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Experience the Profound Joy of the Gospels in the Joyful Mysteries

Paradisus Dei invites Catholics on a contemplative journey into the Holy Land to fully appreciate the Rosary

HOUSTON, Sept. 12, 2023 - Paradisus Dei, producers of the popular "That Man is You" men's program, has launched the Joyful Mysteries, its second seven-episode <u>Mysteries of the Rosary</u> film series. The first series, the Sorrowful Mysteries, was released earlier in 2023.

"We live in a time of great crisis. So many in our world are tormented with desolation and despair, yet the Gospel is exploding with joy," said Mark Hartfiel, vice president of Paradisus Dei. "Joy is attractive, magnetic and contagious. Our world is desperately in need of a joyful Christian witness and we are thrilled to be able to bring that joy of these mysteries of the Rosary to anyone who wants to learn about them from the Holy Land."

All footage was filmed in the Holy Land and is a project of Hartfiel and Dan Johnson, co-founder and creative director at 4PM Media.

The Mysteries of the Rosary film series began out of Hartfiel's desire to deepen his spiritual life as a father and husband, which included taking steps to protect his family from evil. Saint Padre Pio said, "The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times," and Hartfiel took that to heart, ultimately becoming convicted to pray the ancient prayers of the Rosary daily. It was through his daily Rosary that the idea came to him to create and film a series that takes viewers right to the Holy Land, right where these Mysteries actually happened. "When Jesus is present, miracles happen: miracles of conversion, miracles of healing, miracles of reconciliation, miracles of love," said Hartfiel. "Our world is desperately in need of these miracles."

Watch the Joyful Mysteries trailer: <u>https://youtu.be/AQiedJBdB3I?si=wnADApuxqPv3RP42</u>.

The episodes of the Joyful Mysteries series are as follows:

- The Fullness of Joy
- The Annunciation
- The Visitation
- The Nativity of Our Lord
- The Presentation in the Temple
- The Finding in the Temple
- The Sweet Exchange

The Mysteries of the Rosary also includes a companion guide to all of the episodes for parishes, groups, families and individuals who want to pray along with the series and deepen their own relationships with Christ through the Joyful Mysteries. There are 12 interviews throughout the seven episodes of the Joyful Mysteries of people who have been impacted in unique and captivating ways through praying the Rosary, including Sr. Faustina, author of "The Litany of Trust"; prolific Catholic author Dr. Peter Kreeft; Fr. Dave Pivonka, president of Franciscan University of Steubenville; and Notre Dame philosophy professor Dr. Leonard J. DeLorenzo

"We need to be praying the Rosary because it is the weapon to combat evil," said Hartfiel. "There is an intense urgency to pray the Rosary right now in our time as the Church faces crisis after crisis and its members are suffering. The joy of the Gospel needs to be rediscovered and lived out daily. St. Teresa of Calcutta said that 'Joy is the net of love to catch souls' and we must throw that net wide."

Viewers can see the series through live streaming, downloads and eventually by DVD. The first episode of the Joyful Mysteries episode, which can be viewed <u>here</u>, was released on Sept. 8, 2023. All seven of the Joyful Mysteries episodes will be available on Oct. 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Anyone interested in seeing the series can visit <u>https://www.therosaryseries.com/</u> and sign up for the email newsletter.

For more information, or to schedule an interview with Mark Hartfiel or Michael Gormley, the Mission Evangelist for Paradisus Dei, please contact Kevin Wandra (404-788-1276 or KWandra@CarmelCommunications.com) of Carmel Communications.