

Rosa Mystica – Dates back to the first centuries of Christianity. It was in the fifth century when, according to records of the Church, the figure of the rose was a metaphorical sign (martyrdom and paradise) of the Virgin Mary. In 1947 in Italy, Mary appeared to Pierina Gilla and identified herself as the Rosa Mystica. Feast day is July 13th.

Rosary - a set of prayer beads which are generally composed of the prayers - "Hail Mary," "The Lord's Prayer" and the "Doxology." Meditation on the mysteries of Christianity are to be observed during these prayers.

Sabbatine Privilege - refers to the pious belief that those who (1) wear the scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (2) observe chastity according to their state of life, and (3) daily recite the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary or abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Saturdays or faithfully observe some other similar work will be aided "by Mary's unceasing intercession, devout pleadings, merits, and special protection - especially on Saturday, the day dedicated to the Holy Virgin."

Salve Regina - the best-known Western anthem to the Blessed Virgin Mary - "Hail Holy Queen."

Scapular - a special piece of cloth generally connected by a piece of string or a habit worn by Christians dedicated to Mary.

Seat of Wisdom – This refers to her status as the vessel in which the Holy Child was born. Icons and sculptures show Mary seated on a throne with the Christ child on her lap. Feast day is June 8th.

Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- I. The prophecy of Simeon
- II. The flight into Egypt
- III. The loss of the Child Jesus in the temple
- IV. Mary meets Jesus on the way to Calvary
- V. Jesus dies on the cross
- VI. Mary receives the body of Jesus in her arms.
- VII. The body of Jesus is placed in the tomb.

Shrine - a special place dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Jesus Christ or some other saint.

Sub Tuum - "We fly to your patronage." The oldest petition to the Blessed Virgin Mary found on papyrus in the 3rd century A.D. in Egypt.

Theotokos - Mother of God, God-bearer.

Total Consecration to Mary: "Consists in surrendering oneself in the manner of a slave to Mary, and to Jesus thru her, and then performing all our actions with Mary, in Mary, thru Mary and for Mary."

Virgin Most Prudent – Mary choose the right means of achieving the goal of life, which is union with God. Mary also questioned the angel Gabriel and waited for an answer, so that she might judge whether it agreed with what the prophets had said about the Messiah and with the principles of her religion.

Virginal Conception and Birth - the belief that Mary conceived Jesus Christ and gave birth to Him without having "known man."



MARIAN TERMS

Adjutrix – a personal title attributed to Mary by the 2nd Vatican Council meaning "aide".

Advocate - a role signifying Mary's special power of intercession. This term is mentioned by St. Irenaeus of Lyons in *Adversus Haereses* - "that the Virgin Mary should become the advocate of the virgin Eve."

Auxiliatrix – refers to the personal title of "helper" given to her in the 2nd Vatican Council.

St. Anne – mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Annunciation - the announcement from the Archangel Gabriel to Mary that she would be the Mother of the Redeemer and Savior (Jesus Christ).

Apocrypha - writings that are not considered the "Word of God" and therefore are not part of the official canon of the Bible.

Apparitions - appearances by the Blessed Virgin Mary on earth to one or more Christians after her assumption into Heaven.

Ark of the Covenant – Mary is considered a symbol of the Ark because she, like the Ark, bore within her the Word of God (Jn 1:14), the true bread from heaven (Jn 6:33-35), and the High Priest of the New Testament (Heb 2:17).

Assumption - The entrance of Mary's body and soul into heaven. This is not to be confused with the Ascension of Christ. This dogma was defined by Pope Pius XII in 1950.

Ave Maria - "Hail Mary".

Christokos - Christ-bearer.

Co-Redemptrix - this term originated in the 14th century. It refers to Mary's cooperation in the redemption of mankind by consenting to give birth to the Messiah. This is an indirect, remote cooperation as opposed to her Son's direct redemption. It certainly does not diminish Christ's salvation of the human race.

Cult - this term is used in the positive sense as in devotion towards.

Dormition - the falling asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Since Mary was without Original Sin, she did not deserve death. The Church has never stated that Mary "died" in the traditional sense, but that her "earthly life ended."

Ephesus - an ancient city in Asia Minor (now Turkey) where St. John the Apostle and the Blessed Virgin Mary allegedly lived.

Feast - a day set aside to honor a saint or an event in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary or Jesus Christ.

Fiat - literally "Let it be done".

Hyperdulia - special honor given to the Blessed Virgin Mary as opposed to the honor given to the saints (dulia) and to the higher honor and adoration given to God Himself (latria).

Icon - an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a saint or Jesus Christ painted on wood or some other material. Generally, icons are within the Eastern Church.

Immaculate Conception - the doctrine stating that the Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived without the stain of Original Sin. Defined as dogma by Pope Pius IX in 1854.

Immaculate Heart of Mary - a devotion to the spotless and sinless heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Immanuel (Emmanuel) - the personal name of the Messiah (Isaiah 7:14).

Incarnation - the act of God Himself coming down to earth in the form of a human being (Jesus Christ), born of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Intercession - Mary's willingness to intercede on our behalf to her Son, Jesus Christ.

St. Joseph - foster father of our Lord, Jesus Christ and husband of Mary.

St. Joachim - father of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Magnificat - the hymn of Mary in Luke 1: 46-55.

Marian - of or relating to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Marian Confraternities – religious associations of lay people whose members practice a special form of public devotion.

Marian Congresses - public assemblies of clergy and/or laity for the study of topics related to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mariology - the study of the Blessed Virgin Mary in relation to Christology (the study of Jesus Christ).

Mediatrix - a title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary as she occupies a "middle" position between Jesus Christ and His creatures, because, together with Christ and under Him, she cooperated in the reconciliation of God and mankind when she was here on earth and because she distributes the graces that God bestows on His children.

Miraculous Medal - a medal commissioned by the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1830 to have minted by St. Catherine Labouré.

Morning Star – While Jesus is the sun, for Mary this title refers to Venus when it appears in the east just before the sun rises. The order in which the Morning Star appears before the sun is also symbolic because Mary came first before Jesus.

Mother of God - title given officially to the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D.

New (or Second) Eve - a title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary as the second Eve just as Christ is the new Adam (Ephesians 4:24; Romans 5:17-19; 1 Corinthians 15:45).

Novena - a public or private prayer of nine days for some special occasion or intention.

Perpetual Virginity - the belief that Mary was a virgin before the birth of Christ, during the birth of Christ, and continual virginity after His birth.

Queen - a title given to Mary by Tradition since the 4th century. As Jesus Christ is King, His Mother is Queen Mother.