

Chaplet of the Sacred Heart

Written & Illustrated by Alice Cantrell © 2006

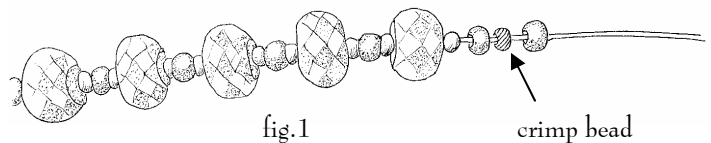
The amazing cross chosen for this chaplet has been re-cast from an 1800's Mexican piece. The two cherubs guarding the Eucharistic host at the top of the cross also point to His beautiful Sacred Heart below. What a beautiful way to honor Our Lord and His Sacred Heart! The red jasper stones were chosen to symbolize His precious Blood while the carved bone calls to mind the holy Host.

To construct this chaplet, you will need the following:

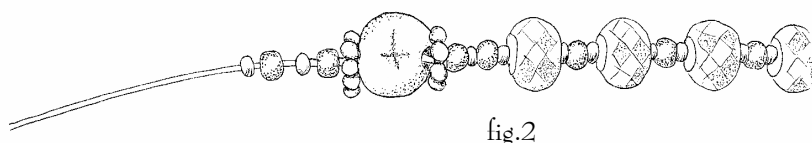
- A cross, crucifix or Sacred Heart medal in bronze
- A bronze rosary center (This one depicts the Holy Family's Temple offering of two turtledoves.)
- 33- 8x4mm faceted red jasper rondells
- 6- 8mm carved bone beads
- 12 medium sized (5-6mm) bronze daisy spacers
- 58- size 8/0 dark gray, matte (not shiny) seed beads
- 78 brown iris, size 11/0 seed beads
- Soft Flex or other beading wire size .019
- 2- 2mm crimp beads in black
- Crimp Pliers and Beading wire cutters



1. Start by unrolling about 14 inches of beading wire, but do not cut the wire from the spool. By working directly off the spool of wire, there will be less wasted wire. Now string on one of the dark gray size 8/0 seed beads, a crimp bead, another 8/0 seed bead, and a brown iris 11/0 seed bead. Next, slide on the first red jasper bead followed by a brown iris, dark gray and another brown iris. Continue this pattern until you have 6 red jasper beads strung. (fig.1)

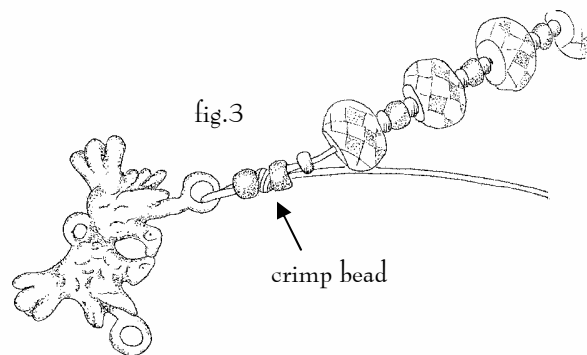


2. After the 6th red jasper bead, continue with the spacer pattern but add another dark gray 8/0 bead and the first daisy spacer. Now string on the first bone bead followed by the second daisy spacer and then an 8/0, brown iris, 8/0, brown iris combination. (fig.2) Continue this pattern until you have 5 sets of 6 red jasper beads separated by 4 bone beads.

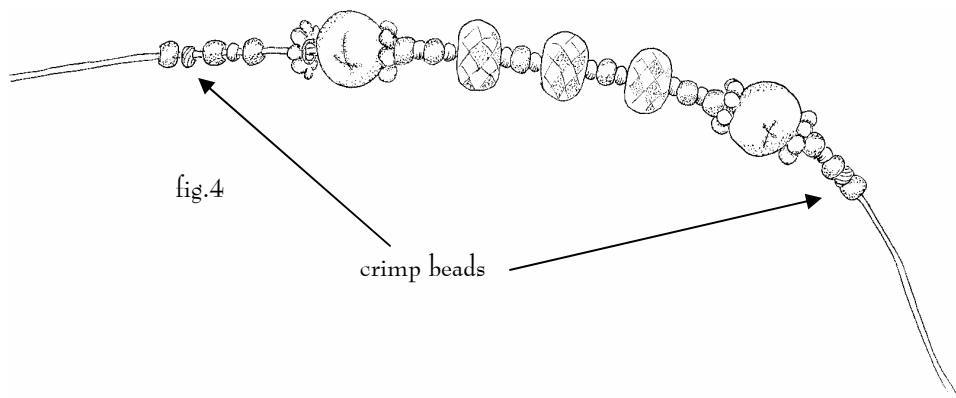


After the final red jasper bead, end with the same spacer bead and crimp pattern that you began the chaplet with.

- Now you are ready to attach the ends of the loop part of this chaplet to the rosary center. Thread the end of the wire through one of the holes at the top of the center and then carefully thread it back through the last two dark gray 8/0 beads with the crimp bead between them. (fig.3) Try to keep the two wires parallel to each other, (without crossing) and carefully crimp the crimp bead with your pliers as explained in the "Basic How To's" section. Snip off the extra wire close to the second 8/0 bead.

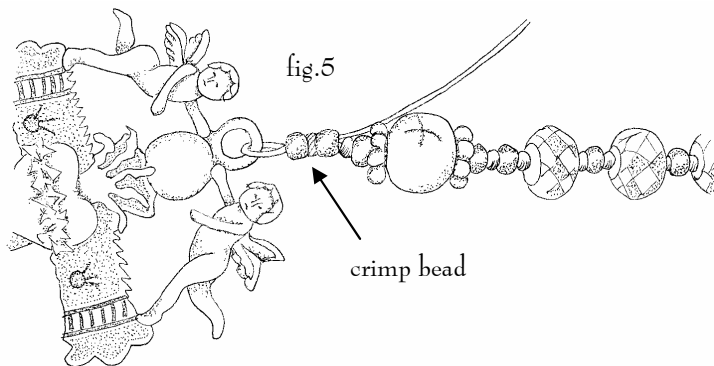


- It is now time to cut your chaplet free from the spool of wire, but make sure to leave at least a 3-inch length of wire when you make the cut. Hold your chaplet up by the end of the wire to let any twists fall out and make sure there are no missing beads and everything is how you want it. Now, thread the end of the wire through the second top loop in the center and repeat step 3 to secure.



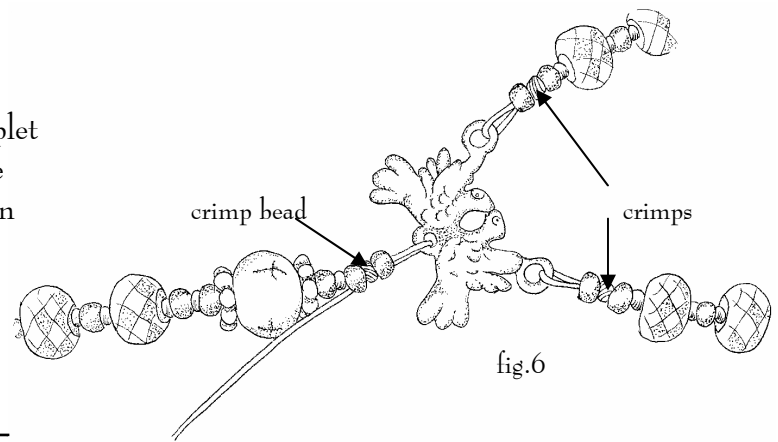
- Now it's time for the chaplet "tail". Once again, working with the jewelry wire still attached to the spool, thread on one of the dark gray size 8/0 seed beads, a crimp bead, and another 8/0 seed bead. Next, thread on one of

the daisy spacers followed by one of the 8mm carved bone beads and then another daisy spacer. After this daisy spacer, string on a gray 8/0 seed bead, a brown iris 11/0 seed bead, another gray 8/0 and another 11/0 brown iris. Next, slide on the first red jasper bead followed by a brown iris, dark gray and another brown iris. Continue this pattern until you have 3 red jasper beads strung. After the third red jasper bead, string on an 11/0 brown iris, 8/0 gray, 11/0 brown iris and 8/0 gray bead. Now string on a daisy spacer, the final bone bead and the final daisy spacer. (fig.4) Finish off the tail with the same spacer bead and crimp pattern that you began it with.



- You are now ready to attach the cross, crucifix or Sacred Heart medal to the chaplet tail. Thread the end of the wire through the hole in the medal and back through the two dark gray 8/0 beads with the crimp bead between them. Crimp the crimp bead and trim off the extra wire close to the second gray 8/0 bead. Clip the chaplet tail off of the spool of wire leaving a 3-inch length of wire to work with. (fig.5)

7. The final step is to attach the tail of the chaplet to the center. Do this by simply threading the free end of the wire through the bottom hole in the center and follow the directions in step 6. (fig.6) Congratulations! You now have a beautiful Sacred Heart chaplet.



Sacred Heart Chaplet Prayers

On the cross, crucifix or medal, say the Anima Christi prayer:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me

Body of Christ, save me

Blood of Christ, inebriate me

Water from Christ's side, wash me

Passion of Christ, strengthen me

O good Jesus, hear me

Within Thy wounds hide me

Suffer me not to be separated from Thee

From the malicious enemy defend me

In the hour of my death call me

And bid me come unto Thee

That I may praise Thee with Thy saints

and with Thy angels

Forever and ever

Amen

On each large white bead say: *O sweetest Heart of Jesus, I implore that I may ever love Thee more and more.*

On each small red bead say: *Sweet Heart of Jesus, be Thou my Love.*

At the end of each group say: *Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation*

At the conclusion say: *May the Heart of Jesus in the most blessed Sacrament be praised and adored and loved with grateful affection, at every moment, in all the tabernacles of the world, even unto the end of time.*

Large-holed beads

Many beads made of bone, horn and sometimes wood can have rather large holes. This works out very well if they will be strung on leather or cotton cord with which a larger holed bead is necessary. If you are using jewelry wire, however, beads with big holes can hang out of alignment with the other beads and look unattractive not to mention awkward when praying the chaplet. The remedy for this is quite simply to string a series of seed beads onto the wire just after the bead with a large hole. String on enough of the tiny beads to fill the bigger bead completely. The seed beads will act as filler and help the larger beads to sit properly on the wire. Use the size of the hole you are trying to fill as gauge for which size seed beads to use. For example, 11/0 for narrower holes and 8/0 for really wide holes.