

# The Mysteries of the Flowers - Short Form- Five Decades

Hello! My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I will be your host for today/tonight's meeting of the Way of the Rose.

Who would like to read our **WOTR Meeting Description**?

The Way of the Rose is an open-hearted, inclusive community of people dedicated to the forgotten Earth wisdom of the rosary... and to the Lady, by any name you like to call Her. We are not affiliated with the Catholic Church or any other religious institution. Nor do we seek to build a new one. We have no dues or fees, no buildings to maintain or capital campaigns. We pass the hat from time to time for our modest needs. There are no priests or levels of mastery. Instead of lineages of power, we value circles of friendship. We support one another in praying for our heart's desire.

FIRST PETAL—WOTR circles are free. We may pass the hat to cover special expenses, but no contribution will ever be required. WOTR has no dues or fees for membership.

SECOND PETAL—WOTR circles are inclusive. Everyone is welcome at every meeting. We have affinity meetings but these circles are open. Anyone may attend.

THIRD PETAL—WOTR circles pray the rosary or a chaplet. We may adapt these or modify them for the purpose of a meeting, but the focus of our fellowship remains on Our Lady and Her beads.

FOURTH PETAL—WOTR circles are places to pray for our heart's desire. We do not support outside causes—religious, political, humanitarian, or otherwise—that might divert us from our own petitions.

FIFTH PETAL—WOTR circles are leaderless. A member may sponsor a meeting, but there are no teachers, experts, or authorities. Once a meeting format has been established, any member may lead it.

Does anyone have a **Message from Our Lady of Woodstock** they would like to share?

**The Rosary – 5 Decades – Choose the 5 mysteries that match the daily novena schedule.** Personal reflections on the mysteries may be shared in addition to the reading. [Ask for volunteers.]

After we finish saying the rosary, we will invite participants to share their **novena petition or their heart's desire**. Then we will acknowledge the presence of the Dead among us. Who would volunteer to lead us in the Prayers for the Dead?

## Entering the Garden

Take a moment to settle yourself here in Her Garden.

*The Rosary is Your Body,  
Your Body is the Body of the Earth.  
Our body is one with Your Body,  
What cause could there be for fear?*

*"My first children were the green and growing things. From these came all other life. You must not think that you are descended only from organisms with legs or fins or wings, beings with mouths or tails or eyes. Your first forbearers emerged from the green womb of the Earth." (From Day 3 of Our Lady's Novena)*

## ***Joys of the Flowers***

### **1. The First Joy is—Our Great Earth Mother says YES to Bring Flowers into the World.**

In an already green and flourishing world, with the lands full of many kinds of plants, insects and reptiles and dinosaurs, Our Mother Earth said YES to the massive disruption of an asteroid impact that made space to generate an incredible surge of Life, Beauty, Eros, Desire, Color, Love, and Wisdom that came forth from Her in the form of FLOWERS.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

### **2. The Second Joy is—The Flowers Give Birth to an Explosion of New Life.**

After the last great extinction, Flowers rapidly diversify and expand all over the world. Many other life forms explode soon after. Primates evolve by reaching for the fruits of the Flowers. In a devotional dance of love eating love, the flowers dream new life forms into being, as they create and recreate themselves over and over again in endlessly new ways. They are our maps.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

### **3. The Third Joy is—The Bees, Birds, Animals, and Humans visit with the Flowers together.**

The Flowers bring many different forms of life together to share love and beauty as they feed each other and help each other procreate. The Flowers' deep desire for love and connection creates an intertwined community among them all.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

### **4. The Fourth Joy is—The Flowers Learn of Great Joy and Great Sorrow to Come.**

The Flowers bear witness to the grand achievements of the humans they have intertwined their lives with, as well as the pain of watching them fall blind to the devotion they once held for the Great Mother. Setting their sights on the stars instead of the earth, humans have forgotten the maps the flowers guided them with for millennia.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

### **5. The Fifth Joy is—The Flowers Always Bring Us Home.**

When we become lost in the empire, our Great Mother will always bring us back home to Her Womb when we ask. When we heed Her call to stop and smell the Flowers, we are instantly transported back home, and wrapped in Her wise arms. The Flowers are our constant touchstone to Her.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

## ***Sorrows of the Flowers***

### **6. The 1<sup>st</sup> Sorrow is—No Longer Seeing the Life Force of Our Mother All Around Us, We Become Lost.**

When people no longer revere nature, they lose the deep understanding of life that devotion to Our Great Mother brings. When the wild garden of the Earth is treated only like a resource for food, products for industry, and beauty becomes a commodity, the disruption of all the intertwined ecosystems grows, until it threatens our existence and all we hold dear. The Flowers weep in agony with us.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**7. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sorrow is—Destruction of the Intricate Ecological Balance of the Flowers.**

When we turn the Flowers that have mothered us into global billion-dollar industries and ship them all over the world each day, removing their scent and genetically manipulating them, we turn them into slaves that no longer know where they belong. When we use fertilizers, pesticides and monocropping to grow our food, we destroy all their diverse wisdom. When we plow up the ground and pave it, we shatter the ecological relationships they have built over millennia.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**8. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sorrow is—The Mocking of the Flower's Intelligence.**

When people believe that Flowers are not sentient, they close the doors to a vast intelligence their ancestors relied upon. The Flowers' wisdom is non-linear – a collective knowledge of innovation and resilience built on millions of generations of Flower ancestors who learned and relearned how to thrive with love and beauty and joy in an ever-changing world.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**9. The 4<sup>th</sup> Sorrow is—The Flowers Carry the Cross for Us.**

Just like the Tree of Life that was turned into a cross, we have asked too much of the Flowers and given too little in return. The Flowers have birthed us, fed us, and brought us joy and community. They have showed us how to live. Even though we don't listen to them, they continue to carry us and feed us as best they can, walking beside us on our chosen road.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**10. The 5<sup>th</sup> Sorrow is—Extinction of the Flowers.**

Whenever a species of Flowers becomes extinct, due to habitat loss, pollution, herbicides, loss of pollinators, monocropping, genetic manipulation, over-commercialization, and other human interventions, we are witnessing our own unraveling as well.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

***Glories of the Flowers***

**11. The 1<sup>st</sup> Glory is—The Flowers Create New Life from the Chaos of the Old**

The great creative force of the Flowers continually brings forth new life, new adaptations, new ways of thriving, after each disruption, extinction, or other loss. We may not recognize them as a way forward when they look vastly different than what we have known before, until we hear them call our name. The Flowers are our maps forward.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**12. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Glory is—The Flowers Make the Leap**

The Flowers are able to leave their old bodies and jump into new ones because they trust Our Great Mother completely. When the old ways of being no longer work, the leap across the abyss to a new form takes complete faith that She will catch them.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**13. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Glory is—The Flowers are Embodied Eros**

The ripeness, the erotic dance of devotion and desire of Our Great Mother's becoming is palpable in the opening of each blossom. She draws up Her very life force from the dirt and offers it to the world in this very moment with unconditional love and beauty that is also eternal.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**14. The 4<sup>th</sup> Glory is—Life Never Ends—the Flowers Dream New Life into Being.**

The Flowers die and are reborn generation after generation without end. They are assumed into the earth to join the column of saints. They become regenerative dreams of life to come and are reborn again and again, bringing their wisdom to our world over and over.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

**15. The 5<sup>th</sup> Glory is—The Flowers are in Glorious Bloom and a Crown of Flowers is placed on Our Great Mother's Head**

The Flower Queen of Heaven and Earth takes Her place at the glorious culmination of a season, a life cycle, an eon. The full promise of life has reached a balance, if only for a moment, before dying and recreating again.

*Followed by 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be*

***Hail Holy Queen or Salve Floralia***

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Roses,  
Hail our Life, our Sweetness, and our Hope!  
You are the Map of the World, so we follow you with humility and trust.  
Turn, then, O most generous Advocate, Thine eyes of mercy toward us,  
and after we remember to stop and smell the Flowers,  
Share with us the blessed Fruits of Thy Womb.  
O clement, O loving, O sweet Mother Earth.  
Pray for us, holy Mother of All.  
That we may know we are worthy of the promises of Life.

***Petitions are offered,*** followed by first line of your Hail Mary.

***Invitations to the Dead*** - We Invite our Beloved Dead, who we know are always with us, to join us in these prayers and mysteries. Our Lady Says, "They are blossoms, the Dead. What looks like a dead body on this side of the veil is a flower on the other." Page 158, WOTR

***Invite our dead***

***Decade for the Dead***

***Memorare***