

Chanting the Rosary

English Version with Gregorian Notation

First Edition

Edited by
Aristotle A. Esguerra

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The editor regrets any oversight that may have occurred and will graciously make proper acknowledgements in future editions.

<http://www.cantemusdomino.net/>

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In loving memory of Ignacio Vidamo Aure (1914-2003)

Foreword

“To sing prayer well is to pray twice.” – St. Augustine of Hippo

This booklet is an attempt to add the noble simplicity of plainsong to the popular devotion *par excellence* – the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Dr. Paul F. Ford asserts in his essential work *By Flowing Waters: Chant for the Liturgy* that “modal music in free rhythm wears well” – a statement with which this editor readily concurs. Moreover, many of the modal melodies are more readily suited to adorn texts that have not yet been set to music, or are too impractical to set to complex melodies (as is the case with most popular devotions). Therefore, the tones supplied in this booklet are Gregorian psalm-tones modified for use with the English language.

Those familiar with modern English chant forms will find a ready similarity with the psalm-tones of Dom Laurence Bevenot, O.S.B., Dom Anthony Gregory Murray, O.S.B., the St. Meinrad Archabbey and others. Indeed, if one is so inclined, one may appropriate this booklet for use with those fine psalm-tones.

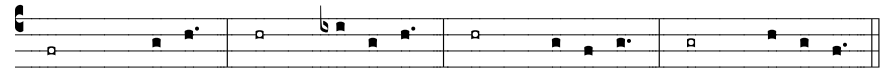
Through the singing of this popular devotion, it is the hope of this editor that awareness and appreciation of chant as a active, participatory form of music will increase. Moreover, it is hoped that more people will come to develop a sincere love for the devotion, whether it is sung, spoken, or listened to. Finally – and most importantly – it is hoped that through the love for and practice of this devotion, souls will achieve their salvation in Christ Jesus through the intercession of his Most-Blessed Virgin Mother.

Aristotle Aure Esguerra
Ithaca, New York
April 29, 2003

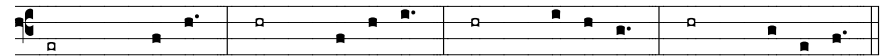
Other Modified Gregorian Psalm-Tones for Use With This Booklet

Two-line stanzas use the first and last sections of the four-line tone. Three-line stanzas use the first, second and last sections of the four-line tone.

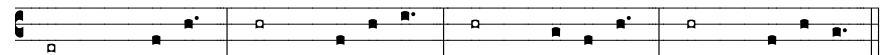
Tone I f



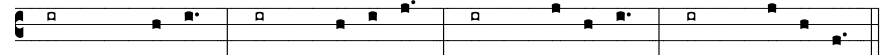
Tone II D



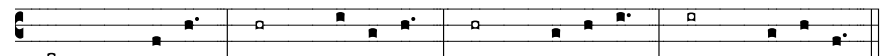
Tone III b



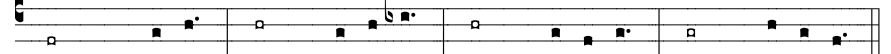
Tone IV A



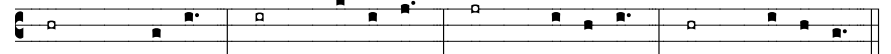
Tone V A



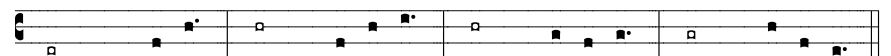
Tone VI f



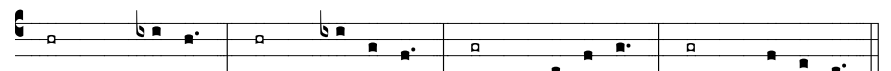
Tone VII b



Tone VIII G

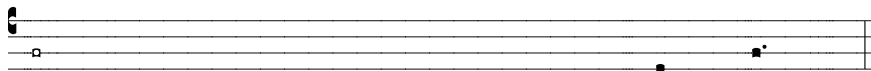


“Peregrinus” Tone



Chants to Announce the Mysteries

To be chanted by the prayer leader.



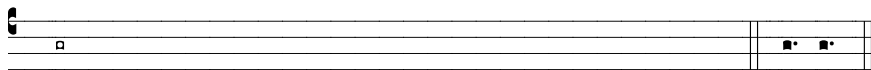
The first Joyful Mystery is the Annun-	ci-	ation.
The second Joyful Mystery is the Vi-	sit-	ation.
The third Joyful Mystery is the Nativity of our	Lord	Jesus.
The fourth Joyful Mystery is the Presentation in	the	Temple.
The fifth Joyful Mystery is the finding of the child Jesus in the	the	Temple.

The first Luminous Mystery is the Baptism of Jesus in	the	Jordan.
The second Luminous Mystery is the Wedding Feast	at	Cana.
The third Luminous Mystery is the		
Proclamation of the Kingdom	of	God.
The fourth Luminous Mystery is the Transfiguration	of	Jesus.
The fifth Luminous Mystery is the Institution of	the	Eucharist..

The first Sorrowful Mystery is the Agony in	the	Garden.
The second Sorrowful Mystery is the Scourging at	the	Pillar.
The third Sorrowful Mystery is the Crowning	with	Thorns.
The fourth Sorrowful Mystery is the Carrying of	the	Cross.
The fifth Sorrowful Mystery is the		
Crucifixion and Death of	our	Lord.

The first Glorious Mystery is the Re-	sur-	rection.
The second Glorious Mystery is the	As-	cension.
The third Glorious Mystery is the		
Descent of the Holy Spirit among the	A-	postles.
The fourth Glorious Mystery is the		
Assumption of Mary in-	to	Heaven.
The fifth Glorious Mystery is the Coronation	of	Mary.

Closing Dialogues



✠ May the divine assistance remain always with us.	Amen.
✠ May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.	Amen.
✠ May the blessing of Almighty God, ✠Father, Son and Holy Spirit, descend upon us and remain with us forever.	Amen.

How to Use This Booklet

This booklet may be used for individual use, but it is hoped that it will find a home with prayer groups, parishes, campus ministries and other communities. The minimum number of required singers is one. Rudimentary notation is provided for a cantor and assembly as a suggestion. Prayer groups are welcome to adapt the chants to complement their own practice.

The Rosary contained in these pages includes some prayers that the editor's family has added to their nightly recitation of the devotion. These may be omitted or added to one's devotion as seen fit. Also included are the Luminous Mysteries offered by Pope John Paul II in his letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*.

A Primer on Neumes

This booklet uses the ancient square notation - neumes - of the Western Roman Church. (An edition containing modern notation is planned for the future.) Reading neumes is not a particularly difficult task for those who know how to read modern notation - what follows is a quick explanation of the essentials needed to make the most out of this booklet.



At the left of each four-line staff is a "C" which is intersected through the center by one of the lines. The "C" is the ancient precursor to today's alto and tenor clefs (or C-clefs), and the line which intersects the "C" corresponds to the tonic of a major scale. The chants contained in this booklet are in a movable Do system, so singers should feel free to transpose any chant into keys which is most comfortable to the voices of your prayer group.

Open noteheads correspond to reciting (or chanting) tones. Filled-in noteheads indicate basic units of pitch duration. Notes followed by a dot indicate a lengthening of the note relative to other syllables (if it is a monosyllable) or the last syllable of the word/word fragment.

The only accidental found in this volume is the B-flat. For the purposes of this booklet, the accidental modifies only the B immediately following it, unless when it appears right after the "C", in which case it lowers all Bs in the system by a half-step.

All prayers are set to the modified Gregorian Tone I D. Once an individual or group becomes comfortable with this tone, he/she/they may choose to learn one of the other tones provided in the back of this booklet. For example, a particularly ambitious group may want to sing each set of Mysteries to unique psalm-tones.

Outline of the Rosary

Page numbers are provided for quick reference.

Sign of the Cross.....	5
Prayer Before the Rosary.....	5
The Apostles' Creed.....	6
The Lord's Prayer.....	7
Hail Mary (x 3).....	7
Glory Be.....	8

The following prayers are recited for each set/sets of Mysteries:

Announcement of the Mystery.....	10
The Lord's Prayer.....	7
Hail Mary (x 10).....	7
Glory Be.....	8
Fatima Prayer.....	8

Hail, Holy Queen.....	9
Closing Dialogues.....	10

When to Pray Each Set of Mysteries

Joyful Mysteries..... Mondays and Thursdays of the year
 First Sunday of Advent to the Sunday before Ash Wednesday

*Luminous Mysteries**..... Thursdays of the year

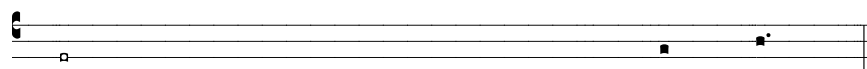
Sorrowful Mysteries..... Tuesdays and Fridays of the year
 First Sunday of Lent to Palm Sunday

Glorious Mysteries..... Wednesdays and Saturdays of the year
 Easter Sunday to the Feast of Christ the King

*optional

Hail, Holy Queen

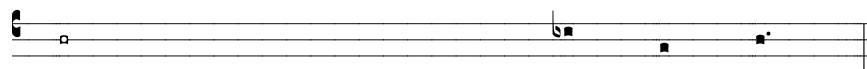
Tone 1 D



- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--|----|------------|
| 1. Hail, Ho- | | ly | Queen, |
| 2. To thee do | | we | cry, |
| 3. Turn then, O most gracious Advocate,
thine eyes of mer- | | cy | toward us. |

∇ Pray for us,

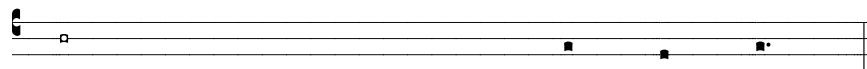
- | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|--|-----|-------------|
| 1. (∇ Let us pray.) O God, whose only-begot- | | ten | Son, |
| 2. Grant, we | | be- | seech thee, |
| 3. we | | may | imitate |



- | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|-------|-----|--------|
| 1. mo- | | ther | of | mercy. |
| 2. poor banished chil- | | dren | of | Eve. |
| 3. And after | | this, | our | exile, |

O holy Mother of God,

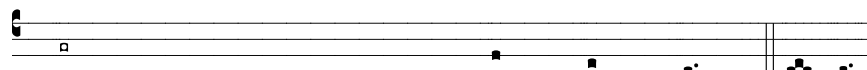
- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|------|------|-----------|
| 1. by his life, death, and | | re- | sur- | rection, |
| 2. that, by meditating | | on | the | mysteries |
| 3. what | | they | con- | tain |



- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----|-------|--------|
| 1. [_____] | | | | |
| 2. To thee do we send | | up | our | sighs, |
| 3. show unto us the blessed fruit of | | thy | womb, | Jesus. |

⌘ That we may be made worthy

- | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--------|------|----------|
| 1. has pur- | | chased | for | us |
| 2. of the Most | | Ho- | ly | Rosary |
| 3. and obtain | | what | they | promise, |



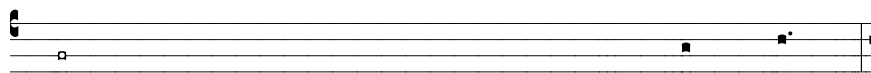
- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------|-----|--------|
| 1. Hail, our life, our sweetness | | and | our | hope. |
| 2. mourning and weeping in this | | vale | of | tears. |
| 3. O clement, O loving, O sweet | | Vir- | gin | Mary. |

of the promises of Christ.

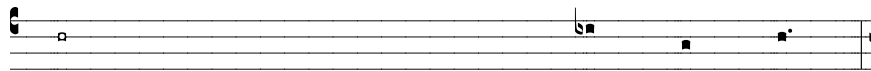
- | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--------|-----|---------------|
| 1. the rewards of e- | | ter- | nal | life. |
| 2. of the Blessed | | Vir- | gin | Mary, |
| 3. through the same | | Christ | our | Lord. A- men. |

Glory Be (Alternate translation in parentheses.)

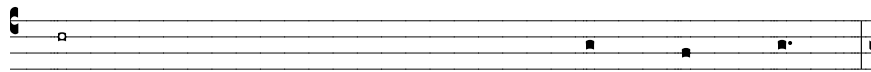
Tone I D



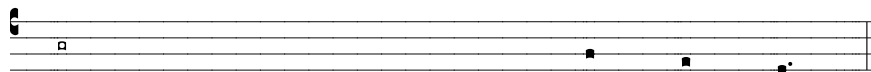
Glory (be) to the Father and to the Son,



and to the Ho-ly Spirit:



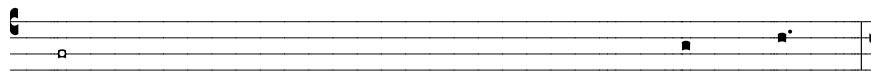
As it was in the begin-ning, is now,



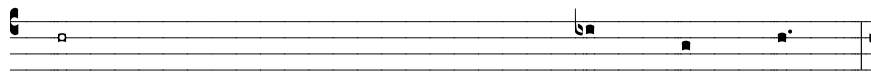
and will be for- ev- er. Amen.
(and ever shall be, world with- out end. Amen.)

Fatima Prayer

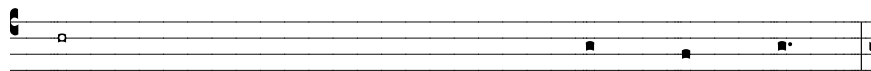
Tone I D



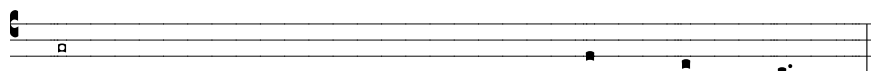
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,



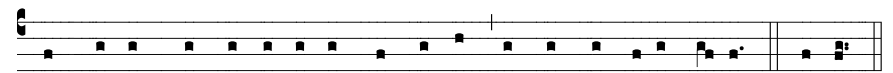
save us from the fires of hell.



Lead all souls to heaven,



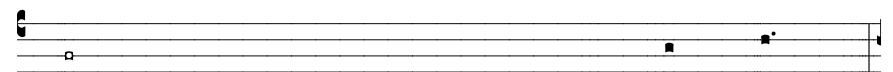
especially those in most need of thy mercy.

Sign of the Cross

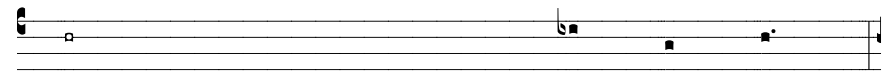
✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spir- it. Amen.

Prayer Before the Rosary

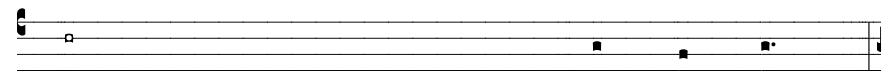
Tone I D



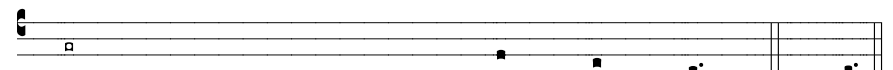
1. Queen of the Ho-ly Rosary,
2. Inspire our hearts
3. we may be enriched with its fruits
4. We ask this for the greater glory of God,



1. you have deigned to come to Fatima
2. with a sincere love of this de- votion,
3. and obtain peace for the world,
4. for your own honor,



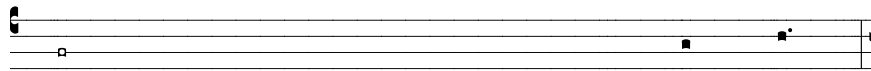
1. to reveal to the three shep- herd children
2. in order that, by meditating on the Mysteries of our Re- demption
3. the conversion of sinners, and of Russia,
4. and for the good of souls,



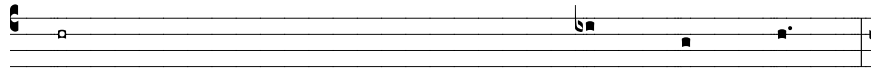
1. the treasures of grace hidden in the Rosary.
2. which are re- called in it,
3. and the favors which we ask of you in this Rosary.
4. especially of our own. A- men.

Apostles' Creed

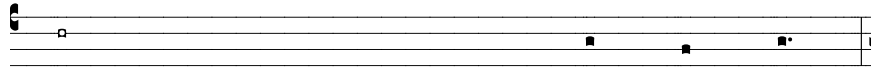
Tone I D



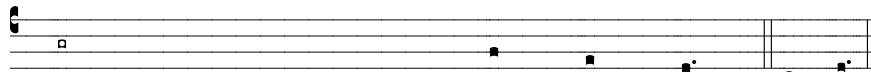
- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 1. I believe in | one | God, |
| 2. I believe in Je- | sus | Christ, |
| 3. He suffered under Pon- | tius | Pilate, |
| 4. On the third day he rose | a- | gain. |
| 5. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catho- | lic | Church, |



- | | | | |
|------------------------------------------|------|-----|---------|
| 1. the Fa- | ther | al- | mighty, |
| 2. his only | Son, | our | Lord. |
| 3. was crucified, died, | and | was | buried. |
| 4. He ascended | in- | to | heaven, |
| 5. the communion of saints, the forgive- | ness | of | sins, |



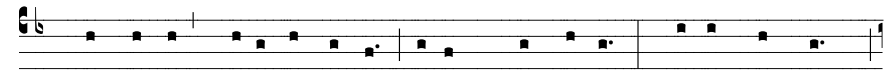
- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| 1. [_____] | | | |
| 2. He was conceived by the power of the | Ho- | ly | Spirit |
| 3. [_____] | | | |
| 4. and is seated at the right hand | of | the | Father. |
| 5. the resurrection | of | the | body, |



- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|------|-----|------------------|
| 1. creator of heav- | en | and | earth. |
| 2. and born of the | Vir- | gin | Mary. |
| 3. He descended | to | the | dead. |
| 4. He will come again to judge the living | and | the | dead. |
| 5. and the life | ev- | er- | lasting. A- men. |

Lord's Prayer

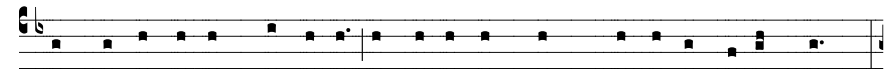
Traditional (R. Snow adapt.)



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;



thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;



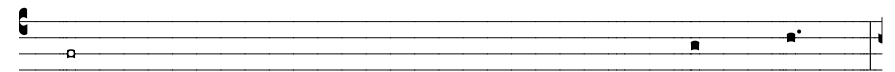
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;



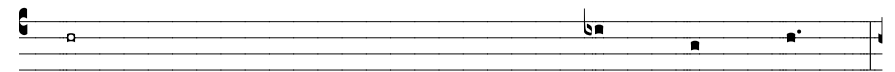
and lead us not in-to temptation, but de-li-ver us from ev- il.

Hail Mary

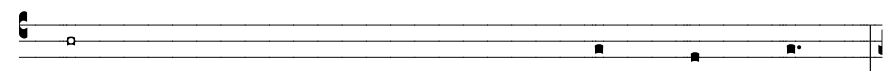
Tone I D



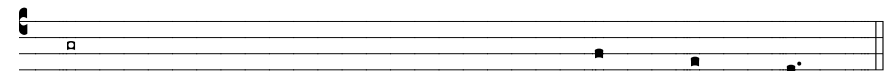
- | | | |
|--------------------|----|--------|
| 1. Hail Mary, full | of | grace, |
| 2. Ho- | ly | Mary, |



- | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|-------|
| 1. the Lord | is | with | thee. |
| 2. Mo- | ther | of | God, |



- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|------|----------|
| 1. Blessed art thou | a- | mong | women, |
| 2. pray | for | us | sinners, |



- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|--------|--------|
| 1. and blessed is the fruit of | thy | womb | Jesus. |
| 2. now and at the hour of | our | death. | Amen. |