

TALKING ABOUT ORDINARY TIME >>>

Feasts of Mary and the Saints occur all during the Church year. Ordinary Time is the longest of all the Church seasons. It has thirty-three or thirty-four Sundays. It is called Ordinary Time because all the Sundays are numbered in order. Ordinary Time is divided into two parts. The first is from the end of the Christmas season until Ash Wednesday. The second is from the end of the Easter season until the first Sunday of Advent of the next cycle. Following the Feast of the Holy Cross, the Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. This feast affirms the important role of the Rosary in Catholic life.

Scripture



Read **Luke 1:26–38**. It describes the appearance of the angel to Mary and her positive response to God's call to be the Mother of his Son. It is one of the optional Gospels read on feasts of Mary. When in your life have you realized that "nothing is impossible with God"?

HELPING YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND >>>

Mary

- Children this age are usually open to different types of prayer, such as meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary and seeing the Rosary as a prayer.
- Because many children at this age have already taken on secular role models, they will be able to see Mary and talk about her as a role model for their own spiritual life.
- Ordinarily, children at this age love participating in rituals, such as the family Rosary and creating a special altar or shrine for Mary. Create a place of reverence with a candle, an image of Mary, and a tablecloth to represent the season.



CATHOLIC FAMILY CUSTOMS >>>

Praying the Rosary

Set aside a time to gather in a peaceful part of your home. Together, pray at least one decade of the Rosary. Allow your child to choose the Mystery on which you will reflect. In the traditional family Rosary, a parent prays the first part of each Hail Mary (through "blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus"), and other family members respond with the conclusion of the prayer (from "Holy Mary, Mother of God" to the end).

FAMILY PRAYER >>>



Say this prayer at bedtime or before a family meal during the month of October:

Mary, Queen of the Rosary, pray for us and our world that peace will reign in our hearts and in the hearts of all nations who are at war.

Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to aliveinchrist.osv.com.