



The World Mission Rosary, The Year of Faith, and You!

Introduce your family and friends, especially the young people in your life ó children and grandchildren, nieces, nephews and godchildren ó to the World Mission Rosary. Our St. Joseph Gift Shop has a supply of World Mission Rosaries for sale, along with a free prayer instruction card. Buy a World Mission

Rosary for someone you love ó and read below of its history and its connection to the Year of Faith.

“Renewed energy to the mission of the whole Church.”

As he announced a Year of Faith (begins October 11, 2012), Pope Benedict XVI focused on its ultimate purpose. That “renewed energy,” he observed, would be directed “to lead men and women out of the desert...toward friendship with Christ who gives us fullness of life.” *During the Year of Faith, the Pope has asked all of us to be part of a great Prayer Movement focused on the person of Jesus Christ and faith in Him. This Prayer Movement — to which we are all called — will be centered on the World Mission Rosary.*

Why is the World Mission Rosary different?

In February of 1951, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen (national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from 1950 to 1966), in a radio address (The Catholic Hour), inaugurated that World Mission Rosary. He saw the need for us to pray not just for ourselves, but for the whole world, and especially for those who are poor and vulnerable at home and around the world.

What do the colors signify?

Each decade of that World Mission Rosary calls to mind an area where the Church continues her evangelizing mission: green for the forests and grasslands of Africa; blue for the ocean surrounding the islands of the Pacific; white symbolizing Europe, the seat of the Holy Father, shepherd of the world; red calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas and yellow, the morning light of the East, for Asia. Archbishop Sheen himself linked this Rosary to the missionary work of the Church and to the Holy Father. Praying this Rosary, he explained in that radio broadcast, would “aid the Holy Father and his Society for the Propagation of the Faith by supplying him with practical support, as well as prayers, for the poor mission territories of the world.” “When the Rosary is completed, one has embraced all continents, all people in prayer,” he added. “Won’t you please make a tour of the world on your World Mission Rosary?”