



**Archdiocese of St. Louis**  
**Office of Sacred Worship**  
**Prayer Divina**  
**Rosary Types**  
**Five Decade Rosary**

The five decade rosary is the one most people picture when they hear the word rosary. It consists of a crucifix, then a short set of 5 beads, for praying the Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, and a Glory Be, and then a rosary center, followed by a loop of 5 decades (sets of ten beads) to count the Hail Marys prayed as one meditates on the mysteries of the rosary, with a bead for praying the Our Father between each decade. This traditional rosary (both the physical strand of beads and the prayer) is also known as the Dominican Rosary, due to St. Dominic's role in encouraging and spreading devotion to the holy rosary at the request of the Blessed Mother.

