

THE JAMESON HAND MEMORIAL MUSICAL ROSARY PROJECT

OVERVIEW AND GOAL

The Jameson Hand Memorial Musical Rosary Project is spearheaded by Manus Joseph Patrick Hand, who may be contacted at manus@manushand.com.

The project was created in memory of Manus's son Jameson, a faithful Catholic, taken home to God at the age of 31 years.

During the final year of Jameson's life, he involved himself in, and was a consistent presence and participant in a weekly rosary held over zoom. Jameson was an ardent lover of the Holy Spirit, the Trinity of God, and Our Blessed Mother.

Rather than commissioning a stained-glass window or other work of art to commemorate Jameson at his home parish of Ave Maria in Parker, Colorado, Manus plans, hopes, and prays that this project will become his parish's permanent, *musical*, memorial to the faithful man who he loved most on earth.

It is the higher goal of the project that the music it produces might spread from parish to parish and from diocese to diocese, to forever keep Jameson's name and memory alive here on earth throughout the church, as he watches and listens from above in the arms of Our Lord.

SOLEMN PROJECT INTENTIONS

The initial and primary project intention is to memorialize **McManus Jameson Hand** (1993–2024).

Jameson's aunt and Godmother, **Laura Marie Teresa Hand Donahue** (1967–2023), wrote the music that led to the inauguration of this project. Laura preceded her Godson in death, succumbing to early-onset, rapid-progress ALS on Easter Sunday of 2023. This project is also meant to memorialize her.

In the year following Jameson's death, two boys were born to Jameson's loving and mourning sister, both only after being called from their mother's womb to join their uncle. The intentions of this project have thus grown to include not only Jameson and his Godmother, but also the loving memory and faith in the resurrection of **Joyner Jameson Kelley** and **Ogden McManus Kelley**.

PARTNER PROJECT

The weekly zoom rosary that Jameson attended continues to this day and has been renamed in his memory. If you are interested in participating (usually each Tuesday at 8 PM Mountain Time), all details can be found at <http://JamesonHand.com>, Jameson's website which has been converted to become a tribute to him. Simply contact one of the rosary organizers to be added to a text message group to stay aware of the rosary schedule. Join only if and when you can.

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

Like the project itself, this document is a work in progress. The information it contains is intended for any parish that may be interested in participating in this project, in the hopes that it will fuel that interest and provide materials that enable the parish to begin that participation.

Feedback on the document is more than welcome, and the document will be updated periodically as the project proceeds.

MUSICAL CONTENT AND SUGGESTED PERFORMANCE SETTINGS

Once complete, the project will be a set of **twenty ten-verse songs** (five songs each being set to one of four different but related and thematic melodies) that together comprise meditations on the twenty mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The final project package will also include opening and closing songs to be used during a full rosary performance (for the Apostle's Creed, Lord's Prayer, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer, and Hail Holy Queen). A different Marian antiphon is recommended for use to represent the Hail Holy Queen after each of the four rosary meditations.

Two performance settings are envisioned and recommended.

PERFORMANCE DURING MASS (OR CAROLING)

- During celebration of certain Masses throughout the liturgical year, **a specific single song**, appropriate to the occasion, would be performed by a parish choir. Each such Mass would be offered for intentions (funded by the Project, as needed) that include Jameson, his Godmother, and family. *Recommended* occasions for each of the twenty songs are given later in this document, but parishes may choose to use the project music at any time.
- During each such Mass, **only an abridged set of two to four verses** (of the ten) from the song would be performed. For each song, a *recommendation* is given as to which verses might comprise an abridgment to two, and an abridgment to four verses, but again, each parish may choose at any time to perform any different abridged set.
- The project's songs for the opening and closing rosary prayers would **not** be included in this type of performance (although a single "Ave Maria", rendered at the conclusion of the singing of the verses, might perhaps be considered).
- Holiday carolers would also be encouraged to include abridged renditions of project songs in their repertoire.

PERFORMANCE AS A COMPLETE ROSARY

- A full performance including **all ten verses of five of the twenty songs** (those that meditate on a particular set of the mysteries) could be given, conducting the participants and hearers through the recitation of an entire rosary.
- During a complete rosary performance, **the project's "Ave Maria" is sung after every verse** of each song.
- Such a performance also includes **the project's songs for the opening and closing prayers** of the rosary.

NOTE: The "Ave Maria" included in this project (transposed into the appropriate key for each set of mysteries) is a copyrighted work composed by Rich Berretta, a servant in the Music Ministry of Jameson's home parish. Jameson was a devoted fan of the piece, which is performed after every Mass celebrated at that parish. Rights to perform the work have been freely granted by the composer to all parishes participating in this project.

ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY

Ecclesiastical authority for this project is held by the Reverend Father Timothy O'Connell, Parochial Vicar of Ave Maria Catholic Parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Colorado Springs. Father Tim oversees, manages, and assures the canonical propriety of all the lyrics for the project's songs.

Should a parish wish to consult this authority concerning any questions, requests for clarification, or desire for guidance regarding liturgical use of the project materials, Father Tim may be contacted through Manus Hand, the project's leader.

SUGGESTED LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

- **"Humility"** – Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord
- **"Neighborliness"** – Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- **"Poverty"** – Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
- **"Obedience"** – Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)
- **"Wisdom"** – Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
- **FULL ROSARY** – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

- **"Submission"** – The Mass of the Lord's Supper (Maundy Thursday)
- Second Mystery (unfinished) – Mass for Ash Wednesday
- Third Mystery (unfinished) – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
- Fourth Mystery (unfinished) – Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Fifth Mystery (unfinished) – Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (Good Friday)
- **FULL ROSARY** – Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

- First Mystery (unfinished) – Solemnity of Easter (and/or the Easter Vigil)
- Second Mystery (unfinished) – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
- Third Mystery (unfinished) – Solemnity of the Descent of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost; Whitsunday)
- **"Dormition"** – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Fifth Mystery (unfinished) – Feast of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- **FULL ROSARY** – Feast of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

- **"Purity"** – Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
- Second Mystery (unfinished) – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
- Third Mystery (unfinished) – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Feast of Christ the King)
- Fourth Mystery (unfinished) – Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
- Fifth Mystery (unfinished) – Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
- **FULL ROSARY** – Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

OTHER COMMEMORATIVE DATES FOR CONSIDERATION

Parishes supporting the project might also consider offering any Mass celebrated on the occasions listed below for the intentions of the project, whether with or without including any chosen music from the project during the Mass.

- February 14, April 1, May 16, and July 7, being birthdays of those memorialized by this project.
- Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feasts of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Marymas) and of St. James the Greater, Apostle, and Memorial Feasts of Ss. Teresa of Jesus and Catherine of Siena (Cattentide), Virgins and Doctors of the Church, being saint's days significant to souls and mothers of the memorialized.

PLANNING CALENDAR OF SUGGESTED CELEBRATIONS

JANUARY 1 – Mother of God (Luminous 2) 7-13 – Baptism (Luminous 1) First Sunday after January 6	FEBRUARY 2 – Candlemas (Joyful 3) 14 – Joyner Kelley	MARCH 19 – St Joseph unless on Sunday, thence to March 20 25 – Annunciation (Joyful 1) unless during Holy or Easter Week, thence to the 2nd Sunday of Easter (latest April 8)	MOVEABLE FEASTS FEB–MAR Ash Wednesday (Sorrowful 2) MAR–APR Palm Sunday (Sorrowful 3) Maundy Thursday (Sorrowful 1) Good Friday (Sorrowful 5) Easter (Glorious 1)
APRIL 1 – Jameson Hand 29 – Cattentide	MAY 16 – Laura Donahue 31 – Visitation (Joyful 2)	JUNE 27 – Perpetual Help (SORROWFUL ROSARY)	Easter (Glorious 1)
JULY 7 – Ogden Kelley 25 – St James	AUGUST 6 – Transfiguration (Luminous 4) 15 – Assumption (Glorious 4) 22 – Coronation (Glorious 5)	SEPTEMBER 8 – Marymas 14 – Exaltation of Cross (Sorrowful 4)	APR–JUN Ascension (Glorious 2) 6th Thursday or Sunday of Easter
OCTOBER 7 – Lady of Rosary (LUMINOUS ROSARY) 15 – St Teresa	NOVEMBER 21 – Presentation (Joyful 1) 20-26 – Christ the King (Luminous 3) Final Sunday before Advent	DECEMBER 8 – Imm. Conception (JOYFUL ROSARY) 25 – Christmas (Joyful 3) 26-31 – Holy Family (Joyful 5) Sunday after Christmas, unless Christmas falls on Sunday, thence to December 30	MAY–JUN Pentecost (Glorious 3) 7th Sunday of Easter Corpus Christi (Luminous 5) 2nd Thursday or Sunday after Pentecost
			MAY–JUL Immaculate Heart (GLORIOUS ROSARY) 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

ABOUT THE MUSIC

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

- The music for the meditations on the Joyful Mysteries was written by Laura Donahue, Jameson's aunt and Godmother, as a tune for an original Annunciation poem that her brother Manus had written.
- When the project goal became to set the full rosary to music, that first song was translated to English (losing its rhymes, something that may be later addressed), re-titled "Humility", and the full ten verses set.
- Lyrics were then written, using the same tune, for each of the other four Joyful Mysteries.
- Music for these mysteries is in the key of **B major** ("B" for the Birth of Christ – this letter representation was not planned, but the key choices for the other mysteries were built from it).
- For these mysteries, the **ALTO** voice carries the melody.
- A version of "Alma Redemptoris Mater" is planned for the Hail, Holy Queen for these mysteries.

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

- The music for the meditations on the Sorrowful Mysteries is an adaptation of the tune used for the Joyful Mysteries. The adaptation, made by her brother after Laura's death, was done by simply turning the sheet music upside down and changing the key and clefs. For this reason, credit for the music is given to Laura's name, spelled in reverse.
- "Submission", meditations on the First Sorrowful Mystery, is currently the only one of the five mysteries for which lyrics have been written.
- Music for these mysteries is in the key of **D minor** ("D" for the Death of Christ).
- For these mysteries, the **TENOR** voice carries the melody (being the upside-down of the Joyful Mysteries' alto melody line).
- A version of "Ave, Regina Caelorum" is planned for the Hail, Holy Queen for these mysteries.

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

- The music for the meditations on the Glorious Mysteries was written by Mary Bellah, Music Director of Jameson's home parish (Ave Maria in Parker Colorado). Mary was involved in the project from its beginning, and she and the parish choir debuted the project publicly with performances of "Humility" on the 2024 Feast of the Annunciation, "Submission" during Jameson's funeral Mass, and "Wisdom" on the 2025 Solemnity of Mary.
- "Dormition", meditations on the Fourth Glorious Mystery, is currently the only one of the five mysteries for which lyrics have been written.
- Music for these mysteries is in the key of **A major** ("A" for the Afterlife of Christ).
- For these mysteries, the **SOPRANO** voice carries the melody.
- A version of "Regina Caeli" is planned for the Hail, Holy Queen for these mysteries.

THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

- The music for the meditations on the Luminous Mysteries is an adaptation of the tune composed for the Glorious Mysteries. Again, this adaptation was done by simply turning the sheet music upside down and changing the key and clefs. For this reason, credit for the music is given to Mary's name, spelled in reverse.
- "Purity", meditations on the First Luminous Mystery, is currently the only one of the five mysteries for which lyrics have been written.
- Music for these mysteries is in the key of **E minor** ("E" for the Earthly mission of Christ).
- For these mysteries, the **BASS** voice carries the melody (being the upside-down of the Glorious Mysteries' soprano melody line).
- A version of "Salve Regina" is planned for the Hail, Holy Queen for these mysteries.

A PERSONAL THANK YOU FROM JAMESON'S FATHER

If your parish chooses to participate in this project, please let me know and I will be sure to keep you up to date as each new work is produced and when any change is made to an existing work in the project, and eventually when a full cohesive package for distribution is available at the conclusion of the compositions.

Please know that your parish's participation in this project is an immense honor to me and to my family.

Your willingness to help to keep Jameson's memory alive in the world, and in a way that helps the faithful to build the strength of their faith in the Word of God by meditating on the Mysteries of the Rosary as he so often did, is a gift that can never be repaid except by the love of our God, which my family and I pray will ever grace you.

*Please keep me informed, if you would
– whether in advance or arrears –
of any performances of these works,
so that I may purchase the requisite Mass intentions.*

*Finally, if you are interested in
contributing your musical skills to this project,
or in contributing in any other way
(publicity, Mass intention funding, etc.),
or if you know of anyone who might wish to do so,
please reach out to me via email at
manus@ManusHand.com*