



ORDER OF MALTA  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA AREA

## ROSARY OUTREACH MINISTRY

*"The Rosary is my favorite prayer. A prayer so simple and so rich;  
from deepest heart, I exhort all to recite it."*

*~Pope John Paul II*

**Mission:** To establish rosary prayer groups in communities such as nursing homes, veteran homes, hospitals, or assisted living facilities and schools to build up the Kingdom of God through a well-established devotion to our Blessed Mother Mary, with specific intentions to pray for the sick and the poor.

**Overview:** The Rosary Outreach Ministry (ROM) offers individuals who are currently residing in nursing homes, veteran homes, hospitals, assisted living facilities and the like a complimentary, specially created "Malta Rosary" with the eight-pointed Cross, an eloquent symbol of the Beatitudes. The rosary which also includes the St Benedict medal (which should protect from evil and illness) has been blessed by a Catholic priest for the purposes of getting closer to Jesus and his Mother Mary while praying with and for others.

**Implementation of the ROM:** The ROM is administered by members of a Committee established specifically for this purpose. Each member of the Committee "adopts" at least one facility and serves as a liaison with the facility's management or designee to ensure set-up, follow-through and ongoing efforts, as well as the submittal of status updates to the Chair of the Committee. Once a facility has expressed interest in participating in the ROM, a designated committee member will reach out to set up an initial meeting with management, staff, volunteers, and/or anyone else involved, to explain the project and provide instructions, and then periodically check-in to make sure the efforts are ongoing. The member also distributes the rosaries and the "*Pray the Rosary Daily*" guides, which are available in both English and Spanish. The ROM may be expanded to include other outlets such as schools. The same structure developed for adult facilities apply to educational institutions.

**Facility Role and Responsibility:** A facility desiring to participate in the ROM plays a crucial role in promoting prayers for the sick and the poor while at the same time encouraging and supporting a meaningful, beneficial activity for its residents. The facility will be responsible for the following:

1. Designating a liaison to work with a Committee member;
2. Identifying rosary prayer group members;
3. Identifying 2-3 prayer group leaders<sup>1</sup> who will convene the prayer and submit status reports to the Committee member;
4. Establishing a regular rosary prayer schedule; and
5. Promoting the ROM by posting information, including a sign-up sheet, and including the ROM in any announcements as are customary for the facility.

**Benefits of Praying the Rosary:** Praying the rosary is a powerful devotion and brings healing to those prayed for and to those doing the praying. This holy practice not only helps the world generally, but specifically to the individual as well by instilling a sense of purpose through meaningful activity. This is especially positive for those confined with physical and other conditions that cause limitations. Various studies<sup>2</sup> have shown that praying the rosary may improve a person's wellbeing by reducing anxiety, promoting peace, easing pain, enhancing immune systems, better sleep, and much more.<sup>3</sup>

The Order of Malta is a lay religious order that dates back to 1050. Its mission is "Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum", nurturing, witnessing and protecting the faith and serving the sick and the poor. This mission becomes reality through the voluntary work of its 13,500 members around the world who are devoted to the exercise of Christian virtue and charity, its diplomatic relations with over 120 countries, and Permanent Observer status in the United Nations. The Order is also known for its work through Malteser International, a worldwide humanitarian relief agency. For over 60 years, Malteser International has provided aid in response to natural disasters, epidemics, armed conflicts and more. Further information can be found on the Malteser International website <https://orderofmaltaarelief.org/>. What defines members of the Order of Malta is their commitment to reaching spiritual perfection within the Church and to expending their energies serving the poor and the sick. The Order of Malta, American Association consists of over 2,000 members in over 30 Areas throughout the United States who care for the sick and the poor in their local communities. To learn more about the Order of Malta, American Association, visit <https://orderofmaltaamerican.org/>.

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<sup>1</sup>Leaders can be staff, residents, friends or relatives of residents, volunteers from the local parish, or anyone else the facility feels will provide a devoted commitment to the mission and continuity of the ROM.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC61046/>  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8542536/>  
<https://catholicstand.com/physical-and-mental-benefits-of-meditating-on-the-rosary/>

<sup>3</sup>These benefits are the opinions of the medical profession researchers cited in the studies and not of the Order of Malta.