

## Rosary talk

The Virgin Mother is able to bring us peace in our homes. How often do we see family members who are not speaking to each other, or there is perhaps some argument that ensures that there is some emotional distance? I don't mean the petty arguments between young siblings; I mean the kind of discord that results in parents separating, or in children wanting to run away, or in siblings going their own separate ways after leaving home. There are many examples of discord within families, so there is no need to go into all of that here.

The point is that a mother often reminds everyone how important family is without even saying anything. Spiritually, Our Blessed Mother does that in our families. Our Lady will bring families closer together with the praying of the Rosary. Our Lady will bring families together when the members of those families are devoted to her. Our Lady must be invited to be part of the family, and that begins with a couple's wedding day. As she was once invited to the wedding at Cana, so she enjoys being part of family life now.

When we her children have difficulty reconciling, she helps us to come back together in mutual respect and affection. She reminds us of what is most important. When families pray the Rosary together, our differences do not simply go away, but we also find someone who is much bigger than our differences. She watches over the family to ensure its health and happiness, just as she once cared for the Holy Family at Nazareth.

As a mother cares for her children in any number of ways, watching over them, guiding them, guarding them, nourishing them and providing for all their needs, so the Virgin Mary does for the children in a family. As children need a nurturing environment, the Virgin Mary provides another welcome shoulder that children can learn to rely upon for comfort. We might see in any family then two mothers who are part of a child's life, one from earth and one from heaven. When children pray the Rosary, our heavenly mother is there with them.

By her faith and her presence in children's lives, she is able to inform education with a love of the God who creates all things. When children learn about their faith, she is always ready to help the children put on the mind of Christ. She is the most reliable of teachers, and devotion to her keeps us on the straight road to the true Catholic faith. Through the centuries, the Blessed Virgin Mary has responded to those who seek her help to find the truth.