

To: Pastors, Administrators and Parish Life Collaborators
From: Father Matthew Flatley (Moderator of Spiritual Formation for JC Diocese)
In re: Diocesan Rosary Congress

For the first time, the Diocese of Jefferson City will join with many dioceses across the country for the Rosary Congress during the week of **October 5-11, 2019**. Why is our diocese becoming involved with the Rosary Congress and why should our parishes become a part of it? There are many reasons, but most especially we have so many things to pray for and about:

- For the healing of the Church
- For the healing of the victims of abuse within the Church
- For more men to answer to call to the priesthood
- For more people to answer the call to the consecrated life
- For more dedicated lay ministers
- For peace in the world and in our country
- For an end to abortion
- For the 2020 elections,
- For greater attendance at Mass
- For a strengthening of marriages and family life.

It is worth noting that the power of the rosary was demonstrated when we did as Our Lady of Fatima instructed us and prayed as a Church for the fall of the Soviet Union.

The Holy Spirit of God meets us wherever we are in our spiritual lives and, in this light, we are asking each parish to participate in the way that is best for their parishioners. Within our parishes, there are lay organizations or frameworks where participation in the Congress can already take place. Some examples are:

- Eucharistic Adoration participants can be asked to pray the rosary during their hour.
- Parish organizations could take turns leading a rosary in church each evening of the Congress.
- Schools and religious education programs can get their students to do the suggested activities. (See website.)
- Parish organizations and groups that meet that week could spend part of their meetings praying the rosary.

There are excellent resources and ideas at <http://www.rosarycongressusa.org/>, including ideas for a patriotic rosary. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mary Markway, diocesan chair for the Congress--marymarkway@embarqmail.com