

## TALKING TO YOUR MOTHER

*A little old lady went to St. Mary's Church and went to the altar rail, knelt down and began to say her prayers. During this time, some work was going on in the church and some men were up on a scaffold. One of the fellows said to the other, "Watch me have a little fun."*

*In a deep voice, he said, "My child, ask and I shall see that your prayer is answered." The woman ignored him and kept on praying. Again, in a deep voice he said, "My dear child, this is Jesus, whatever you ask you shall receive." At this, the woman looked up at the altar and said, "What's the matter with you Jesus? Don't you have any manners? I'm talking to your mother."*

*Well, we are now in the month of October, and the whole month of October is dedicated to the Mother of God and the Holy Rosary. We all talk to our earthly mothers if we are lucky enough to still have them, but how can we speak to our heavenly Mother? Well one good way is to pray the Holy Rosary each and every single day.*

*The rosary is really a magnificent prayer. I think that most of us know what the rosary is; we might even have one at home in a drawer or on a nightstand. But do we ever pray those beads?*

*The rosary is composed of certain vocal prayers like the Apostles Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, Glory Be and then at the end, the Hail Holy Queen. But the heart of the rosary is not in just saying the prayers. Rather, it is meditating or reflecting on a series of mysteries in the life of Jesus and Mary.*

*There are four sets of mysteries-the Joyful, the Sorrowful, the Glorious and the late Pope John Paul II gave us the Mysteries of Light, known as the Luminous Mysteries. While our lips are uttering the Our Father and the Hail Marys, our minds are meant to soar aloft in contemplation on these wonderful events centering on the life of our Blessed Lord and his Mother.*

*If we pondered these mysteries of our salvation when we say our beads, our faith would be increased a hundred times over. But you see, unfortunately, we don't do it! We don't take the time to pray the rosary which is not a long prayer at all-it can be said in about fifteen minutes.*

*In this vein, a priest that I know said that he used to go to a lot of wakes. It's really part of our job. He said that when he approached the casket and saw the rosary draped around the deceased hands, he was shocked as he thought to himself, "Gee this person probably hasn't had a rosary in their hands in years!"*

*What would happen this good priest wondered if that dead person could come back to life at that moment and see a rosary in his or her hands? He said, "I think that they would be so surprised that they would drop dead again! But you see, it's not when we are dead that we need prayer. No, it's when our hands are pulsating with life and vigor that we need the power of the rosary.*

*During this month of October, let us take some "Time Out" and say our rosary each day.*

*Certainly, if we do that, we will truly see clearly the things of God-the things that in the long run really matter!*

*Sincerely,*

*Father Jerome*