How to Pray the Rosary

First, choose a set of mysteries from below:

The Five Joyful Mysteries...
Monday, Saturday, and Sundays of Advent

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity
4. The Presentation in the Temple
5. The Finding in the Temple

The Five Sorrowful Mysteries
Tuesday, Friday, and Sundays of Lent

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion and Death

The Five Glorious Mysteries
Wednesday and Sundays outside of Lent and Advent

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption
5. The Coronation of Mary

The Five Luminous Mysteries
Thursday

1. The Baptism of Christ in the Jordan
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana
3. Jesus' Proclamation of the Coming of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist as a Sacrament

Begin prayers by holding the Crucifix and reciting The Apostles Creed. Then follow the arrows along the beads, saying the prayers as indicated. When two or more are praying the Rosary together, the Leader recites the part of the prayer printed in bold and the others recite the rest of the prayer together.

Prayers prayed during the recitation of the rosary: The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He arose from the dead. He ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Our Father

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 into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

You may add after each Glory Be: “Oh 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.”
Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy; our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us. And after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of Thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God; That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

Using the numbers labeling the steps of the rosary on the right as well as the prayers above, begin to pray the rosary:

1. Recite The Apostles Creed
2. Recite The Our Father
3. Recite three Hail Marys
4. Recite The Glory Be
5. Announce the first mystery and begin with the Our Father, followed by 10 Hail Marys and The Glory Be
6. Announce the second mystery and begin with the Our Father, followed by 10 Hail Marys and The Glory Be
7. Announce the third mystery and begin with the Our Father, followed by 10 Hail Marys and The Glory Be
8. Announce the fourth mystery and begin with the Our Father, followed by 10 Hail Marys and The Glory Be
9. Announce the fifth mystery and begin with the Our Father, followed by 10 Hail Marys and The Glory Be

FINAL PRAYERS: End with the Hail Holy Queen as well as the following:

O GOD, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation. Grant, we beseech Thee, that while meditating upon these mysteries, of the most Holy Rosary, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise through the same Christ, our Lord. AMEN

At the end of a complete set of mysteries, you may pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be for the intentions of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI.