Everyday Catholicism

Does Your Rosary Have to Be Blessed Before You Can Pray It?

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary, a special time to deepen our devotion to our Blessed Mother and draw closer to Jesus Christ. One question Catholics sometimes ask is: "Does my rosary have to be blessed for me to receive the graces of praying it?"

The answer is no. You do not need to have your rosary blessed before you begin praying. The grace we receive through praying the Rosary comes from God, not from the beads themselves. The beads help us keep track of our prayers as we meditate on the mysteries of Christ's life, death, and Resurrection. We can pray using blessed or unblessed beads, counting on our fingers, or without holding anything at all. What matters is that we turn our hearts to God in prayer.

Why, then, should we have our rosaries blessed? The Church teaches that sacramentals are sacred signs instituted by the Church to prepare us to receive God's grace and help us cooperate with it. When a priest blesses a rosary, the beads become a blessed devotional object, set apart for sacred use through the prayer of the Church. Through this blessing, the Church asks God to help those who use it grow in faith and prayer.

A blessed rosary does not automatically bring us grace simply because we carry it in our pockets or keep it beside our beds. Neither does an unblessed rosary prevent God from hearing our prayers. The Rosary is a devotion that helps us contemplate Christ with Mary. Scripture tells us that Mary treasured the events surrounding her Son and reflected on them in her heart (Luke 2:19). We are invited to do the same as we meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary.

Having our rosaries blessed is a beautiful Catholic practice, and I encourage everyone to do so. But we should never think, "I cannot pray my new rosary because Father has not blessed it yet." If you purchase or receive a new rosary, begin praying with it right away. Then bring it to a priest for a blessing when you have the opportunity.

During this Month of the Holy Rosary, I invite you to make the Rosary part of your daily prayer, even if you begin with just one decade. Keep your rosary close, treat it reverently, and above all, use it. The beads help us pray, Mary accompanies us in prayer, and our prayer draws us closer to her Son, Jesus Christ.

Catechism Connection: Luke 2:19; CCC 1667, 1670–1671, 1674, 2111, 2678–2679, 2708.



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."
— Matthew 22:15-21

October 18, 2026

Mass Intentions

Sat.	17	Sean & Vanessa Tierney
Sun.	18	+Pat Hobin
Mon.	19	St. Joseph's Parishioners
Tues.	20	Camelia Cross
Wed.	21	Dennis Manning
Thurs.	22	+Mary Fatooh
Thurs.	22	(Spanish) Todos los fieles difuntos
Fri.	23	+Daniel J. Romanazzi
Sat.	24	+Julia Orellana de Galvez
Sun.	25	Patti Hobin

Most Rev. Ramón Bejarano
Bishop of Monterey

Rev. Martel Ramos
Pastor
Pastor@SaintJosephCayucos.org

Office Hours
Monday–Thursday
10:00 AM–4:30 PM
Friday — Closed

Parish Staff
Judy Ann Cross
Business Administrator
BusinessAdmin@SaintJosephCayucos.org

Mass Schedule
Monday–Friday — 9:00 AM
Thursday — 6:30 PM (Spanish)
Saturday Vigil — 5:00 PM
Sunday — 10:00 AM

Rosary
Weekdays — 8:30 AM

Confessions
Friday after the 9:00 AM Mass
First Saturday — 4:00 PM

Adoration & Benediction
Friday after the 9:00 AM Mass

World Mission Sunday

This Sunday, October 18, the Church celebrates World Mission Sunday, joining Catholics around the world in prayer and support for the Church's missionary work. This year marks 100 years of World Mission Sunday, with the theme "One in Christ, United in Mission."

Through your prayers and generosity, we share in the Church's mission throughout the world by supporting seminarians, building churches, sustaining mission dioceses, training catechists, and assisting religious sisters serving communities in need.

Please prayerfully consider supporting the World Mission Sunday collection. As one Church united in Christ, we all share in his mission and help bring the Gospel to our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Supporting Our Parish

If you would like to make a special gift to Saint Joseph Parish, you may designate your donation to our Capital Campaign, which supports major parish projects such as the rectory, or to our Building and Maintenance Fund, which helps care for and maintain our church and parish facilities.

Thank you for your generosity and support of Saint Joseph. Online giving is available through the parish website at saintjosephcayucos.org, where you may choose from these and other giving categories.

Funeral Mass for Eric Solum

A Funeral Mass for Eric Solum will be celebrated on Monday, October 19, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Cayucos Cemetery. Please keep Eric Solum and his family in your prayers.

Bingo Night

Bingo Night will take place on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. An entry bingo packet is $15. Hot dogs and popcorn will be available. Attendees must be 18 or older.

Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary. We are invited to meditate on the life of Jesus with Mary and to deepen our relationship with Christ through this beautiful prayer.

Let us make a commitment to pray the Rosary daily, whether at home, with our families, or here in our church. Monday through Friday we pray the Rosary here in church at 8:30 AM. Please join us as we entrust our needs, our families, and our world to the intercession of our Blessed Mother and allow her to lead us always to her Son.

Respect Life Month

The Church invites us to renew our gratitude for the gift of human life and our commitment to protect and cherish every person, especially those who are most vulnerable. Every human life has God-given dignity, from conception to natural death. This includes the unborn and their mothers, the sick, the elderly, persons with disabilities, the poor, and all who are suffering or forgotten.

During this month, let us ask the Lord to help us recognize his image in every person and to make our parish a community where every human life is welcomed, protected, and loved.

If there is someone you would like us to remember at Mass during Respect Life Month, please contact the parish office and give us the person's name. No details are necessary. Together, let us entrust them to the loving care of God.

Rectory Groundbreaking

Saint Joseph will celebrate the groundbreaking for the new rectory on Saturday, October 24, at 11:00 a.m. The Most Reverend Ramón Bejarano, Bishop of Monterey, will be with us for this important moment in parish life.

Please come and take part as we begin this work together. Your presence will be a sign of gratitude for all who have helped bring the project to this point and of prayer for the work ahead.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND INJURED

Steve Santi
Stan Piwowarski
Jim & Joanne Tobias
Innette Starkenburg
Steve Buller
Michael Shields
Camelia Cross
Carlos Cortes
Mary Moloney
Mickey Bruno
Gary & Bonnie Nelson
Butch Rambaud
Marina Taverner
Keith Hart
Glen Bennett
Allen & Alba Beltrametti
Bonnie Bowman
Bill Mazzacane
Editha Andres
William Baldwin
Sandy Johnson
Don Swain
Parker Cyr