



The Glorious Mysteries

What does Jesus teach us in these mysteries?

1. The First Glorious Mystery: The Resurrection

At dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb. An angel of the lord said to the women: do not fear, I know that you are looking for Jesus, the crucified. He is not here. He has risen! Go and tell the disciples: He has risen, go to Galilee. You will see him there (Mt 28:1, 5-7).

That all families could be Galilee:

“The Lord’s presence dwells in real and concrete families, with all their daily troubles and struggles, joys and hopes... If that authenticity is inspired by love, then the Lord reigns there, with his joy and his peace. The spirituality of family love is made up of thousands of small but real gestures. In that variety of gifts and encounters which deepen communion, God has his dwelling place.” (AL 315).

* What is our family like? What characterises it? What do we like to do together?

2. The Second Glorious Mystery: The Ascension

Jesus approached then and said to them: Go and teach all peoples, baptising them in the name of the father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded them. I will be with you always, even to the end of ages.” (Mt 28:18-20).

That all families be invited to bear his message:

It is about proposing values, so “that people experience the Gospel of the family as a joy that ‘fills hearts and lives’... As in the parable of the sower, we are called to help sow seeds; the rest is God’s work.” (AL 200).

* How do we think other people see us? Would they be able to see that we love each other by the way we treat each other?

3. The Third Glorious Mystery: The Descent of the Holy Spirit

The day of Pentecost came; they were all together in the same place. Then appeared before them tongues of fire, which descended upon the heads of each of them, and they were all filled of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1, 3-4).

That the Holy Spirit might inhabit all families.

The small family nucleus should not isolate itself from the extended family, where there are parents, uncles, aunts, uncles, cousins, and even neighbours, and where there may be some in need of help, or at least of company and gestures of affection, or of great suffering in need of consolation. Under the impulse of the Spirit, the family nucleus welcomes life and goes out of itself to pour its good into others, to take care of them and to seek their happiness (AL 187. 324).

* Who are the first to come to our aid when our family is met with difficulties? How do they help?

4. The Fourth Glorious Mystery: The Assumption

“The Immaculate ever virgin Mary, Mother of God, ended her earthly life and was assumed, body and soul, into celestial glory.” (Pius XII).

That Mary might keep all families in her heart.

“Like Mary, [families] are asked to face their family’s challenges with courage and serenity, in good times and bad, and to keep in their heart the great things which God has done. The treasury of Mary’s heart also contains the experiences of every family, which she cherishes. For this reason, she can help us understand the meaning of these experiences and to hear the message God wishes to communicate through the life of our families.” (AL 30).

* We remember events and places that are important to our family history.

5. The Fifth Glorious Mystery: The Coronation of Mary

A great sign appeared in the heavens: a woman dressed in the sun, with the moon beneath her feet and a crown of twelve stars above her head (Rev 12, 1).

That we might crown Our Mother, Queen of all families.

“A family’s living space could turn into a domestic church, a setting for the Eucharist, the presence of Christ seated at its table”. It is in this way that a house that carries within it the

presence of God, the Word of God, common prayer and, therefore, the blessing of the Lord is defined (AL 15).

* We crown Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We can make an altar with an image of the Holy Family, a candle, flowers, photos of our family, signs of our love. Let's make it a place of love in our family.