

St. Mary's parishioner, Staff SGT Francesco Ristaino, was inspired in 1981, to create a Ranger Rosary modeled on beads used in military training exercises. In subsequent years, his family and others in the parish made over 800 Ranger Rosaries for peacekeeping troops in Bosnia. By 2003, military chaplains around the world were requesting rosaries, and SGT Ristaino turned to St. Mary's for help. The ministry has since grown to include over 30 parishes and hundreds of individuals making Ranger Rosaries.



Ranger Rosaries, made of parachute cord, dark, plastic beads, and crucifix, have no metal parts to reflect light or make noise in combat. These handmade and blessed rosaries give soldiers who protect and defend us, a means to continue journeying with God, through the powerful intercession of Our Mother, Mary.

*"I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary..."*

*All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me..."* from 15 promises given to St. Dominic by Our Lady

## St. Mary's Celebrates **10 Years** of **Ranger Rosary Ministry!**



**By 2013, almost a million** free rosaries were sent to 900 plus Chaplains of all denominations, to distribute to troops. NATO Chaplains from places such as Europe, Africa, and the Middle East have now asked for them too. These are a few of the many requests and thank you notes sent to **Ranger Rosary.**

powerful reminder of their Catholic faith and the love that Our Lord and His Blessed Mother have for each of us no matter where harm's way may take us."  
-CPT Christian T. Connelly, Chaplain

"I would like to find out how my unit can receive some rosaries. We got some rosaries from a fellow chaplain and they went like hotcakes!"  
-SGT MacConaghy, FOB, Bagram Afghanistan

On behalf of the Catholic crew of the USS Iwo Jima I say, "Thank you." - Fr. Chris Fronk, SJ, US Navy

"Soldiers from other denominations love having the rosaries too... It truly changes lives. I could easily give out 500 per week." -MAJ (Rabbi) Carlos Huerta, Chaplain, Fort Benning, GA



"I know firsthand how much the Ranger Rosary is loved by the American soldier. Once they get it in their hands, it is a

Mary's Garden of St. Mary's



**Thank You**  
to those who have generously supported our ministry throughout the years.

**Ranger Rosary depends solely on donations by individuals, not parish funding;** the cost of making and sending one rosary is about one dollar. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to help St. Mary's continue this ministry.

**Ranger Rosary's mission** is to put a rosary into the hands of every member of the Armed Services who wants one. *All are welcome to join in making these special rosaries.*

For more information, please contact us at [rangerrosaryinc@verizon.net](mailto:rangerrosaryinc@verizon.net), or 410-990-4100, ext. 4714; Visit our website at [www.rangerrosary.org](http://www.rangerrosary.org).

*...Please pray the rosary for peace in the world.*