

Did you know . . .

The Thankful Mysteries – Part I

A few years ago, this column presented “The Thankful Mysteries” adapted from those written by Patricia Robertson in the November 2010 issue of Saint Anthony Messenger. Ms. Robertson, a longtime parish minister, realized how important offering thanks is for all of us, not just on Thanksgiving Day, but every day. She noted that, “The Church’s calendar includes no season of Thanksgiving, perhaps because we need to give thanks every day. My five areas for giving thanks, however, fit perfectly with the five decades of the Rosary. Thus I have now added to my Rosary what I call the “thankful mysteries.” These are in no way officially sanctioned by the Church, but offered to you from one pray-er to another.” These “Thankful Mysteries” will be summarized here and next week to create our own Season of Thanksgiving.

The First Mystery: For the Beauty of Creation. We give thanks for our beautiful earth, mysteries of creation and wonders of nature...trees and colors of the seasons, sunrises and sunsets, blue skies in daytime and moon and stars in the night. We give thanks for God’s living creatures, food we have, natural resources in our world that help us build homes to keep as warm in winter and cool in summer and clothe us in finery. In creation we experience an awesome God for this natural beauty surpasses any human artificial structure.

The Second Mystery: For Life and Our Time on Earth. We humans are wonderful creatures of God’s wisdom and goodness. We are so complex, yet kept together in a marvelous balance. We can only marvel at the human brain and our ability to master our world, to harness its resources with the incredible discoveries of modern medicine and technology that improve our quality of life. The arts, beauty of dance, theater, music, and literature testify to the wonders of human life. Our resilience...the ability to withstand hardships and overcome obstacles...is far beyond what we think we can handle. And whatever our lifespan...1 year or 100 years...we can be thankful for the ability to appreciate this beauty, realizing that all happens on God’s timetable, not our own. [Next week: Mysteries 3-5]

Judy Pearson

