
The Episcopal Rosary for Children

Julia R. Huttar Bailey

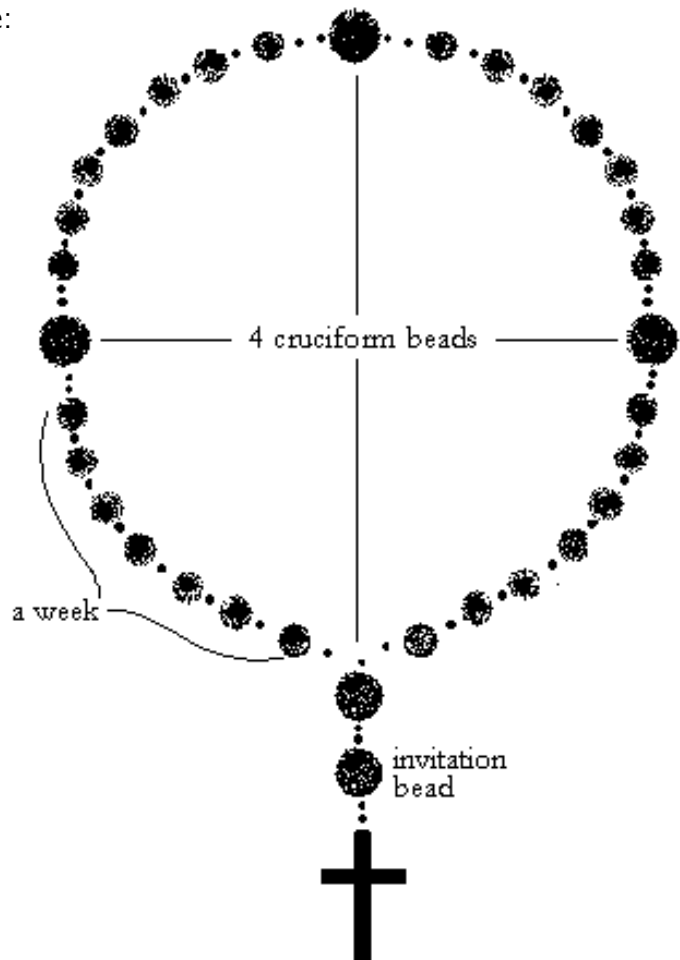
Sometimes when I pray, I like to use the Episcopal Rosary. As I go through the circle of beads, I can concentrate better while I touch each bead, and my mind doesn't wander so much. And as I repeat a phrase, chanting or speaking, I notice that I am able to listen for God's voice in a way that's not as easy when I'm trying to think up the words to say, or even reading a prayer.

Here is a little bit about the way the beads are arranged for the Episcopal Rosary, and some examples of how you might pray with it. You may also make up your own prayers and your own ways to use the beads. There is no wrong way to do it! God is happy you're praying!

Here's what the Episcopal Rosary looks like:

There are 33 beads and a cross that make up the Rosary (not including the little spacer beads). Prayers begin with the **Cross**, then move to the **Invitation Bead**. The next bead, along with the other three beads around the circle that are just like it, make up the **4 Cruciform Beads**. In between those are sets of seven beads. These are called the **Weeks** (like seven days in a week).

When you pray, pick one prayer (or chant) for the Cross, another for the Invitation Bead, another for the first Cruciform Bead, then another one that is said (or chanted) seven times. Next, repeat the prayer (or chant) you have chosen for the Cruciform Beads, and continue this way around the circle and back down through the Invitation Bead to the Cross.



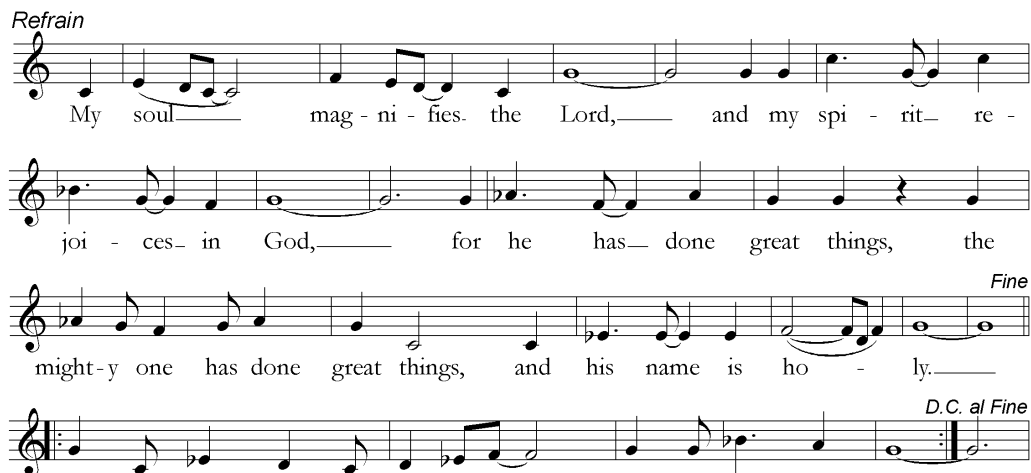
Here are some samples of the prayers:

A Rosary for ADVENT

The Cross

The Magnificat (use the refrain)

Refrain



My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spi - rit re -
joi - ces in God, for he has done great things, the
might-y one has done great things, and his name is ho - ly.
Fine

D.C. al Fine

1. God has looked on my low - li - ness, I will be called blessed.—
2. God has scat - tered the rich, but filled the hun - gry with good things.—
3. God has shown from age to age. mer - cy to his own.—

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Invitation Bead *A Taizé chant*

*Prepare the way of the Lord,
prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people shall see
the salvation of our God.*

Cruciform Beads *Hymn 56, refrain*

*Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

The Weeks



Come, Lord Je - sus, come.

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A Rosary for LENT

The Cross *Hymn 473, refrain*
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Invitation Bead *spoken*
The Lord is full of compassion and love. O come let us adore him.

Cruciform Beads



the tune is an Ojibway lullaby

The Weeks



(God bless Courtney, God bless Michael, God bless Melissa...) With a group, use one the name of one person in the group for each bead, going around the circle and repeating if there are fewer than 28 of you!

If you are praying alone, use the names of your family and friends, or others you for whom you pray.

A Rosary for EASTER

The Cross *Hymn 207 (first verse)*
Jesus Christ is Risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Invitation Bead *spoken*
Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People: *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

Cruciform Beads *Wonder, Love and Praise 784 (refrain)*
Hallelujah! We sing your praises! All our hearts are filled with gladness!
Hallelujah! We sing your praises! All our hearts are filled with gladness!

The Weeks



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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A Rosary for BEDTIME

The Cross *spoken*
The Lord's Prayer

Invitation Bead *spoken, or sing Hymn S 102*
Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon me (us).

Cruciform Beads *spoken*
Holy Spirit, guard me while I sleep.

The Weeks *spoken*
Jesus Christ, Son of God, bless _____.

Use a different name for each bead.
Or if you prefer, pick seven names and repeat them for each "week."

A Rosary of Praise to God

The Cross *Wonder, Love and Prase 785*
Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora!
Mi corazon te sabe decir: santo eres Señor.

or

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord.

Invitation Bead *A Taizé chant*
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
You alone O Lord are holy,
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

Cruciform Beads *spoken*
*Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
Serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song!*

The Weeks *this is Latin for "We adore you, Lord God."*

