

Name: _____
Class: _____ Date: _____

Personal Prayer Beads

An activity of "Our Singapore: Catholic Gift Shop"

INTRODUCTION

Rosaries or prayer beads are used in many faiths including Catholicism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam. To help you remember who or what to pray for, make your own personalised prayer beads. You may make one for yourself or as a gift for a friend, a teacher or someone else.

MATERIALS

Nylon cord, a pair of scissors, 2-3 varieties of small, medium and large beads, a fine-tipped permanent marker.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. **BROWSE** through "Catholic Gift Shop" (<http://www.whatsup.sg/oursingapore/CatholicGiftShop.htm>).
2. **CUT** a length of cord that is 1.5 times the desired finishing length.
3. **TIE** a big knot at one end of the cord so that your first bead will not fall through. If the knot is too small, tie another two knots on top of it to make it bigger. (Note: Make sure your knots are tight otherwise they will come undone).
4. **DESIGN** your beading pattern by arranging the beads on your table until you find a pattern that you like.
5. **THREAD** the cord through your first bead, making sure to push the bead all the way to the end. **TIE** a knot to secure the bead in place so it does not slide around. Small consecutive beads may not need a knot between each — it is really up to you to decide whether you would like knots in between your beads.
6. **REPEAT** Point 4 until your prayer bead design is complete. Leave some extra length of cord.
7. **SECURE** your last bead by tying a final knot. **TIE** the two tail ends together to form a chain. **TRIM** off the excess cord.
8. **WRITE** in tiny letters a word on each bead so that the word will remind you of whom or what you would like to pray for.
9. **SHOWCASE** your prayer beads to your class, explaining the design and your reason for choosing it. If you chose to make your prayer beads for someone else, don't forget to give it to them.