



Meditations on the decades of the Rosary by Eric Williams of the SVP Conference at St Mary's, Chorley

1. The Annunciation (Luke 1:26–27)

God invites each of us to help transform the world with His love, just as Mary did when she said “yes” to God’s plan. Her response wasn’t just for herself—it was for all of us, showing that every person has a unique role in building a world made holy by God’s love. But real barriers—poverty, injustice, inequality, and even the divisions we create in our own lives—still keep many from experiencing that love fully. As Vincentians, we are called to notice these barriers, reflect honestly on whether we sometimes contribute to them, and then act with humility and courage to break them down. Saying “yes” to God today means letting His love transform us so that, together, we can work for justice, unity, and dignity for every person as children of God.

- How are you a vessel of God’s love in the world?

Let us ask God for the continual grace to be a vessel of His love in the world.

2. The Visitation (Luke 1:39–42)

Mary went straight to Elizabeth, when she heard she was having a baby. Mary was ready to serve however she could. That same spirit of generosity is what God asks of us: to place ourselves at the disposal of others. By doing this we will discover that there are many around us who need our help. Sometimes this means offering practical help, sometimes it means giving our time, and sometimes it’s simply praying for someone —but all of it matters to God. As Vincentians, we recognize Christ in those who are poor, lonely, or excluded, and we believe that serving them is serving Him.

- How have you served others (friends, family, community, parish)?

Let’s pray for the courage to take the first step and seek out someone to help.

3. The Birth of Our Lord (Luke 2:1–7)

The belief in the Incarnation is that in Jesus, God became a human being and lived on earth, becoming one like us, in all things but sin. Jesus went through the full cycle of life and experienced human emotions, he suffered and felt fear. Jesus was fully divine and fully human and so God in Jesus knows what it is to be human which can help us as we face the joys and challenges in our lives.

- How are you responding to the challenges you see people facing in your local community?

Let us ask God to help us to show compassion to those in our community who are in need.

4. The Presentation in the Temple (Luke 2:21–24)

When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple, they offered Him back to God, showing that every life belongs first to Him and is meant for His mission. Each time we come to Mass or step into a church, we are doing something similar—offering ourselves again to God and asking Him to shape us for His work in the world. As Vincentians, this isn't just about personal holiness; it's about being strengthened to go out and love those who are poor, marginalized, or forgotten, because that's where Christ waits for us. Our faith gives us the courage to confront injustice, to tear down barriers that divide us, and to dedicate our everyday choices to God.

- Do you think of God when you are making your everyday choices?

Let's pray for the grace to keep showing up, both in church and in the world, ready to say with our lives: "Here I am, Lord, send me."

5. The Finding of Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41–47)

This mystery takes us into the Temple. Our Lord is busy. He is challenging people to think differently, asking bold questions and searching for truth. He is posing them to the Scribes and to the Pharisees, the Jewish religious leaders and teachers. Questions are devices which we all use for finding out things like facts, opinions, attitudes and so on. This reminds us that following Christ means being curious, seeking wisdom, and not being afraid to engage with tough issues in our Church and society. As Vincentians, we can't work for justice or serve those on the margins if we remain uninformed or indifferent—we need open minds, prayerful hearts, and the courage to confront ignorance, including our own. God gives us Scripture, Church teaching, community, and the Holy Spirit to guide us, but it's up to us to use these gifts and let them shape the way we act.

- Are you willing to ask questions to seek God's truth—especially when it challenges you—in order to better serve those in your local community?

Let's pray for the grace to keep learning, to stay open to God's truth, and to use what we discover to break down barriers and build a world where His love is known.

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