

## **St Joseph – Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary – Meditations**

### **The first Glorious Mystery – The Resurrection**

Can you imagine what it was like in the great place of waiting for the doors of Heaven to be opened? When Simeon came he encouraged everyone that the Messiah had begun His saving work. When I arrived I was able to tell everyone about the infancy, childhood and adolescence of my Jesus. Anyone who arrived with news of Jesus had our undivided attention. Then that amazing moment happened when Jesus Himself arrived, having conquered sin and death. In Him all our longings turned into joy and sweetness. With Jesus leading us we stood before the doors of Heaven and heard His precious Blood cry out, 'Here I am, with the children the Lord has given Me' (Is 8:18) and watched those doors be flung open by the angels. We went through with far more rejoicing than when Israel passed through the Red Sea dry shod. At last, to be with God forever and ever! To see our Jesus smile as Redeemer, Victor and King was worth every previous sorrow.

### **The second Glorious Mystery – The Ascension**

The victory of Jesus was complete, but His work wasn't quite over. In His glorious risen body Jesus went and visited so many people in so many places bringing hope, comfort and joy. There were many teachings and instructions that His apostles and disciples could only be given after His resurrection. So many of His resurrection visits were visits of thanks to those who had helped Him on earth, but they were also 'farewell until Heaven' visits. When all was done to perfection, Jesus gathered them all together to bless them and commission them, and return to the Father in His gloriously risen body. What a wondrous homecoming for Jesus that was! So solemn, so majestic, so breathtakingly beautiful! All Heaven fell silent and prostrate at the sight of His royal wounds in adoration, and saw the Father confer sovereignty, kingship and authority upon Him. He in turn conveyed gifts, rewards and kingdom responsibilities upon the citizens of Heaven and then the place erupted in a rejoicing that has never ceased.

### **The third Glorious Mystery – The Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost**

You don't think that only Mary, the Apostles and the disciples gathered in the upper room, were praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit do you? As soon as the Father outlined His great plan for the spread of the Kingdom of God, our prayers joined with theirs. In particular all of those holy ones who had been moved by the Holy Spirit were praying with particular gusto, myself, Moses, Elijah, David, Samuel, Esther, Gideon, Isaiah, Joshua, Daniel, Jeremiah, Nehemiah, Samson, Zechariah and Elizabeth, began praying not only for those in the upper room but also for everyone who would receive the Gospel message through them. How all of us had longed for the whole people of God to be moved by the Holy Spirit! And now God was graciously about to make that wonder happen! We can never praise Him enough! Be open to all that the Holy Spirit wants to do in you, and through you.

## The fourth Glorious Mystery – The Assumption

What a big responsibility my Mary accepted at the foot of the Cross of Jesus! For the sake of Jesus she accepted each and every one of His disciples as her sons and daughters. During those post-Pentecost years so many disciples made their way to her, so many needy children seeing wisdom, guidance, comfort, strength, peace, prayers and knowing that the Mother of Jesus was the way to find it. But there came the long awaited day when the needs of Heaven outweighed the needs of earth. Slowly and gently her earthly strength faded until imperceptibly her beautiful soul moved from this life into the eternal life. O what a homecoming that was! Every soul that enters Heaven increases the joy of everyone within. But at Mary's arrival the joy of heaven completely doubled. Then the Father decreed something extraordinary, that Mary should enjoy Heaven in body and soul. Heaven's joy doubled again, and we formed a special procession to formally present her glorified body to the Father. At the front were the angels, then all the holy women whose lives recorded in scripture prefigured and inspired and encouraged her; then all those who had been a special part of her life on earth, including myself, Anne and Joachim, Stephen, James, were privileged to walk with her, and behind us followed the women who had dedicated themselves 100% to Jesus due to her example, and all of the people she had personally served and helped on earth.

## The fifth Glorious Mystery – The Coronation of Mary as Queen

When this amazing procession ended, Jesus embraced her as His mother, the Father embraced her as His daughter and the Holy Spirit embraced her as His spouse. 'The throng wild with joy' is a very mild description of what happened. As the high spirits calmed down, expectancy grew. What gifts, rewards and kingdom responsibilities would Mary be given? All Heaven waited for the Father's decree. 'Mary, I have already declared that all generations will call you blessed. That is not enough! You are from this day forth the Queen of Heaven, the Queen of earth, and the Queen of My Heart. Come and share in My happiness. All I have is yours.' Each and every citizen of Heaven immediately knelt and with one heart-felt voice echoed, 'All we have is yours, too!' In profound silence they waited for Mary's response. She slowly began to sing her Magnificat, and then all of Heaven took up her song in melodies and harmonies in praise and thanksgiving to God.