lips the right word to make possible a peace that is unarmed and disarming.

WE REMEMBER IN PARTICULAR

Jerusalem, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, the Gulf countries and Iran.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Pater noster, qui es in caelis,
sanctificetur nomen tuum,
adveniat regnum tuum,
fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo et in terra.

Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie,
et dimitte nobis debita nostra,
sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris.
Et ne nos inducas in temptationem,
sed libera nos a malo.
Amen.

THE GUIDE AND THE ASSEMBLY

Ave Maria, gratia plena... IN LATIN

THE CHOIR

Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui Sancto.

THE ASSEMBLY



SALVE REGINA

THE CHOIR AND THE ASSEMBLY

Salve, Regína,
Mater misericórdiae,
vita, dulcédo et spes nostra, salve.

Ad te clamámus,
éxsules fílii Evae.
Ad te suspirámus geméntes et flentes
in hac lacrimárum valle.
Eia ergo, advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos
ad nos convérte.
Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum
ventris tui,
nobis, post hoc exsílium, osténde.
O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo María!

THE CARDINAL

Let us pray for the intentions of our Holy Father Leo XIV.

Pater noster, qui es in caelis,
sanctificetur nomen tuum,
adveniat regnum tuum,
fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo et in terra.

THE ASSEMBLY

Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie,
et dimitte nobis debita nostra,
sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris.
Et ne nos inducas in temptationem,
sed libera nos a malo.
Amen.

THE CARDINAL

Ave, María, grátia plena,
Dóminus tecum.
Benedícta tu in muliéribus,
et benedíctus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.

THE ASSEMBLY

Sancta María, Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatóribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

THE CARDINAL

Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spirítui Sancto.

THE ASSEMBLY

Sicut erat in princípio, et nunc et semper,
et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen.

THE CARDINAL

Pro fidelibus defunctis
Réquiem aetérnam dona eis, Dómine,

THE ASSEMBLY

et lux perpétua lúceat eis.

THE CARDINAL

Requiéscant in pace.

THE ASSEMBLY

Amen.

LITANY OF LORETO

THE CANTOR, THEN THE ASSEMBLY

Lord, have mercy	**Lord, have mercy**
Christ, have mercy	**Christ, have mercy**
Lord, have mercy	**Lord, have mercy**
Christ, hear us	**Christ, hear us**
Christ, graciously hear us	**Christ, graciously hear us**
God, the Father of heaven	**have mercy on us**
God the Son, Redeemer of the world	**have mercy on us**
God the Holy Spirit	**have mercy on us**
Holy Trinity, one God	**have mercy on us**
Holy Mary	**pray for us**
Holy Mother of God	**pray for us**
Holy Virgin of virgins	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Mother of Christ	**pray for us**
Mother of the Church	**pray for us**
Mother of mercy	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Mother of divine grace	**pray for us**
Mother of hope	**pray for us**
Mother most pure	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Mother most chaste	**pray for us**
Mother ever virgin	**pray for us**
Mother immaculate	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Mother most amiable	**pray for us**
Mother most admirable	**pray for us**
Mother of good counsel	**pray for us**

Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Mother of our Creator	**pray for us**
Mother of our Saviour	**pray for us**
Virgin most prudent	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Virgin most venerable	**pray for us**
Virgin most renowned	**pray for us**
Virgin most powerful	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Virgin most merciful	**pray for us**
Virgin most faithful	**pray for us**
Mirror of perfection	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Seat of wisdom	**pray for us**
Cause of our joy	**pray for us**
Temple of the Holy Spirit	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Tabernacle of eternal glory	**pray for us**
Dwelling consecrated to God	**pray for us**
Mystical rose	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Tower of the holy city of David	**pray for us**
Impregnable fortress	**pray for us**
Sanctuary of the divine presence	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Ark of the covenant	**pray for us**
Gate of heaven	**pray for us**
Morning star	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Health of the sick	**pray for us**
Refuge of sinners	**pray for us**

Solace of migrants	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Comfort of the afflicted	**pray for us**
Help of Christians	**pray for us**
Queen of angels	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Queen of patriarchs	**pray for us**
Queen of prophets	**pray for us**
Queen of apostles	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Queen of martyrs	**pray for us**
Queen of confessors of the faith	**pray for us**
Queen of virgins	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Queen of all saints	**pray for us**
Queen conceived without original sin	**pray for us**
Queen assumed into heaven	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**
Queen of the most holy Rosary	**pray for us**
Queen of families	**pray for us**
Queen of peace	**pray for us**
Salus Populi Romani	**pray for us**

HOMILY OF THE CARDINAL

Silence for personal reflection

CONCLUDING RITES

While the Cardinal incenses the icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary Salus Populi Romani, the assembly joins in prayer:

Final prayer to the Virgin Mary

Blessed Eduardo F. Pironio

Virgin Mary, Mother of the poor and the humble,
of those who suffer and hope:
you listen to our pleas, you bring peace to our hearts
and you speak to us of your Son: "the Saviour of yesterday, today and for ever".

Today we come to you, a small group of disciples,
apostles and witnesses of your Son,
who have gathered in these days
at the International Forum of Catholic Action.

You have always inspired the great undertakings of Catholic Action,
and beside you unforgettable activists and leaders
of this providential apostolic Association of the Church
have grown and matured.

Today we come from far and near.
We are different faces and different cultures, with different languages,
but we understand one another in the same Word of your Son,
who says to each of us: "Behold your mother."
And so we feel you, Mary, to be our Mother and our Lady.

We ask you only to look at us and listen to us.
We would have so many things to tell you,
so many sorrows to share with you,
so many graces to ask of you!
For ourselves, for our countries, for our local Churches.
But we lack the time and the words.
It is enough for us to have come this far to look at you
and to know that you look at us and transform us.

We are young people and adults, men and women,
who wish to live the Church at the heart of the world,
as your Son asks of us.
Deeply committed to the moment and the times in which we live,
we want to live with a serene fidelity, strong and humble,
united with our Pastors – bishops and priests –,
with religious and with all the lay faithful
in communion with the missionary Church.

We feel marked by the fire of the Holy Spirit
and sent once more by your Son to proclaim to all peoples
the Good News of the Kingdom: the love of the Father.
With faith we have entered deeply into the world in which we live
and have committed ourselves to building,
from the heart of a Church that is communion,
a dialogue and a path of salvation.
We perceive the challenges of this century
and the hopes it offers us.

Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother:
today we entrust to your heart
our worries and our hopes,
our sorrows and our joys.
We want to offer you our poverty,
our prayer, our joy,

our hope, our love for the Church,
placed in the world as the universal sacrament of salvation.

We ask you to make us strong in difficulty
and serene in danger.
You know well what we need:
a great contemplative spirit
to understand the poverty of people and the suffering of nations,
a great capacity to welcome the Word of God and put it into practice,
a serene strength to embrace the cross of your Son
and a joyful readiness to give ourselves in the service of our brothers and sisters.

We want to love the Church intensely
and to live in deep communion with our Pastors.
May we be people of prayer and missionaries.
May we know how to welcome the Word of God and contemplate it,
put it into practice and share it with the fire of the Spirit.

Most Holy Mary,
help us to be faithful in our time.
It is a "dramatic and magnificent" time,
full of challenges and hopes.
There is need for lay faithful who live the holiness of their Baptism
and the apostolic commitment of their Confirmation;
who live the Paschal Mystery with everyday simplicity;
who are afraid neither of the cross nor of martyrdom;
who live only the joy of holiness
in the missionary communion of the Church.

Thank you, O Mother and our Lady,
for welcoming us today into your house,
for looking at us and listening to us,
for speaking to us and strengthening us,
for teaching us to be Church.

Now we return serene and strong, full of joy and hope.
We return to our homes,
to our countries, to our local Churches,
with the certainty given us by these words of your Son:
"Behold your mother",
and we carry in our hearts the joy of repeating with you to Jesus Christ
– the Christ of today, of yesterday and for ever –
these words of yours:
"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord;
let it be done to me according to your word."

And we return home carrying with us
your motherly presence, which tells us:
"Do whatever he tells you."
This is our commitment, and so be it.
Amen. Alleluia.

BLESSING

THE CARDINAL

The Lord be with you.

THE ASSEMBLY

And with your spirit.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

R. Now and for ever.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

May almighty God bless you, the Father ✠ and the Son ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit.

R. Amen.

The assembly disperses as the choir sings ***Sub tuum praesidium***

Sub tuum praesídium confúgimus,
sancta Dei Génetrix;
nostras deprecatiónes ne despícias
in necessitátibus;
sed a perículis cunctis
líbera nos semper,
Virgo gloriósa et benedícta.



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