**CREATIVE WAYS TO TEACH AND PRAY THE ROSARY**

Read the story from scripture. Older students could locate the references. Retell the story in a variety of ways and describe the behaviours and feelings of a character in the text e.g. the boy Jesus in the temple.

* Lead students to enter “into" the scene of the particular mystery imagining the sights, smells, sounds, and emotions that Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and other participants experienced during the actual events.
* Respond to the mysteries by “doing” e.g. The Agony in the Garden – make a poster that reminds us of the needs of people who are suffering. The Visitation – visit a younger class to share songs or games or prayer. The Crowning of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth – write a prayer/litany or poem honouring Mary. The Baptism of Jesus – bring a photo of your Baptism
* Make sets of Rosary beads. Younger children could use large beads and make a rosary bracelet with one decade. Younger children could have turns at holding the beads while the class prays the Hail Mary.
* Make sets of rosary beads (one decade) as a Mother’s day gift. Include a book mark with directions of how to pray one decade of the Rosary and the words of the prayers. Students could be encouraged to teach their family about the rosary and how to pray one decade.
* Make connections between situations and contexts in Mary’s life and those of today. e.g. the Birth of Jesus and my birth.
* Create a PowerPoint presentation of one of the 4 mysteries depicting scriptural references and using artwork found on the web.
* Sequence the mysteries and make a Class Big Book. Students illustrate after being exposed to examples of sacred art. Write a simple summary of the story or a prayer.
* Create a Living Rosary: a rosary made of people instead of beads; candles, incense and soft music; a circle of prayer.

