**Living Rosary**

Idea submitted by Jennifer Duranceau and catechist Katie Waldvogel

St Philomena Parish – Birnamwood

The following is a recap of how we planned, prepared and practiced.

\* Gave the students homemade Rosaries that the 7th/8th/9th grade (her class) made for all of our 67 students in the St Philomena/St Boniface Religious Education Program and explained how it is a story of Jesus' life.

\* Assigned groups for the 5 decades - 10 students for each Hail Mary and 1 student for the Mystery/Lord’s Prayer. In another group we had 1 student for the cross (Apostles Creed) and 3 students for each Hail Mary with 1 student for the Lord’s Prayer for the beginning of the Rosary. We had another student assigned as the microphone holder and to read each scriptural reading for each set of Hail Mary's.

\* Made and gave out large paper beads to the students for the Lord’s prayer (Green) and the Hail Mary (Orange). Created the Rosary by having the students stand around the church with them holding the paper beads. The cross group stood in the center isle of the church. The back of each paper bead had all the prayers printed on them to read along and assist the younger students.

\* A couple nights of class, by reciting the Rosary by each student leading their prayer with the group joining in part way through.

\* We invited all the parish members to join in praying the Rosary during our class time on a Wednesday night by having the secretary of the parish put the information in the church bulletin and also sending out a letter to the parents.​

We think all the students young and old held an equal part in the success of our fist attempt of the Living Rosary. It not only gave them the opportunity to participate in this special activity with the rest of the students but also in front of other parish members. We can only hope each year we can better how and what we do so the students not only enjoy but learn the word of God and the life of Jesus.

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