

Understanding the Anglican Rosary

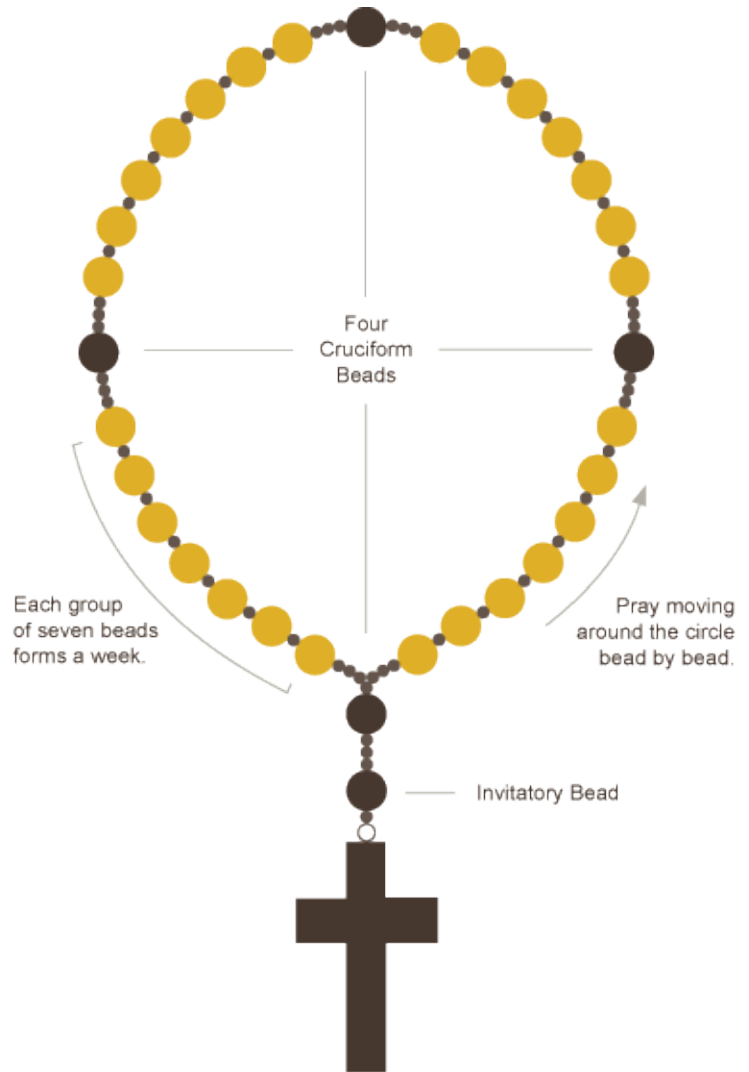
The Rosary has a Cross, an Invitatory bead, 4 sets of 7 beads that are called the Weeks, and 4 beads which separate the beads in the Weeks, called the Cruciform beads because they make the form of a cross. The 7 beads in the Weeks section of the Rosary represent the 7 days of the week and also 7 is the number of spiritual perfection. The total number of beads is 33, which represents the number of years of Jesus' earthly ministry.

How to pray the Anglican rosary

To begin, you can select one of the prayers in this guide or use other prayers you know. The way you pray is to follow the pattern. You may also choose to combine portions of any of the prayers, i.e., using the Cross prayer from one prayer, the Invitatory from another, and Weeks or Cruciform prayers from another. The important part of doing the Rosary is to do it at a steady, preferably slow, pace. It is also suggested to do it three times, which represents the Trinity.

1. Begin at the Cross bead, choosing a prayer for the Cross.
2. Move to the Invitatory bead and choose a prayer for the Invitatory bead.
3. Move to the Cruciform and choose a prayer to pray. This prayer can be used on all the Cruciform beads or you may choose different prayers for each one.
4. Choose a prayer or combination of prayers for each of the Weeks beads.
5. Pray the circler 3 times through.
6. On the last time, select a prayer for the Invitatory bead and finally the Cross. It is suggested to pray the Lord's Prayer the last time through on the Invitatory bead.

Doing the Rosary in a slow, steady pace, and pausing for reflection after each completion may bring you into a deeper relationship with God. The Rosary may be done individually or in a group.



Sample Prayers to Use with a Rosary

Trisagion and Jesus prayer –

The Cross

In the Name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Invitatory

O God, make speed to save me (us). O Lord, make haste to help me (us). Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Cruciform

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon me (us).

The Weeks

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have mercy on me, a sinner. Or, in a group setting: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon us.

Closing your Prayers

The following ending can be used with any of the prayers in this guide. After 3 circuits around the prayer beads, you may finish as follows:

Last time through –

Invitatory Bead

The Lord's Prayer

The Cross

I bless the Lord. Or, in a group setting: Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*Trisagion means "thrice Holy"

Agnus Dei Prayer

The Cross

The Lord's Prayer

The Invitatory

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer." –

Psalms 19:14

The Cruciform

Oh, Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world have mercy upon us. Oh, Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world have mercy upon us. Oh, Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world give us Thy Peace.

The Weeks

Almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Closing your Prayers

The following ending can be used with any of the prayers in this guide. After 3 circuits around the prayer beads, you may finish as follows:

Last time through –

Invitatory Bead

The Lord's Prayer

The Cross

I bless the Lord. Or, in a group setting: Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*Agnus Dei means "Lamb of God"