

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

DECEMBER 8, 2020 – DECEMBER 8, 2021

“In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God.” – Pope Francis

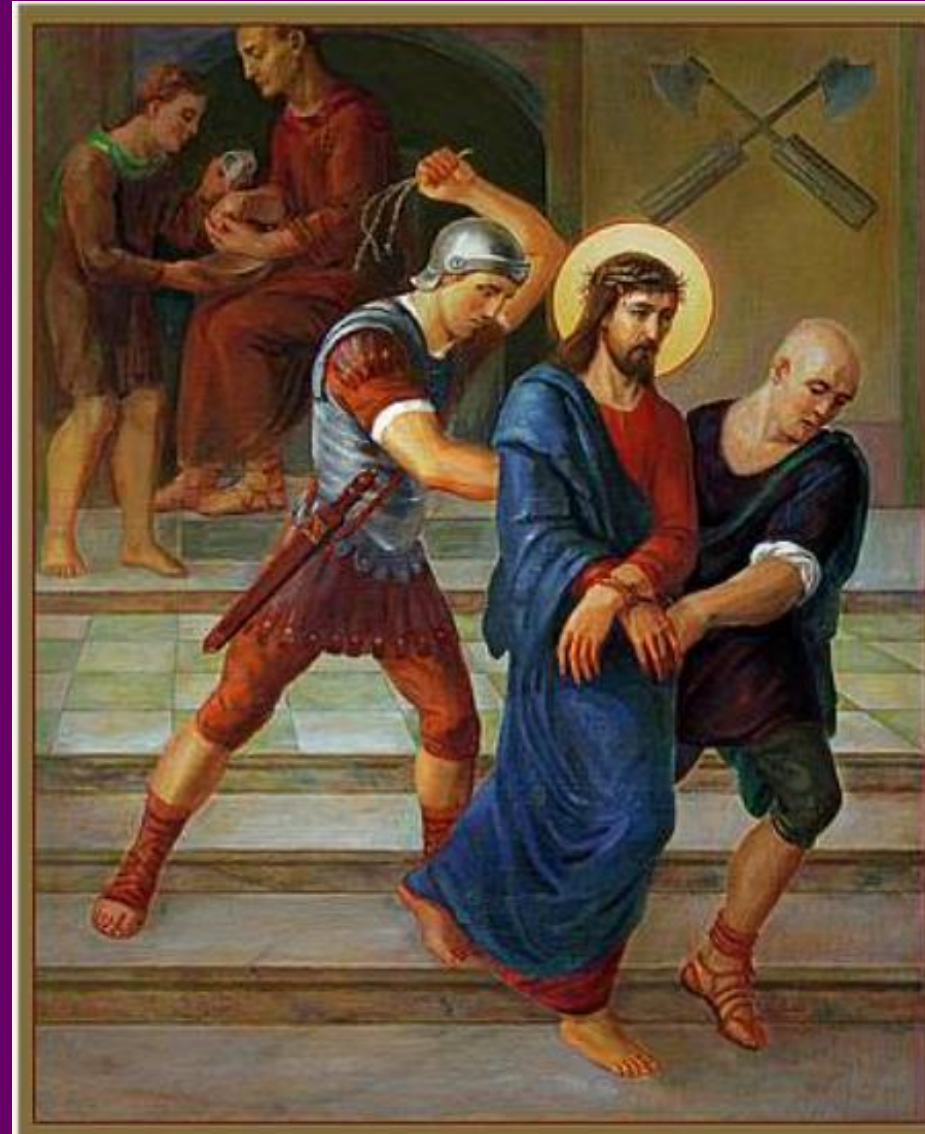


PRAY THE STATIONS WITH ST. JOSEPH

**At the cross her station keeping
Stood the mournful Mother weeping
Close to Jesus to the last.**

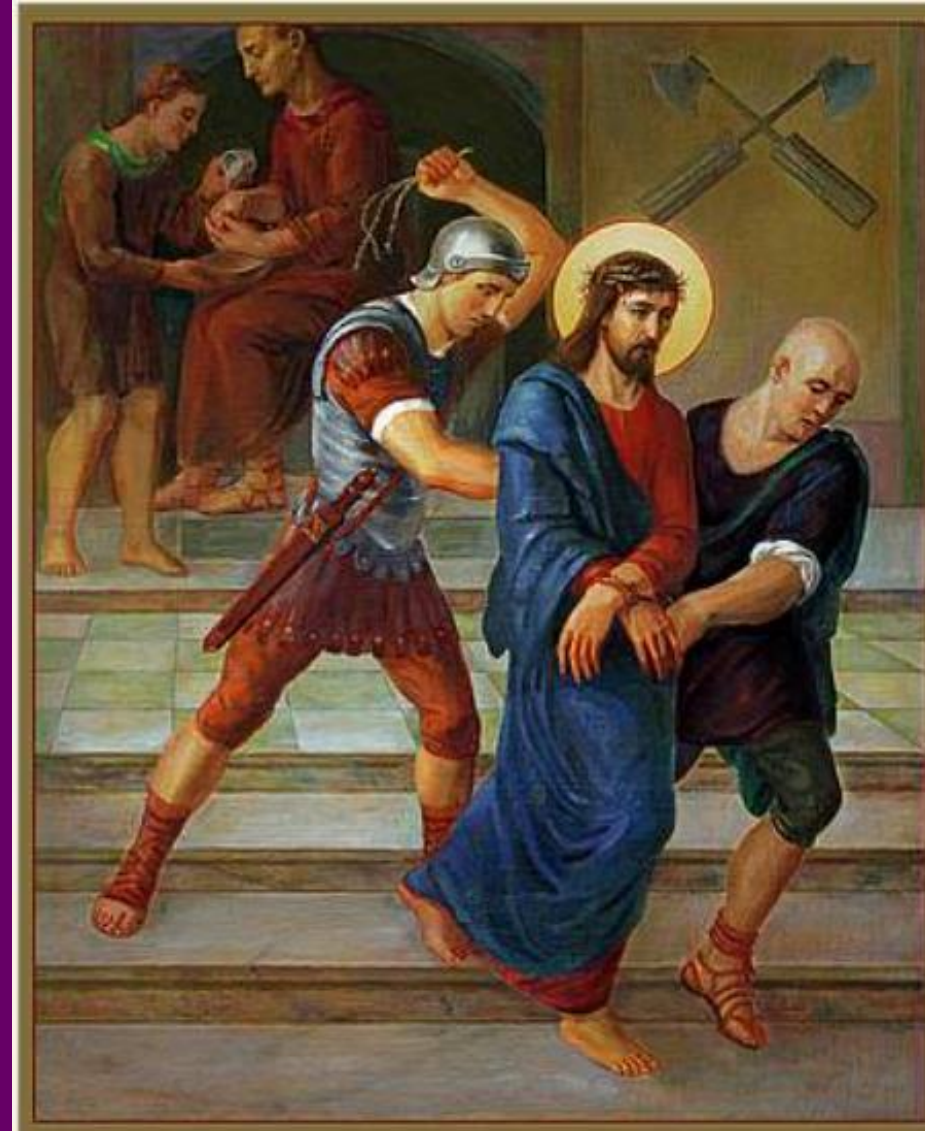
THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Jesus was born to die, and now begins those steps to our salvation and redemption. St. Joseph knew to some extent that this would one day happen, because Simeon prophesied this in the temple, “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted” (Luke 2: 34). I know that as Joseph died, and Our Lord died, one day I too will close my eyes in death.



THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

*Dear St. Joseph,
please pray for
me, that I may
receive the grace
of a happy and
holy death.*

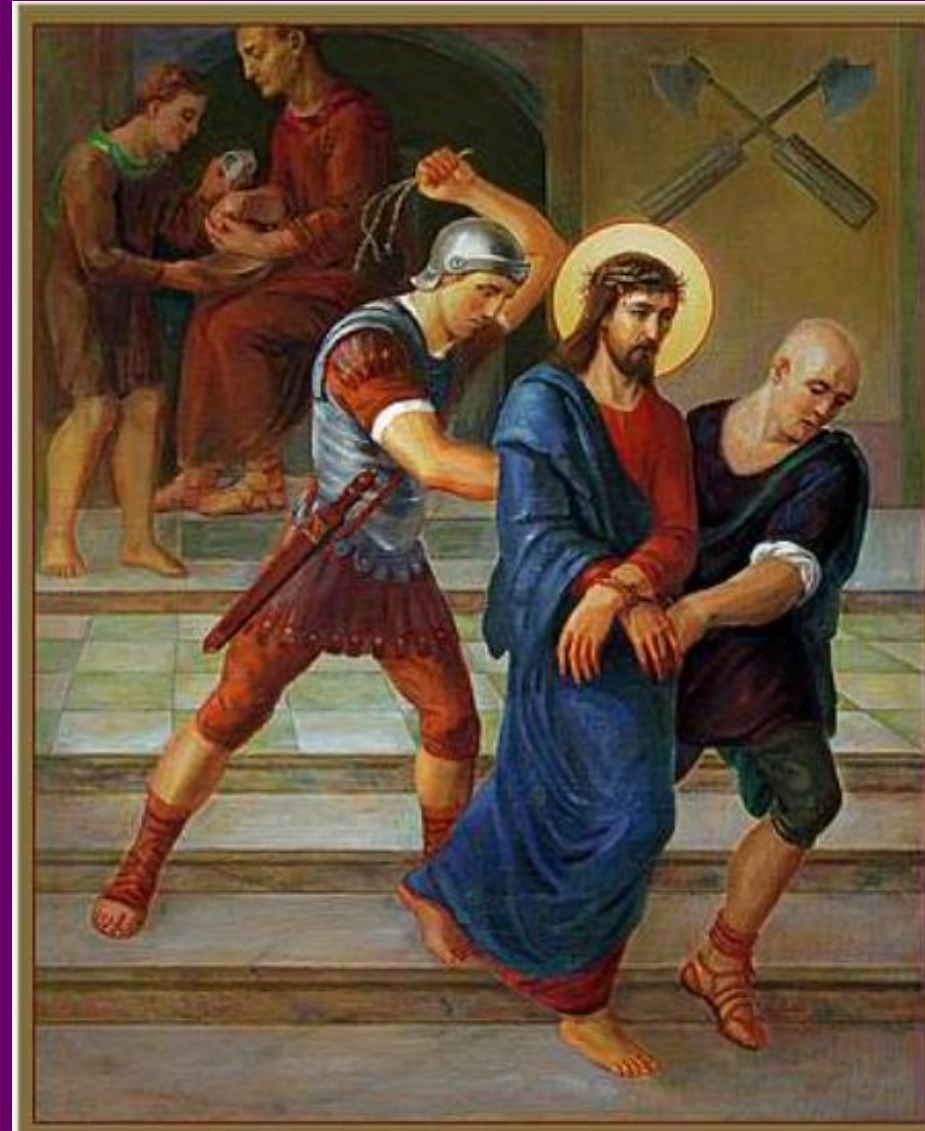


THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Our Father.

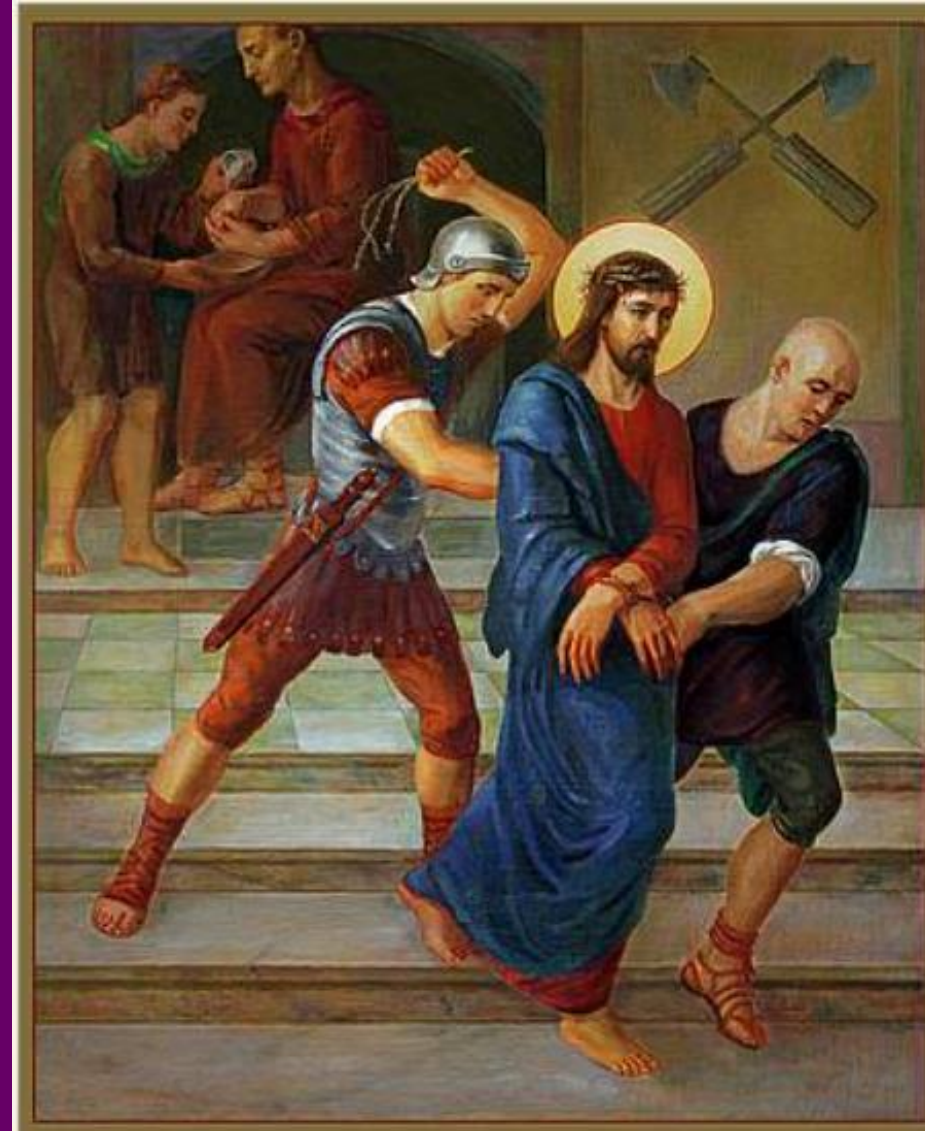
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



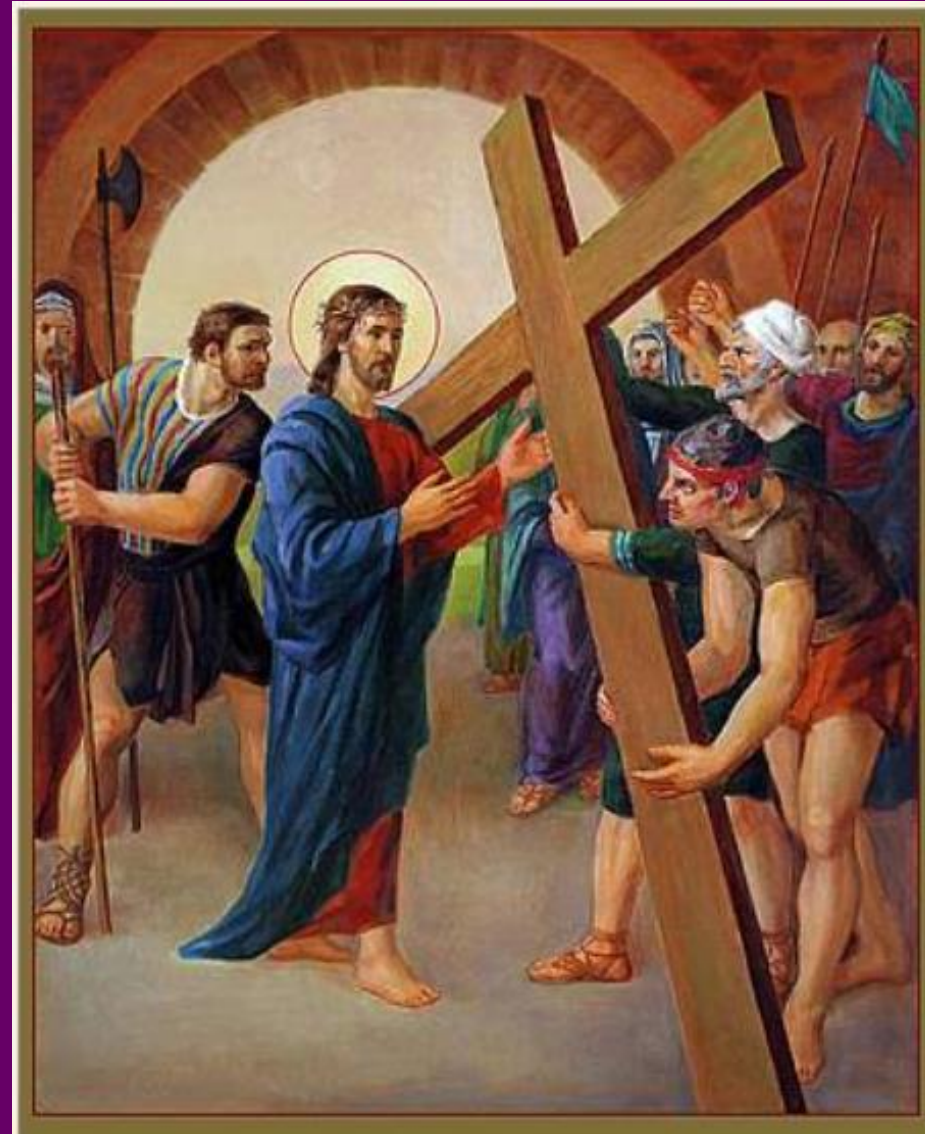
THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Through her heart,
His sorrow sharing
All His bitter
anguish bearing
Now at length the
sword has passed.



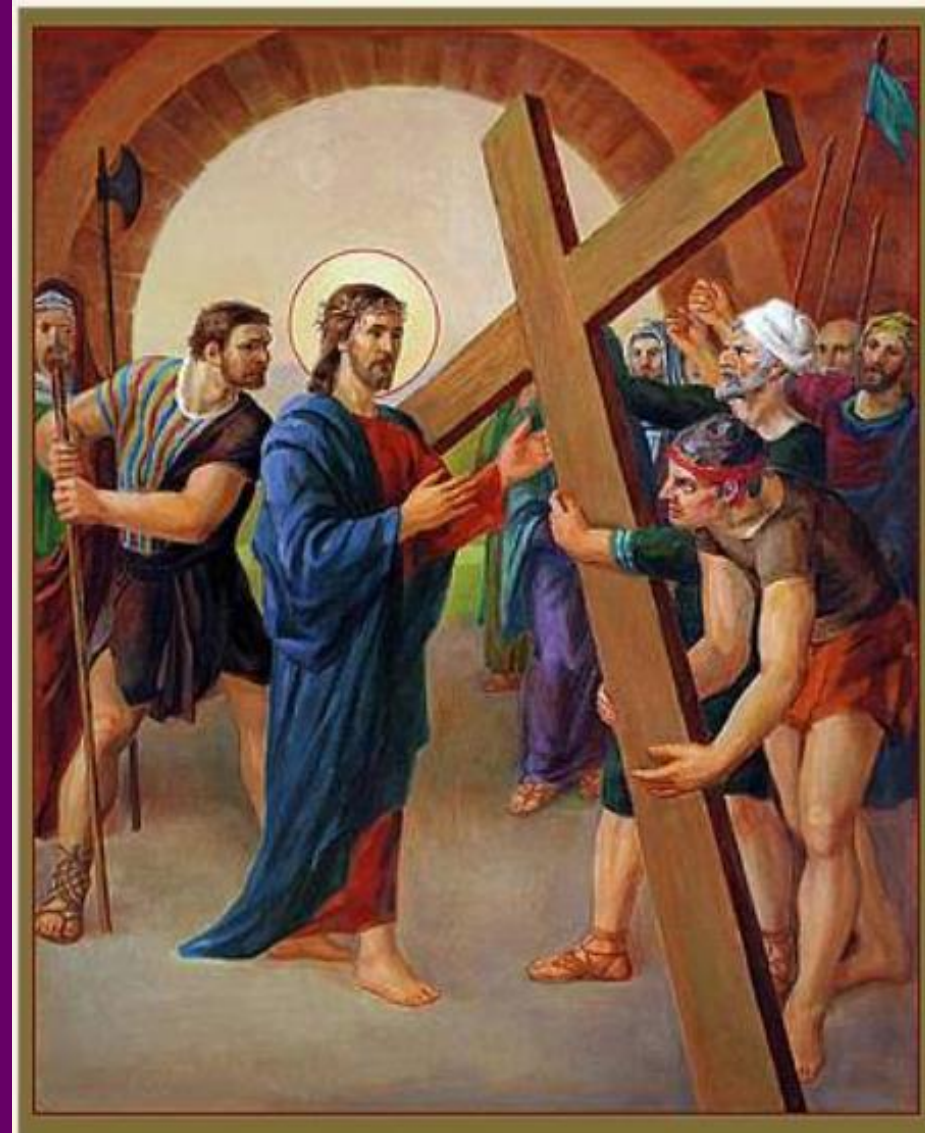
THE SECOND STATION: JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

A cross is handed to Jesus, and now he will carry it on his shoulders to the top of Calvary. St. Joseph was a carpenter. Some artistic depictions of Jesus in the carpenter's shop imagine Jesus making a cross out of wood. The cross in these stations was not made by Jesus, but is one that he now picks up, accepts, and makes his own as he carries it.



THE SECOND STATION: JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

*Dear St. Joseph,
help me to accept
the crosses of life
that I am handed.*

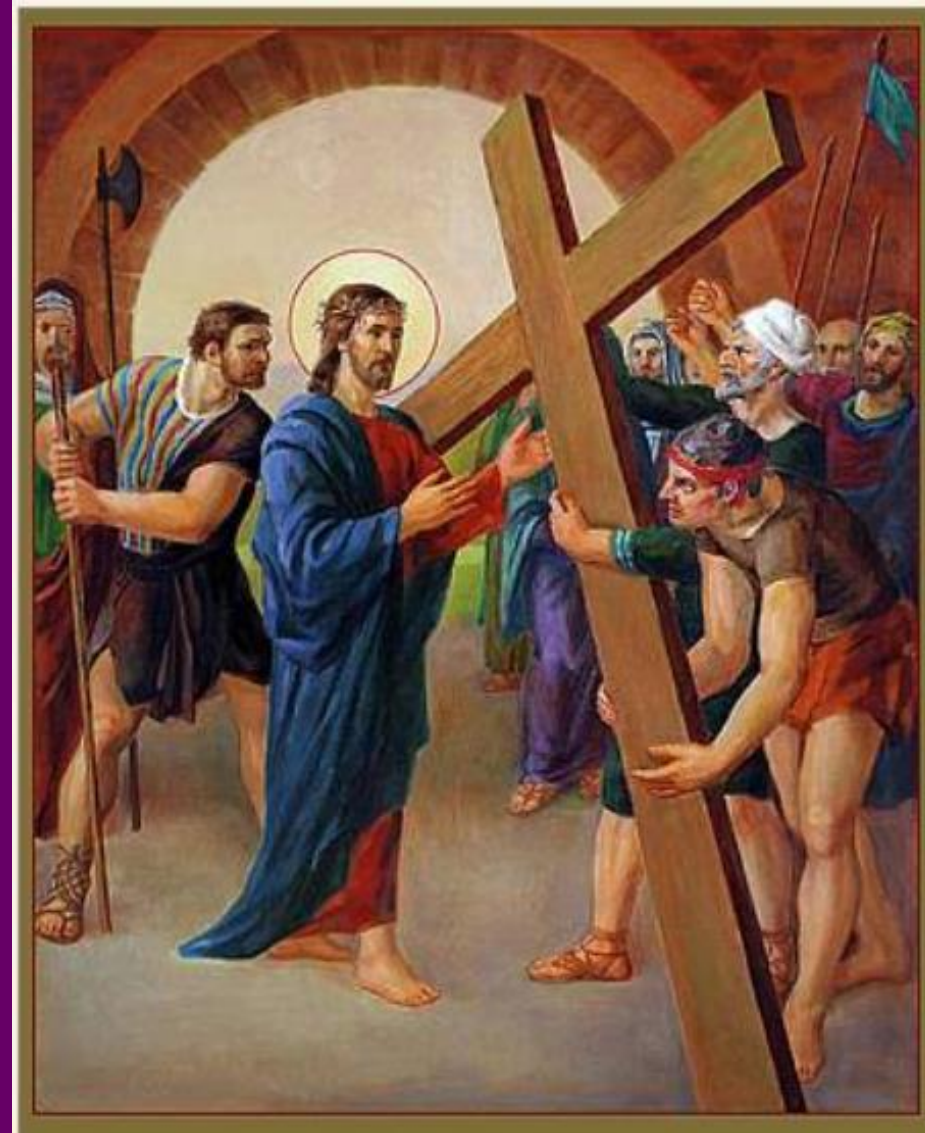


THE SECOND STATION: JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

Our Father.

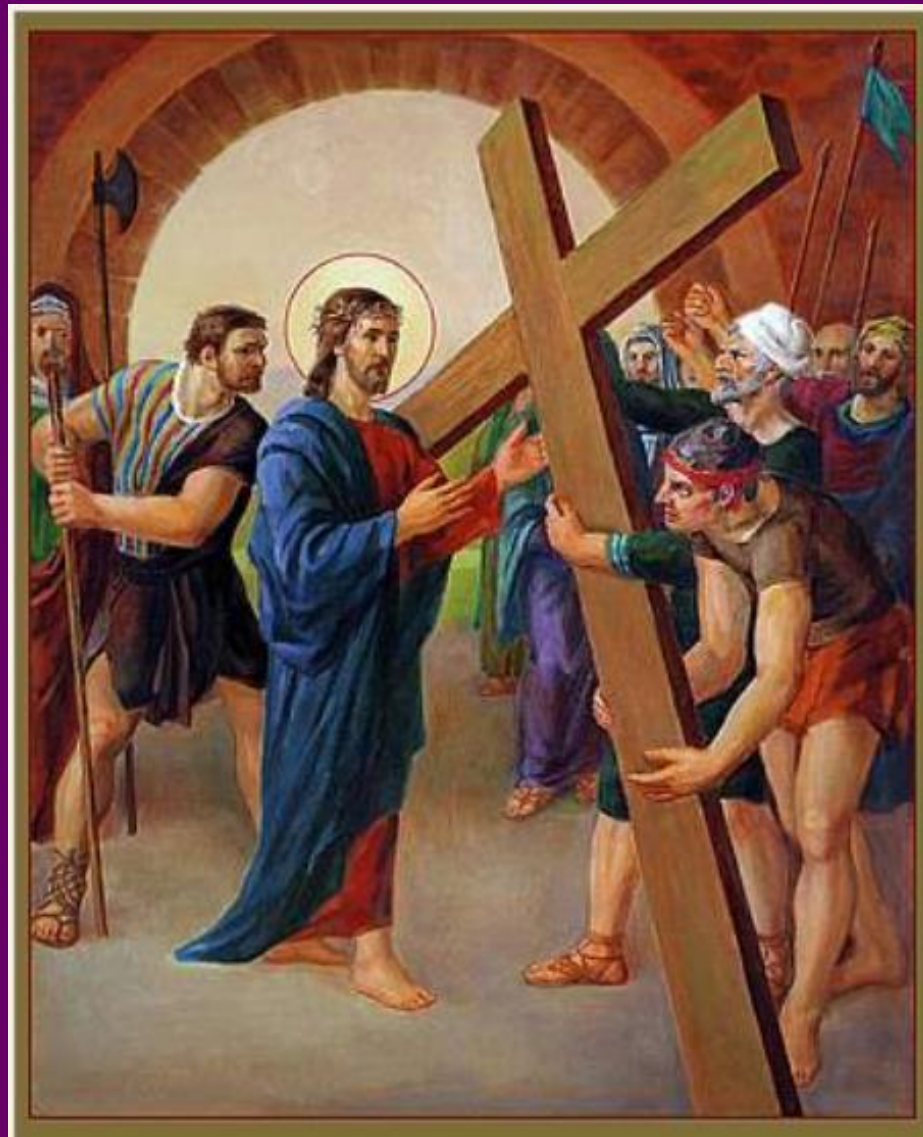
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



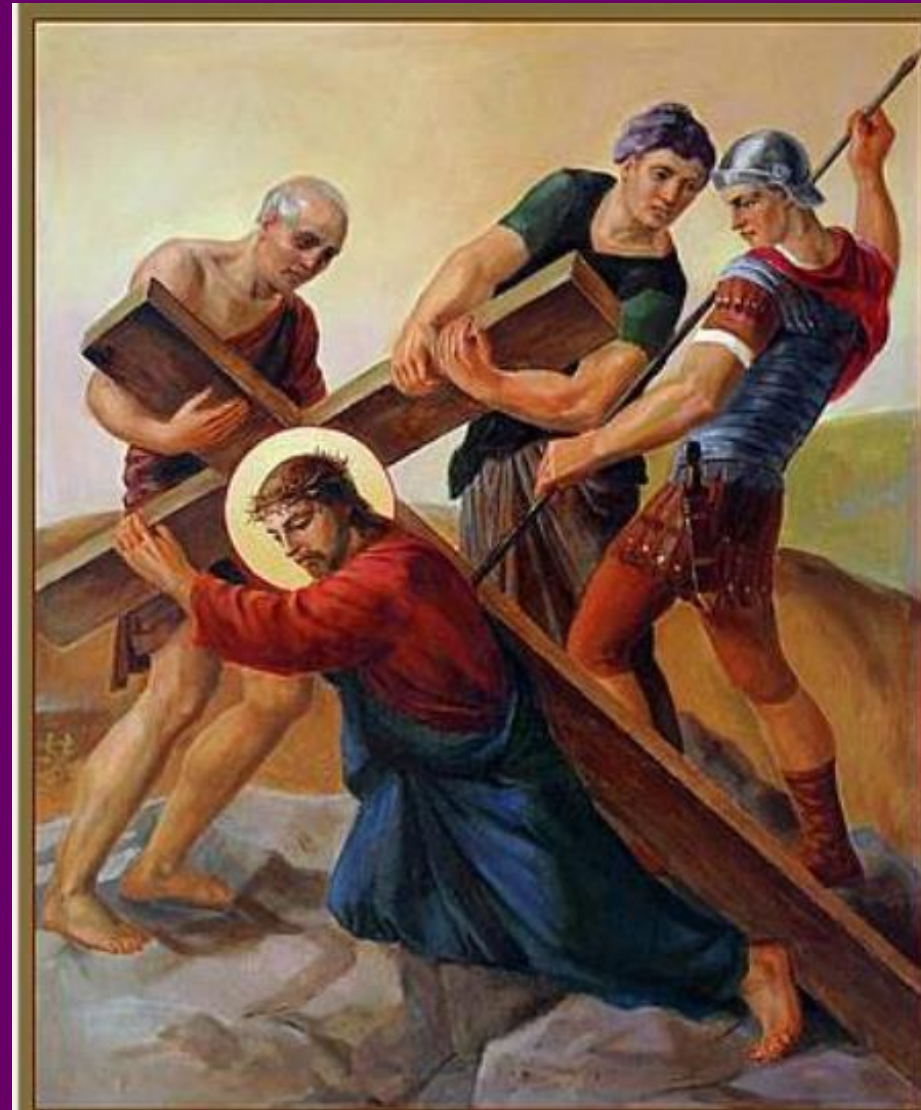
THE SECOND STATION: JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

O, how sad and
sore distressed
Was that Mother
highly blessed
Of the sole
Begotten One.



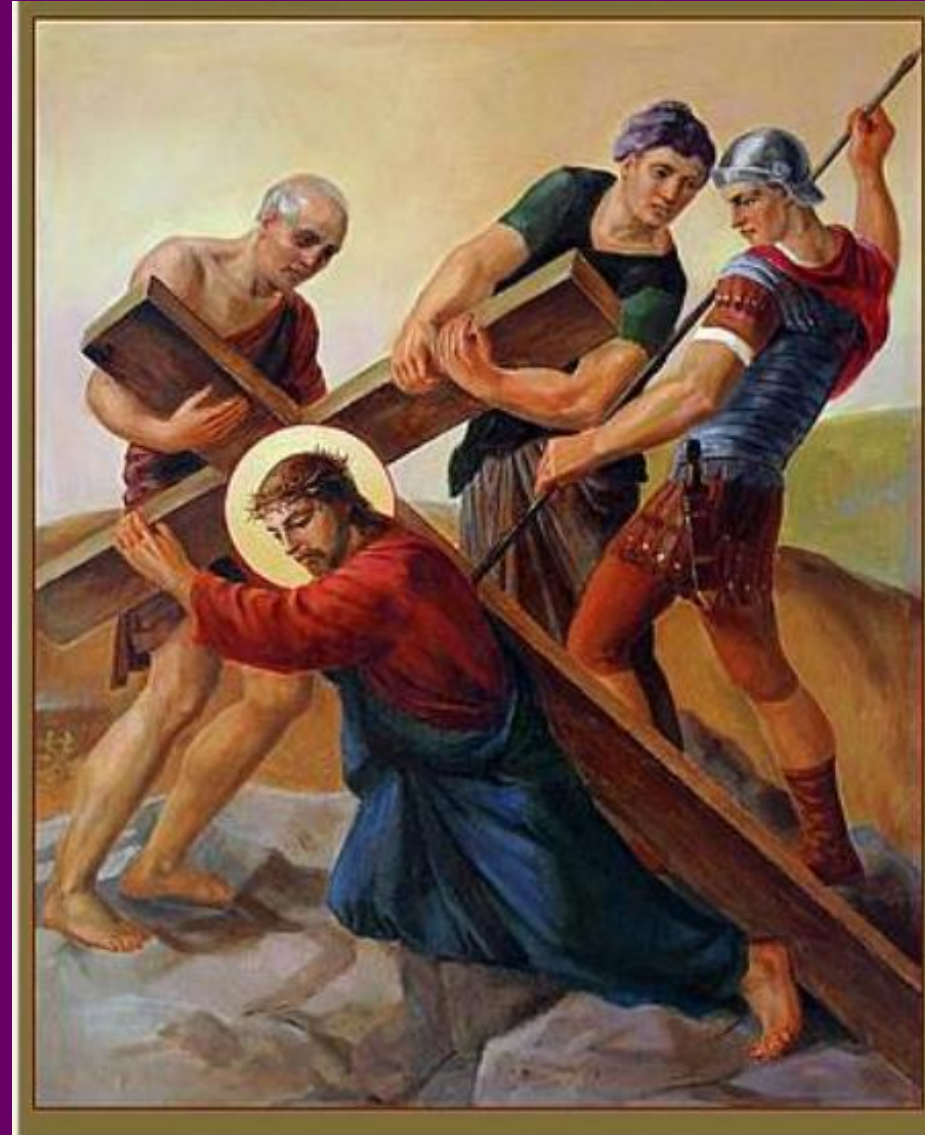
THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

As Jesus walks with the cross, the weight becomes too much for him, and he falls for the first time. St. Joseph, who took Jesus as his own, remembered that first fall of Jesus. Any parent does, as they look on and see the hurt and pain of their child. For the first part of his life, Jesus had Joseph who could come to his aid, and now Mary, nearby, looks on, and wishes to console her son.



THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

Dear St. Joseph, in my stumbles in life, be an intercessor for me.

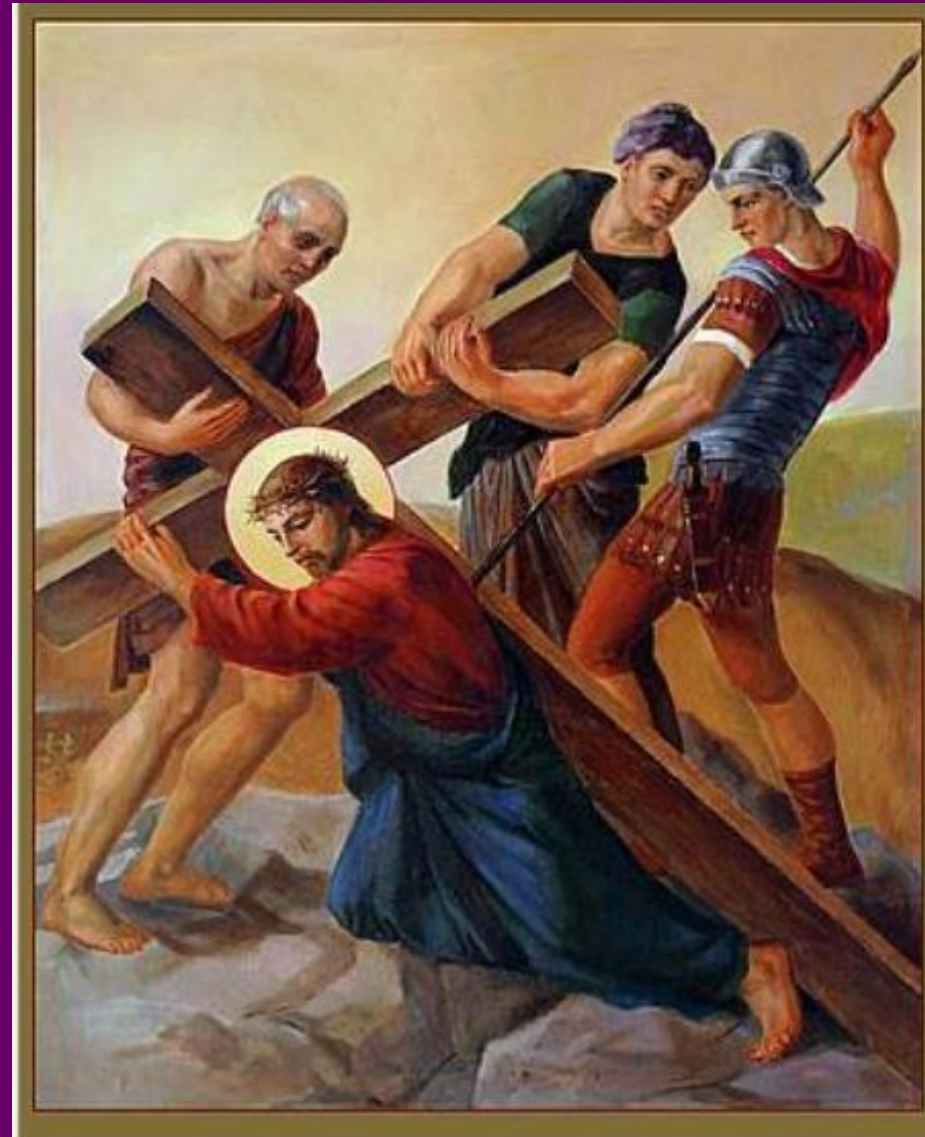


THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

Our Father.

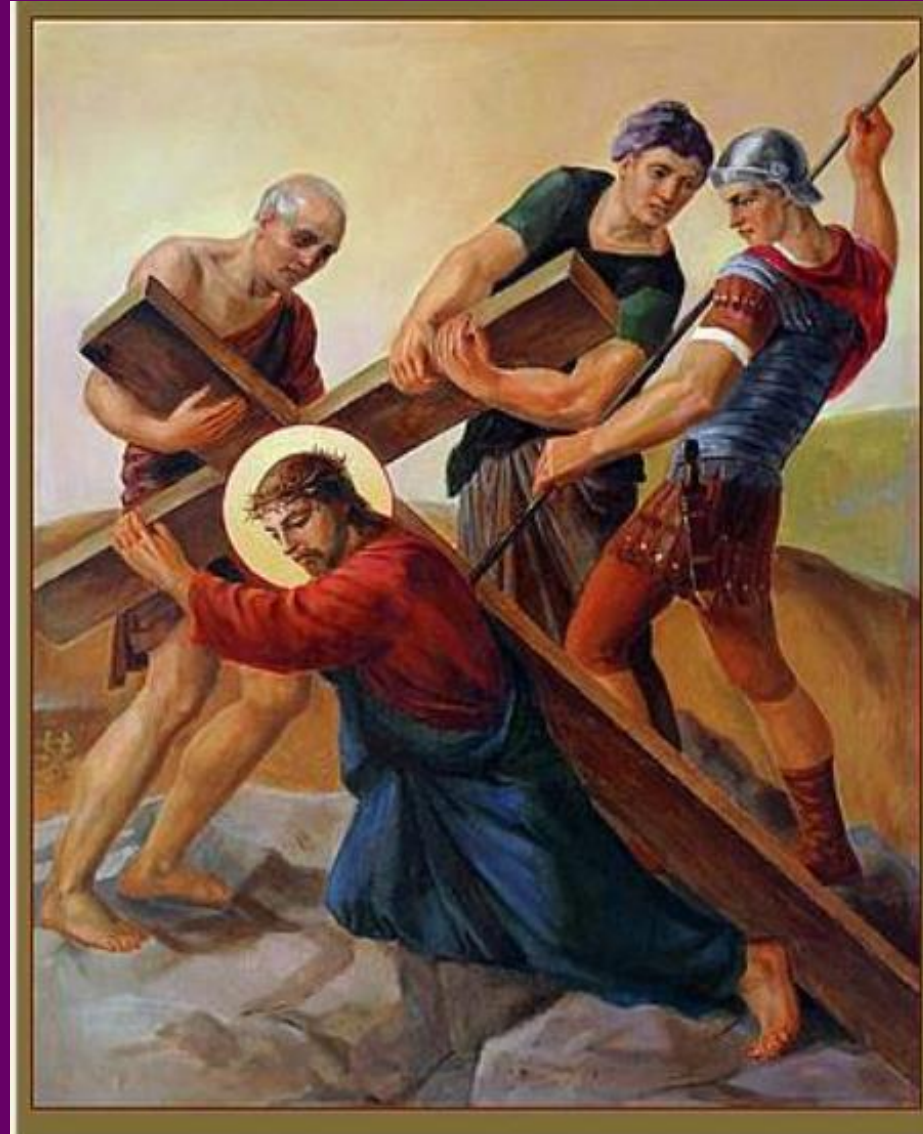
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

**Christ above in
torment hangs
She beneath
beholds the pangs
Of her dying,
glorious Son.**



THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

Mary, close by, finds her son, and mother and son lock eyes. The glance of Jesus consoles her suffering heart, if only for a moment. By the announcement and power of the Holy Spirit, Mary conceived Jesus in her womb and on that first Christmas morning, mother and son met, her eyes full of joy at seeing her newborn child, with St. Joseph not far away from the manger. But now, she is there alone, without her spouse to share in this sorrowful moment.



THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

*Dear St. Joseph,
be present to
families who
encounter the
illnesses and
sorrows of their
loved ones.*



THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

Our Father.

Hail Mary.

Glory be.



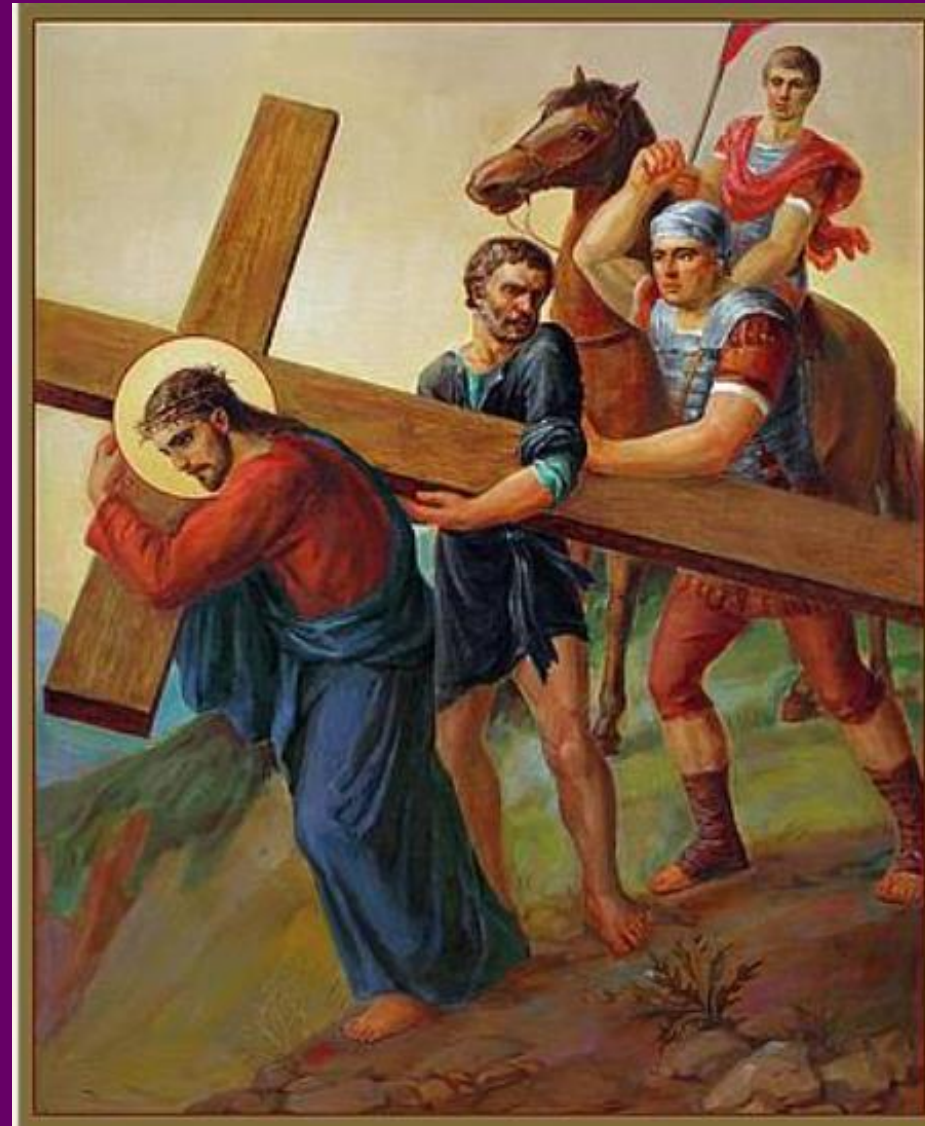
THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

Is there one who
would not weep,
`whelmed in
miseries so deep
Christ's dear
Mother to behold.



THE FIFTH STATION: SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

The Roman soldiers conscript a bystander to help Jesus for a few brief moments. Jesus needed the help of his father Joseph, who listened to the words of an angel in a dream and fled into Egypt. Joseph protected Jesus during his infancy, when even then someone wanted to put him to death.



THE FIFTH STATION: SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

*Dear St. Joseph,
ask the Lord to
send me the
people I need when
I need them most.*



THE FIFTH STATION: SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

Our Father.

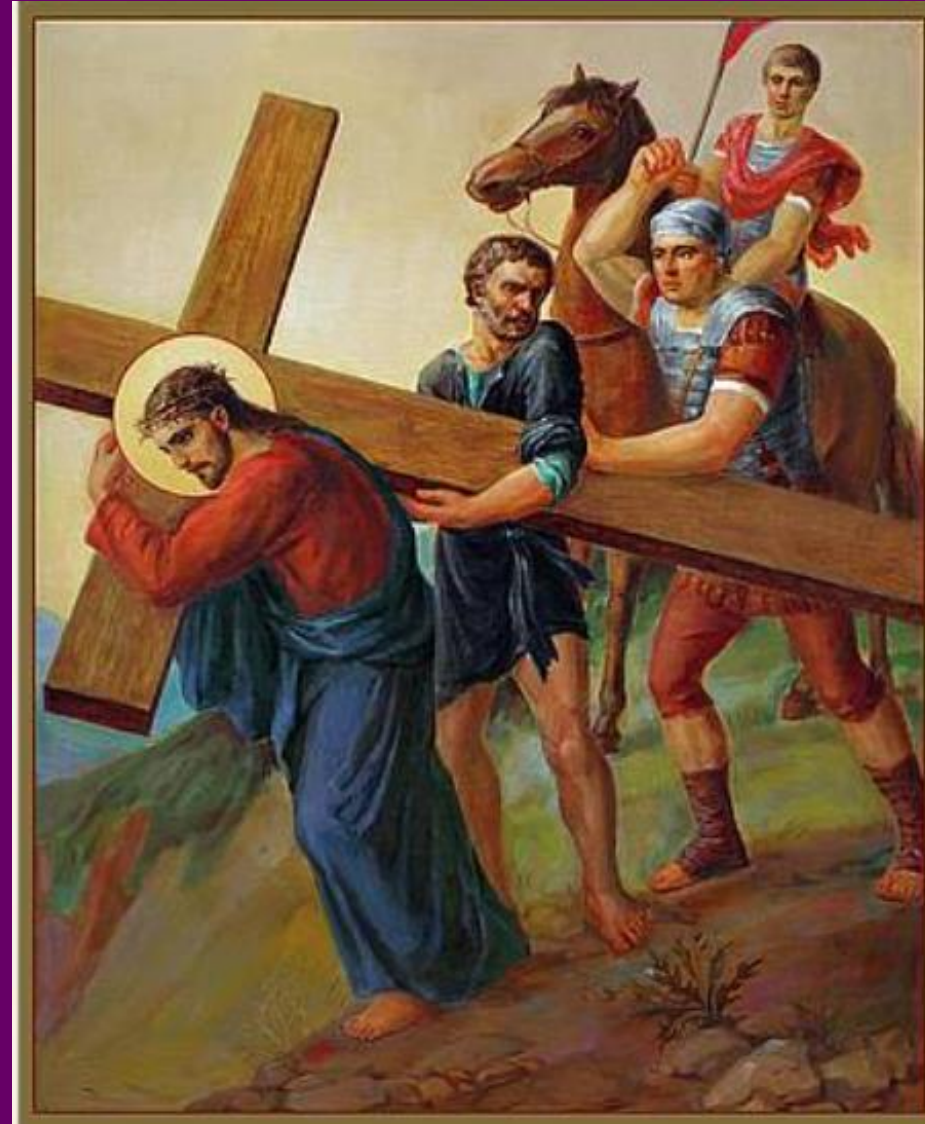
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



THE FIFTH STATION: SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

Can the human heart refrain
From partaking in her pain
In that Mother's pain untold?



THE SIXTH STATION: VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

Veronica, a woman looking on from the crowd, sees the blood and sweat falling down Jesus' face. She wishes to do something, so she takes a cloth and presses it upon his face. Consider the care and love of St. Joseph for Jesus as a child. With fatherly love, he attended to Jesus' wounds. With a father's touch, he wiped the tears of Jesus.



THE SIXTH STATION: VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

*Dear St. Joseph,
pray for me that I
may be more
aware of those
who need help.*



THE SIXTH STATION: VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

Our Father.

Hail Mary.

Glory be.



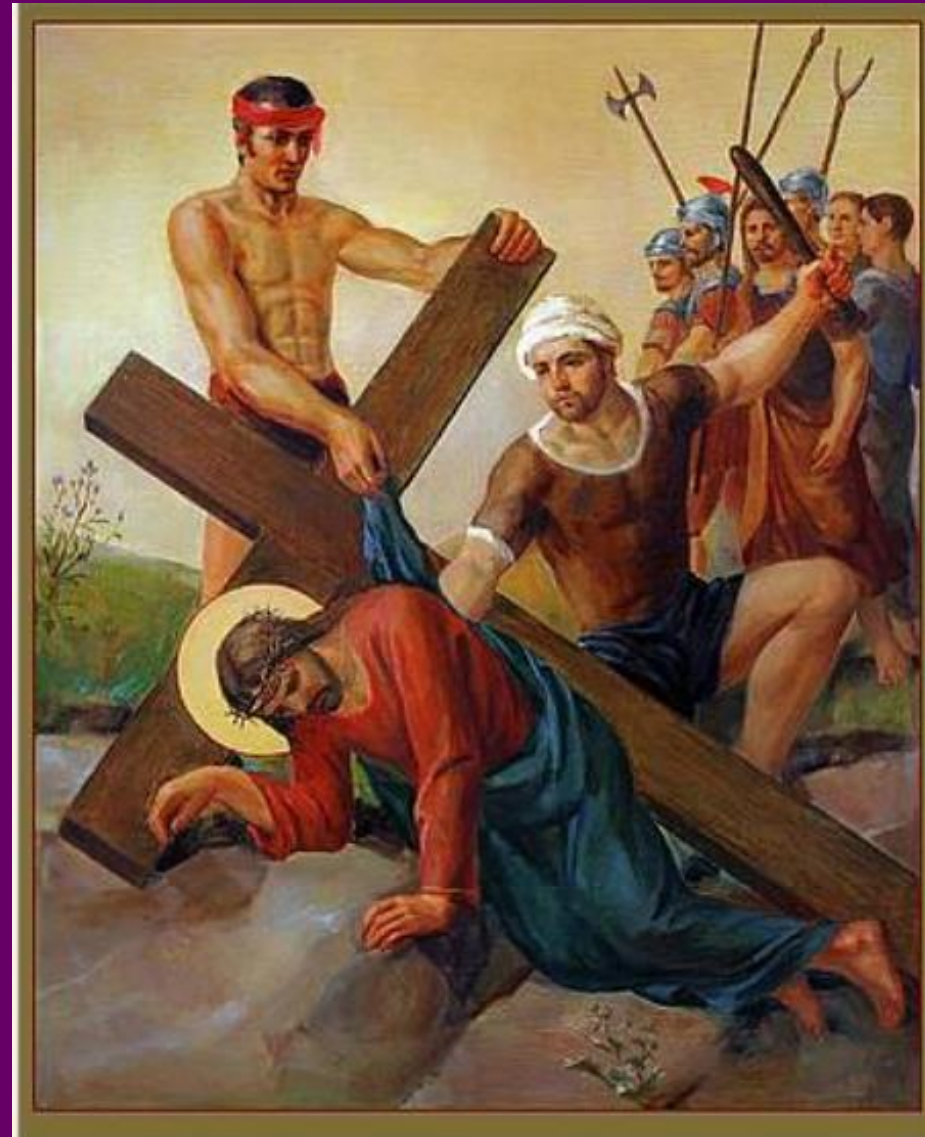
THE SIXTH STATION: VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

**Bruised, derided,
cursed, defiled
She beheld her
tender Child,
All with bloody
scourges rent.**



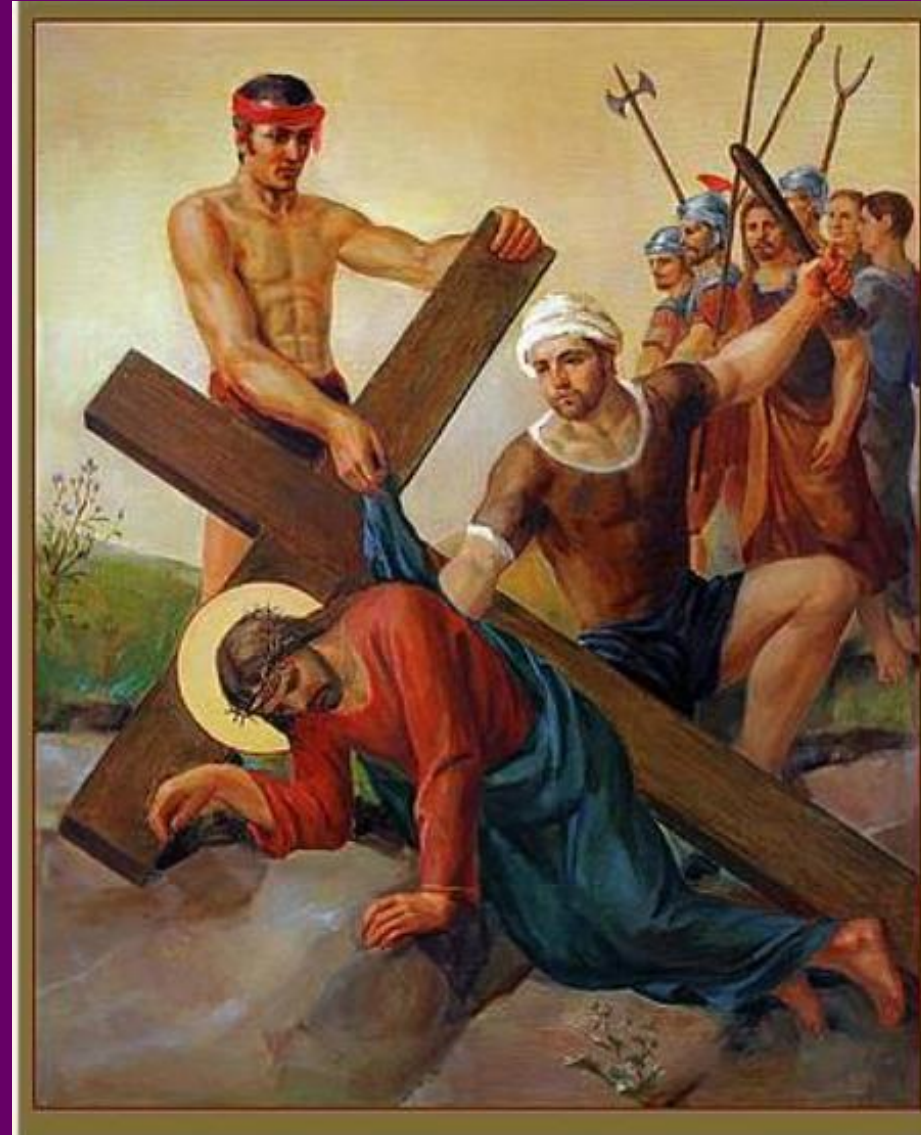
THE SEVENTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE SECOND TIME

A second time, the cross becomes too heavy. Slowly and surely, Jesus picks up the cross and again continues on his way. A third visit from an angel tells St. Joseph it is safe to return home from Egypt. Think of what it must have been like for St. Joseph as he returned to Nazareth. His return to daily life was an act of trust. When I fall in my life, I need greater trust in the Lord's plans for me.



THE SEVENTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE SECOND TIME

*Dear St. Joseph,
help me to trust in
God like you did.*



THE SEVENTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE SECOND TIME

Our Father.

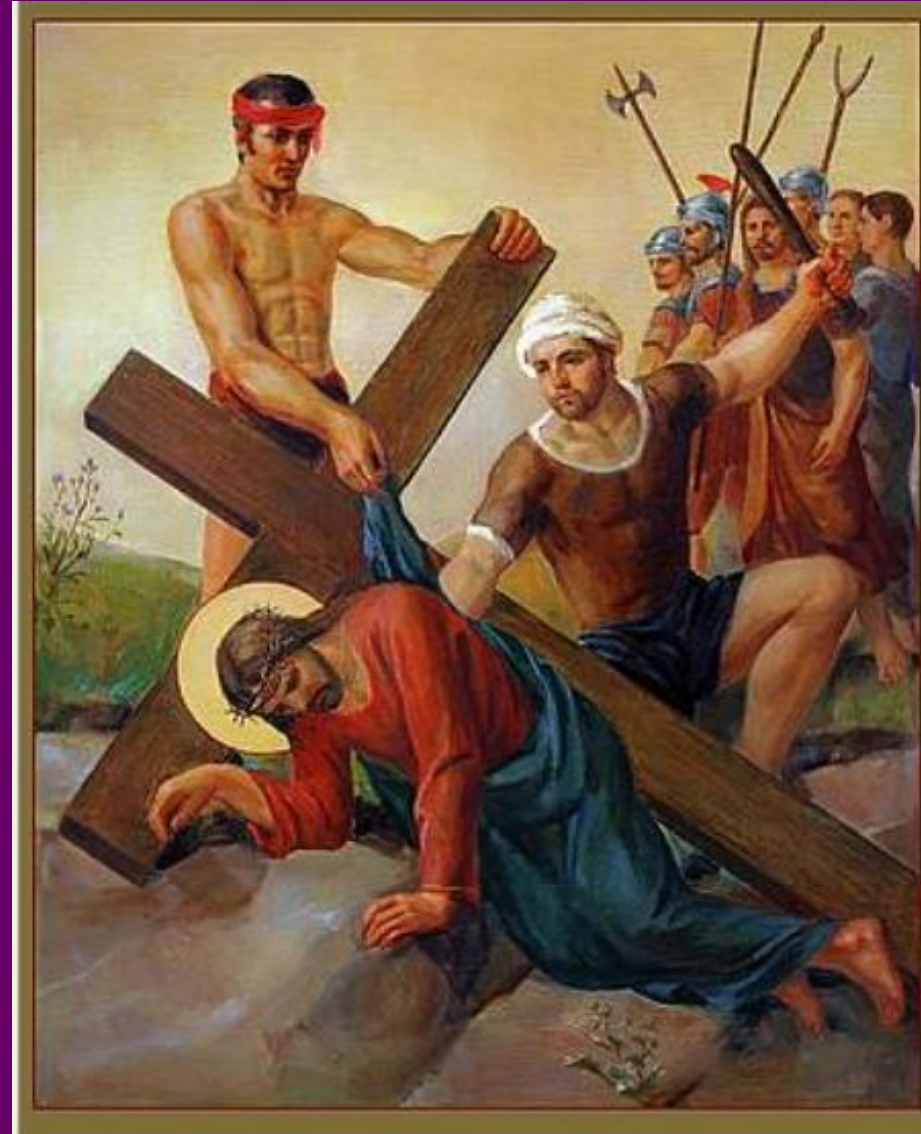
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



THE SEVENTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE SECOND TIME

For the sins of His
own nation
Saw Him hang in
desolation
Till His spirit forth
He sent.



THE EIGHTH STATION: JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

Jesus speaks to the gathered women saying, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.” As Jesus expresses these words during his Passion, I can only imagine what he shared with St. Joseph during those hidden years. Surely his words taught, healed, and consoled his father.



THE EIGHTH STATION: JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

*Dear St. Joseph,
pray for me, that
the words Jesus
speaks might
transform and
change my heart.*

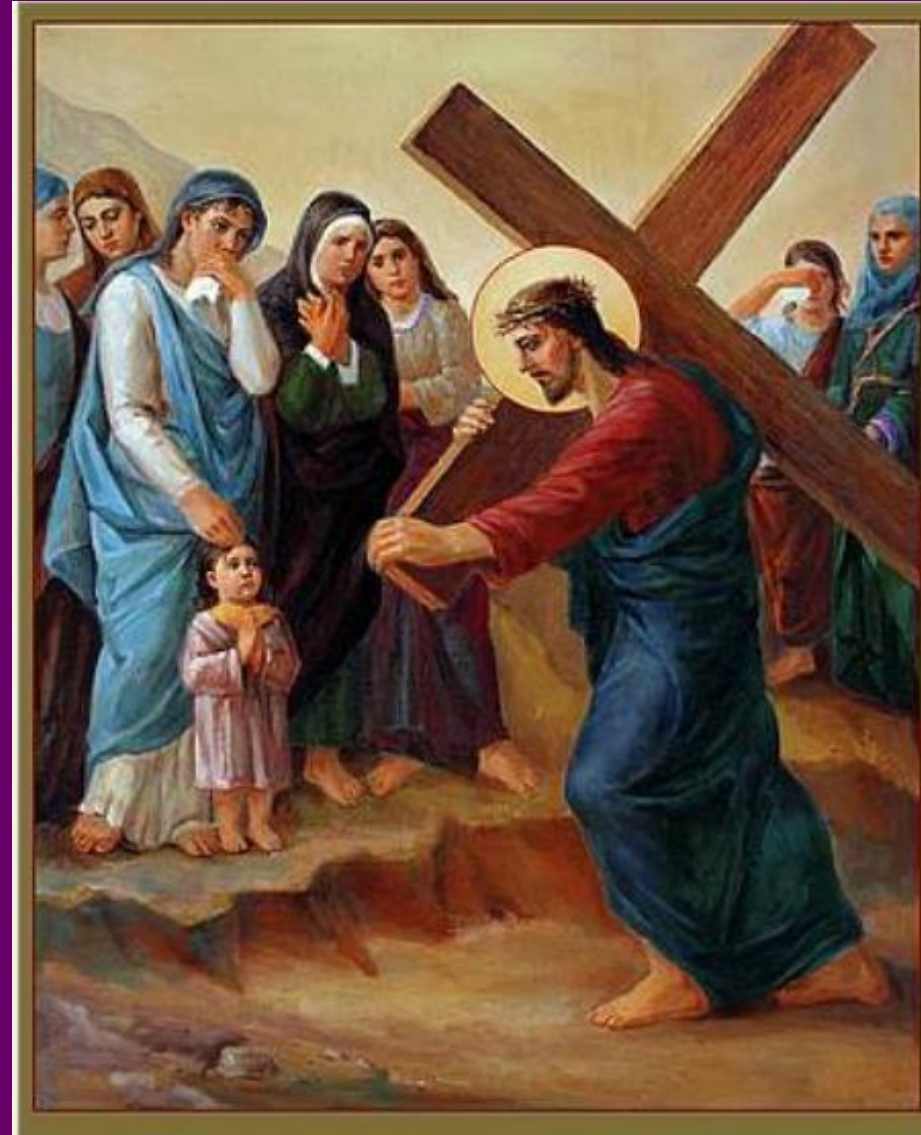


THE EIGHTH STATION: JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

Our Father.

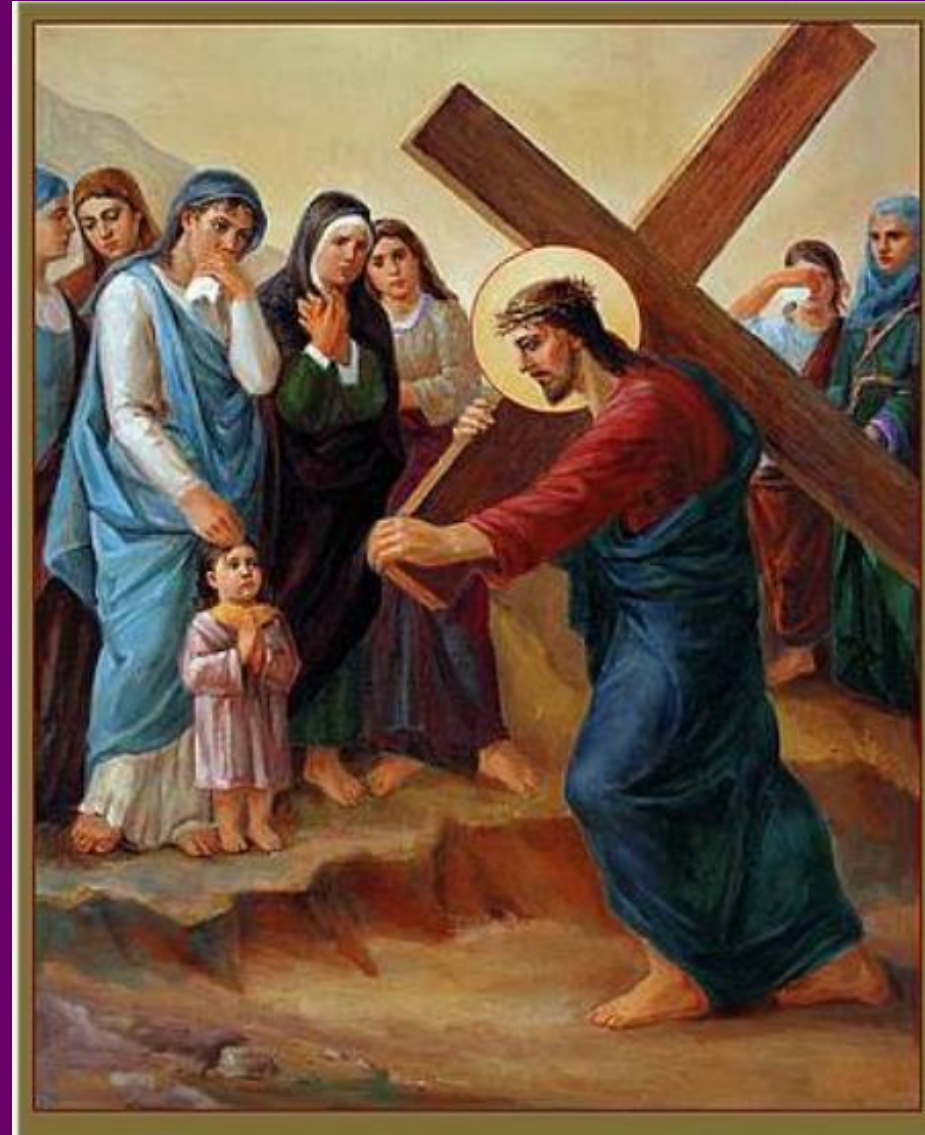
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



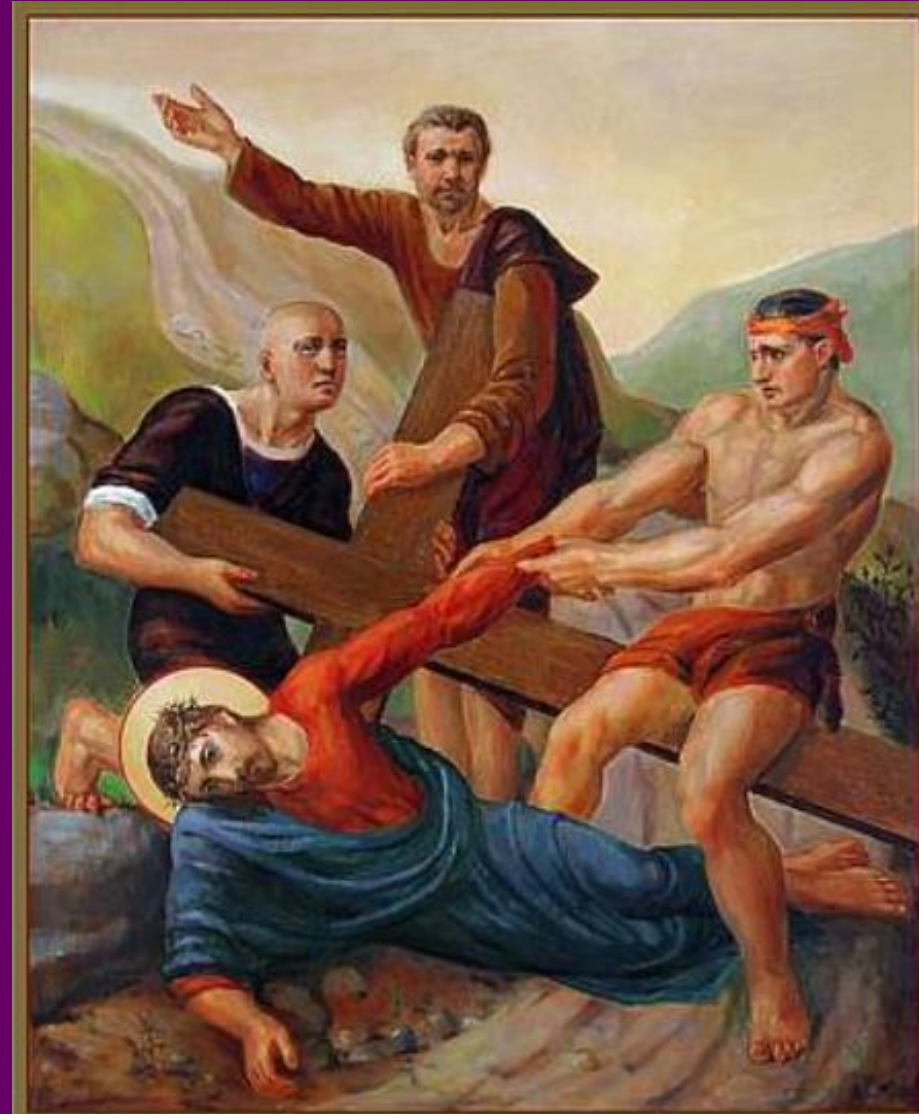
THE EIGHTH STATION: JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

**O sweet Mother!
Fount of Love,
Touch my spirit
from above
Make my heart with
yours accord.**



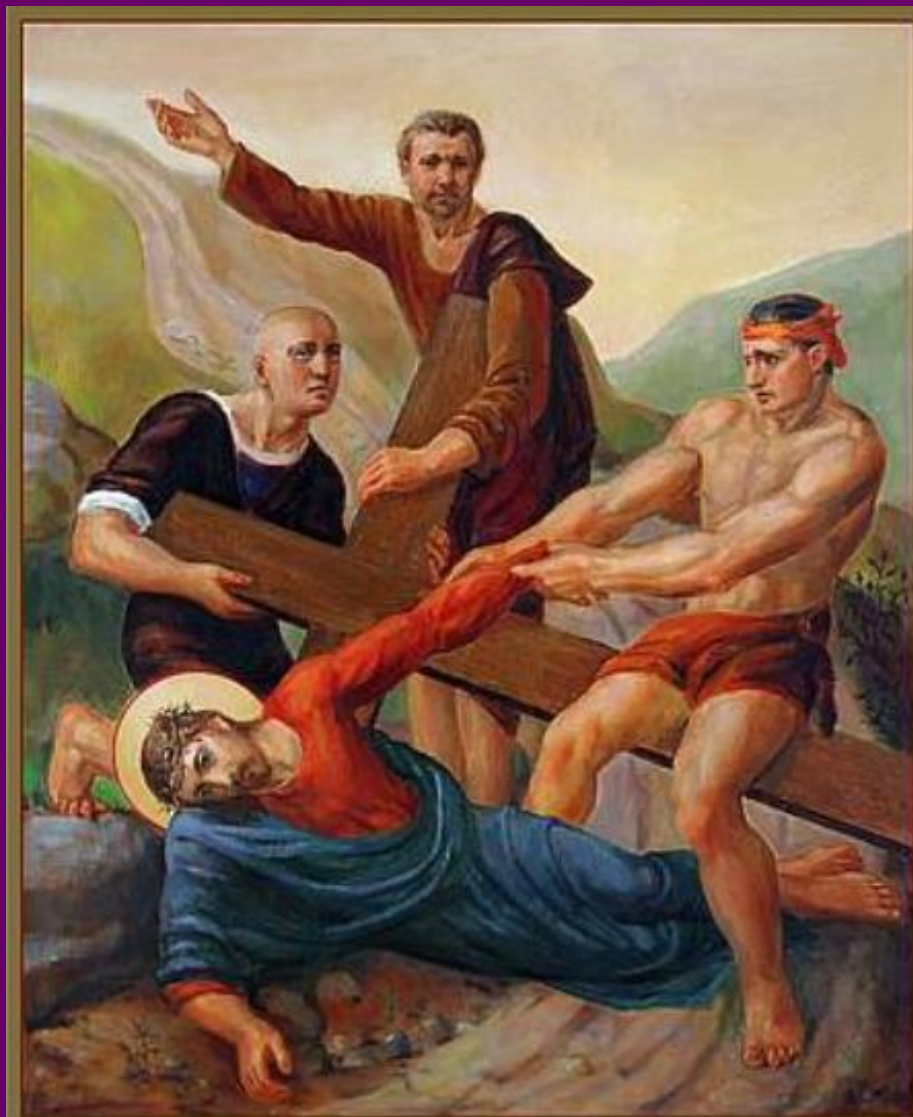
THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME

Jesus falls a third time under the weight of the cross. Maybe life seemed heavy at times for St. Joseph. Maybe he did not understand everything that was happening in his life. In the temple, after being lost for three days, Jesus tells his parents he must be about his Father's business. Jesus was lost; Joseph, seeking to understand. St. Joseph had a lifetime to understand the mysteries of the kingdom.



THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME

*Dear St. Joseph,
pray for me, that I
may gain wisdom
and understanding
of the divine
mysteries.*

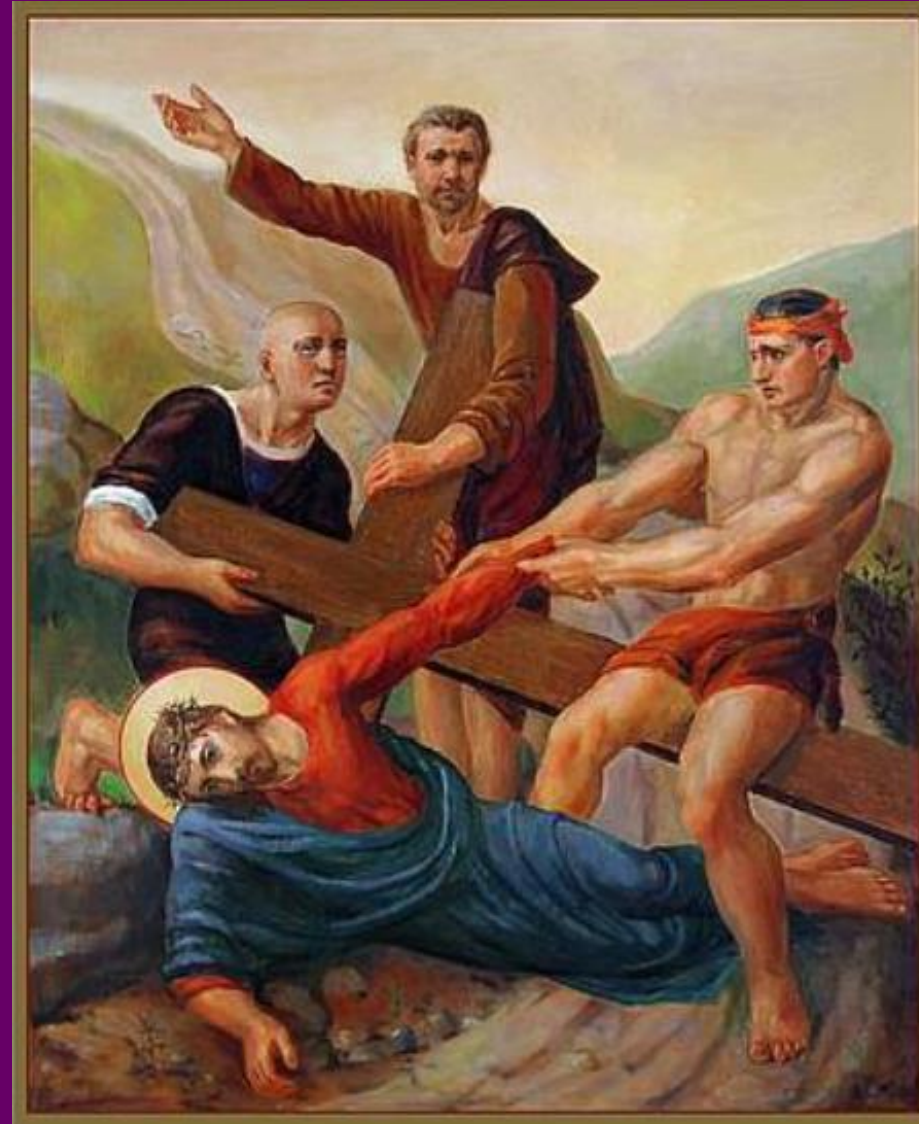


THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME

Our Father.

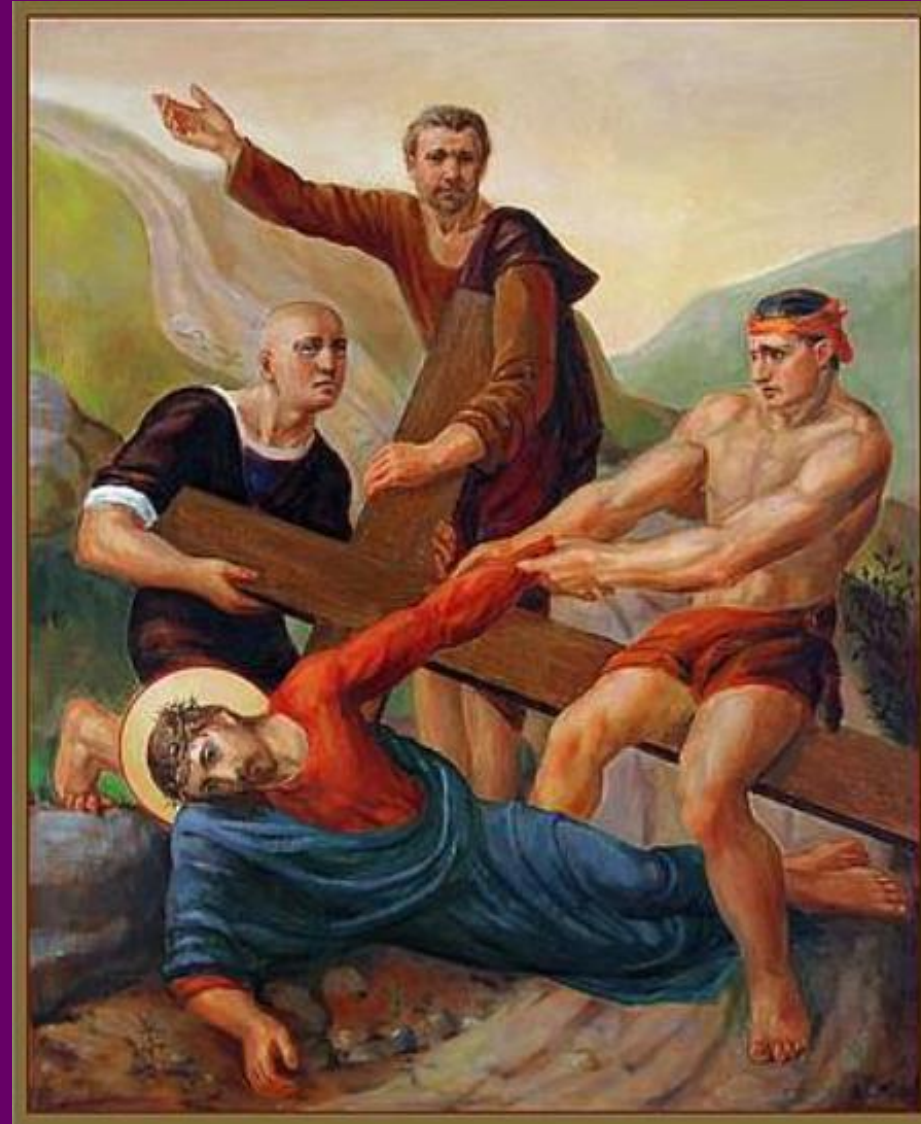
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME

**Make me feel as
You have felt
Make my soul to
glow and melt
With the love of
Christ, my Lord.**



THE TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

In birth, a child is born naked, only to be clothed by his parents. And now Jesus in death is stripped of his garments. The cloak he wore, perhaps weaved by his mother Mary. As an infant, the Christ child needed to be tended to, and most certainly St. Joseph attended to his needs. Now, as the hour of torture and death approaches, he is prepared for death by the hand of someone else.



THE TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

*Dear St. Joseph,
tend to my
wounds, intercede
for me, that I might
be clothed in the
love of God.*



THE TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

Our Father.

Hail Mary.

Glory be.



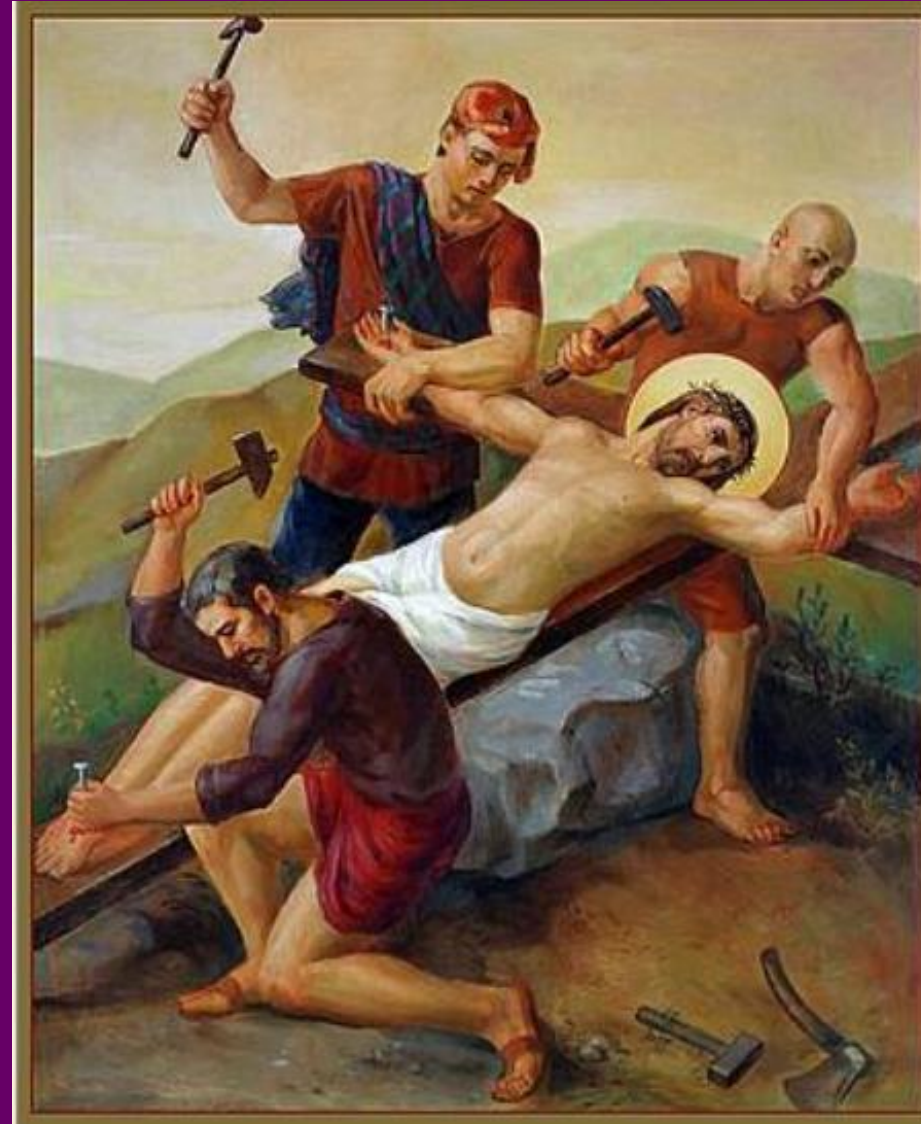
THE TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

**Holy Mother, pierce
me through
In my heart each
wound renew
Of my Saviour
crucified.**



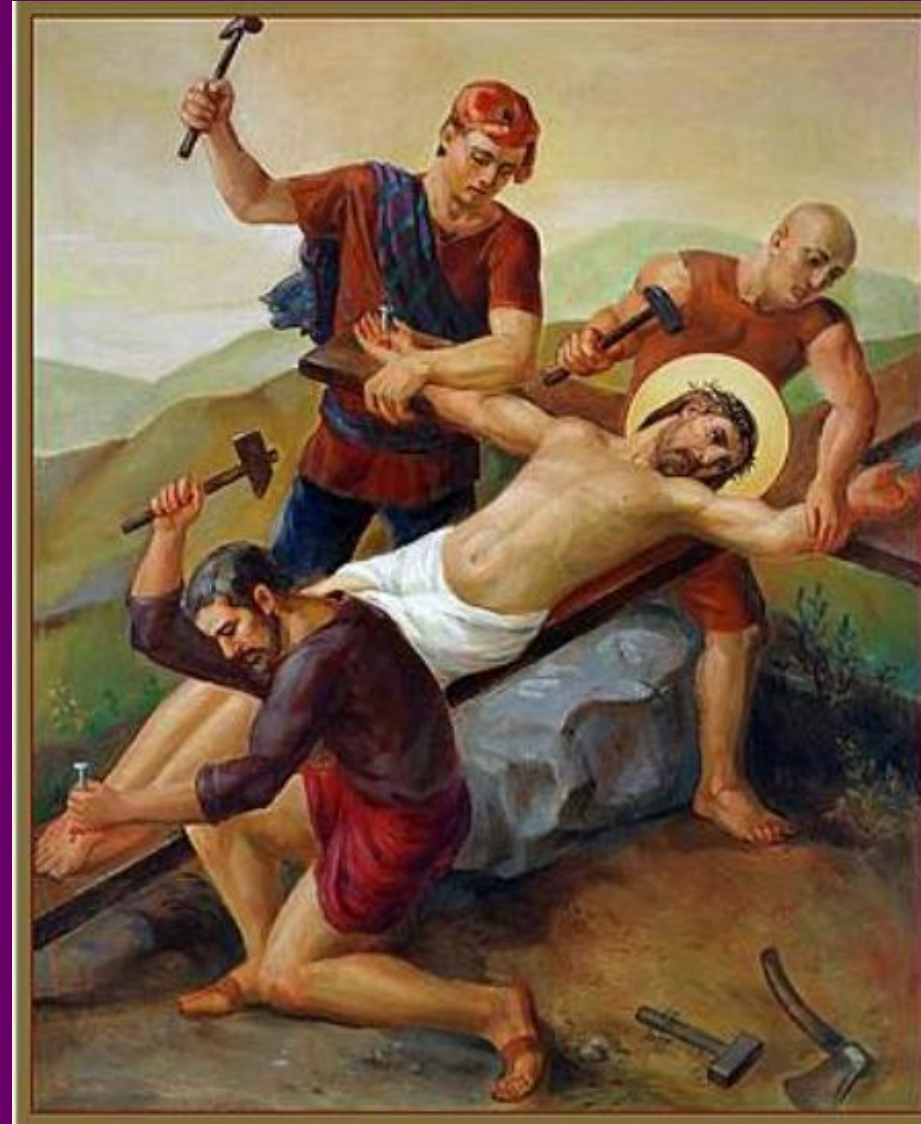
THE ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Jesus' body is pierced with nails. Blow after blow, until he is raised above the earth. These nails are not the carpenter's nails familiar to Joseph and Jesus. They are nails of torture. They are the nails of our salvation.



THE ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

*Dear St. Joseph,
help me to be
silent, so I may
never crucify
anyone by my
words.*

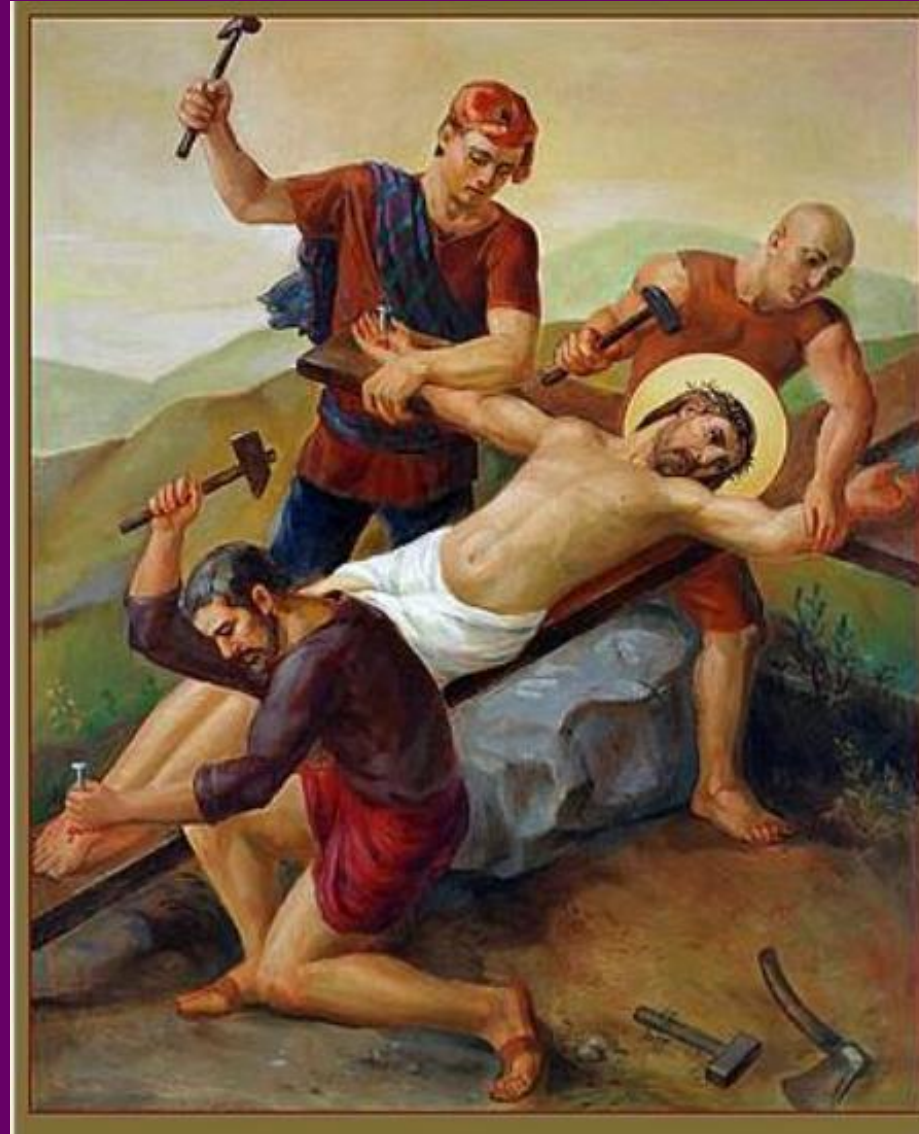


THE ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Our Father.

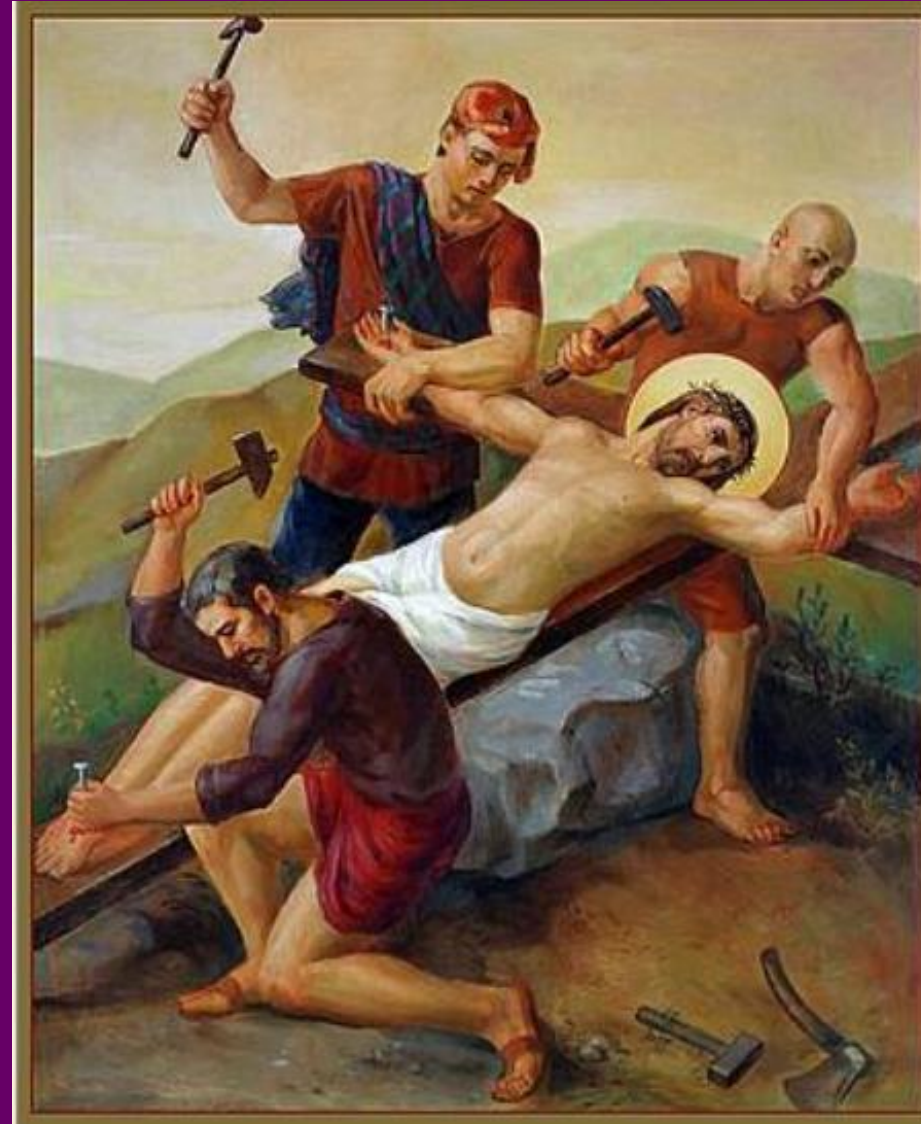
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



THE ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Let me share with
you His pain,
Who for all our
sins was slain,
Who for me in
torments died.



THE TWELFTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

St. John tells us that Mary stood beneath the cross of Jesus. Mary experiences another death of someone she loves. First her parents, her relatives St. Elizabeth and Zechariah, then St. John the Baptist, but closest to her, St. Joseph – and now her son. By Jesus' entrusting of Mary to St. John, we know that St. Joseph had already passed from this life. As Jesus draws his last breath, let us recall the last breath of St. Joseph, who died in the company of Mary and Jesus.



THE TWELFTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Dear St. Joseph, watch over families who have experienced a recent loss; be with the widowers and comfort the bereaved.



THE TWELFTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Our Father.

Hail Mary.

Glory be.



THE TWELFTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Let me mingle
tears with thee
Mourning Him who
mourned for me,
All the days that I
may live.



THE THIRTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

As Jesus is taken down from the Cross, he also descends to the depths of the netherworld. He breaks the prison bars of death, leading forth Adam, Eve, Abraham and Moses, the Prophets, but most especially his dear father St. Joseph. By his death, he gives life to all who awaited salvation and redemption. Now, the gates of eternal paradise are open.



THE THIRTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

Dear St. Joseph, please pray for my family and friends who are still in Purgatory. By your prayers and those of Mary, may they soon come to enjoy the vision of Heaven.



THE THIRTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

Our Father.

Hail Mary.

Glory be.



THE THIRTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

By the cross with
you to stay
There with you to
weep and pray
Is all I ask of you to
give.



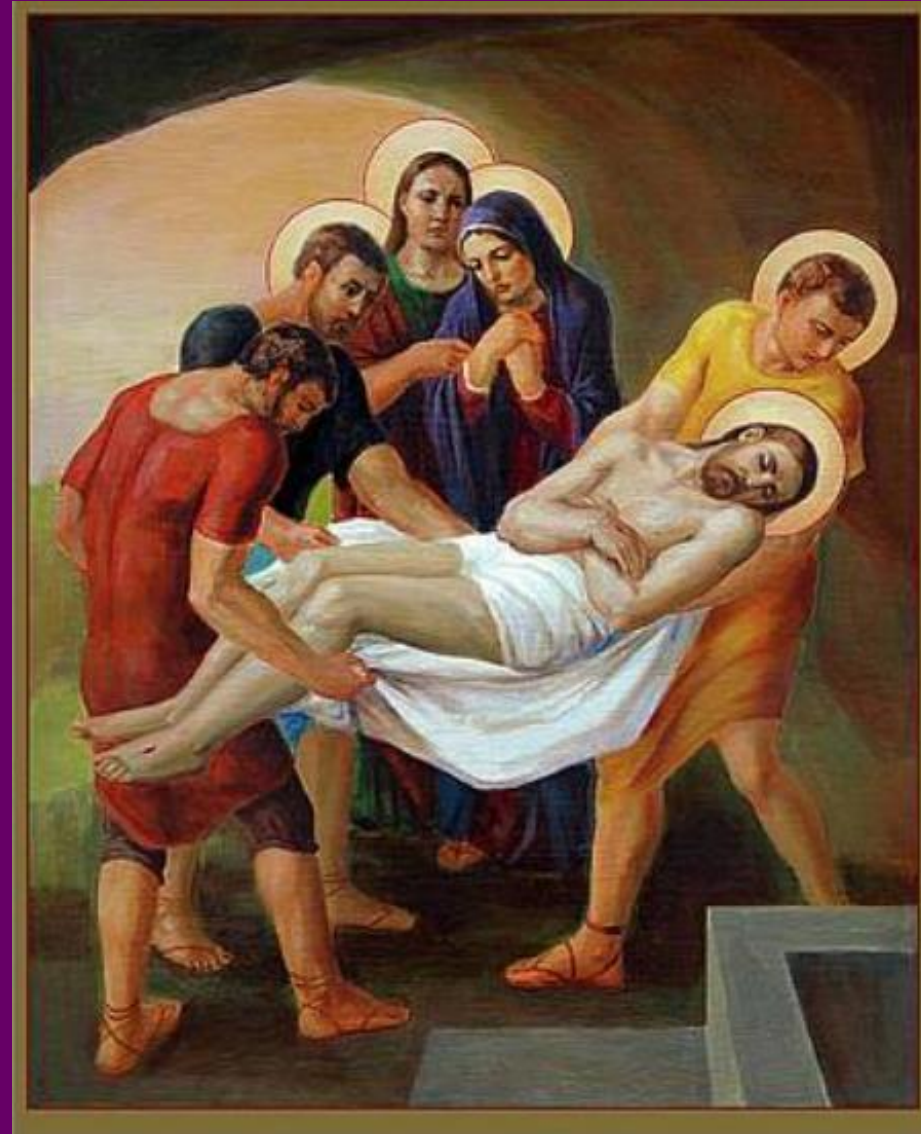
THE FOURTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

From his infancy, his death already was foreshadowed. The kings' gift of myrrh anticipated this day of burial. Received first by Joseph and Mary, now the body of Jesus has been anointed, and for three days Christ sanctifies the tomb for all who believe in him. Let us not forget that wherever St. Joseph might have been buried, Jesus would have visited the tomb.



THE FOURTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

*Dear St. Joseph,
please pray for me
as I draw my dying
breath.*

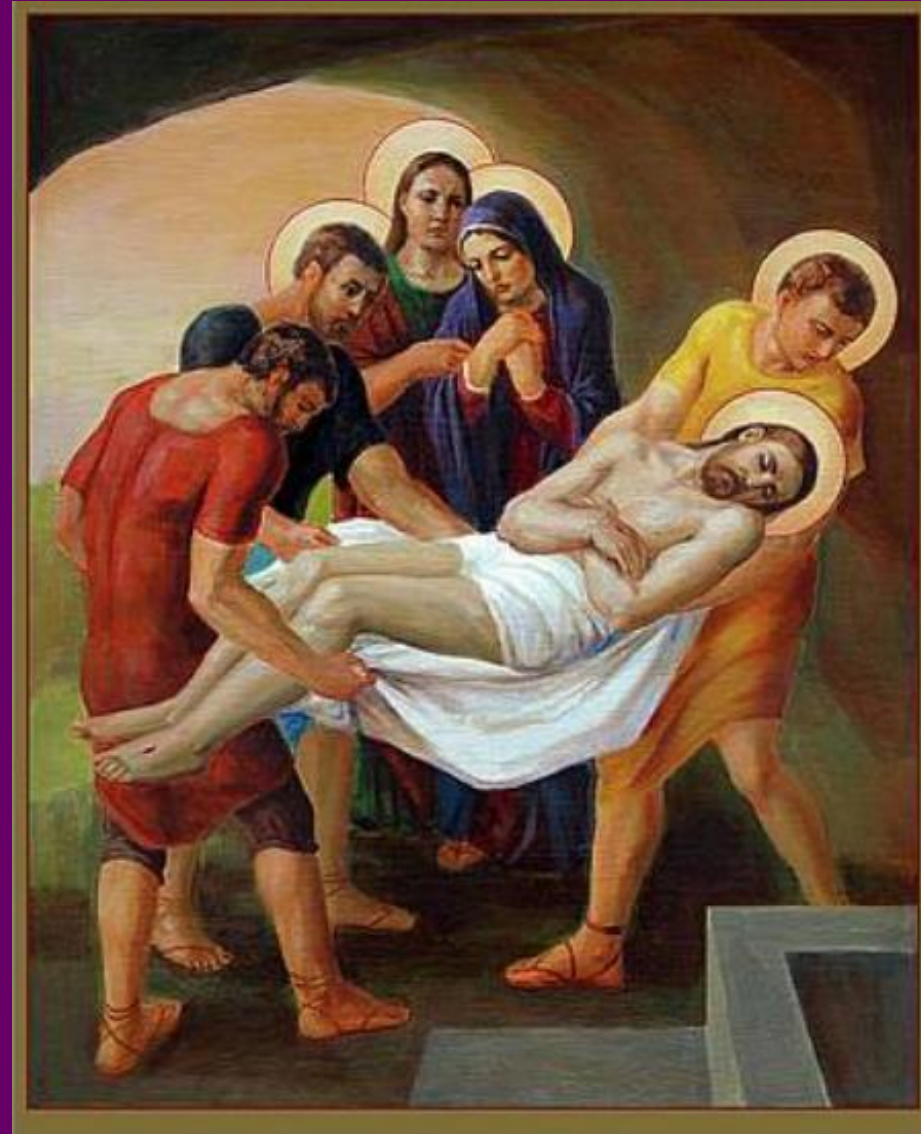


THE FOURTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

Our Father.

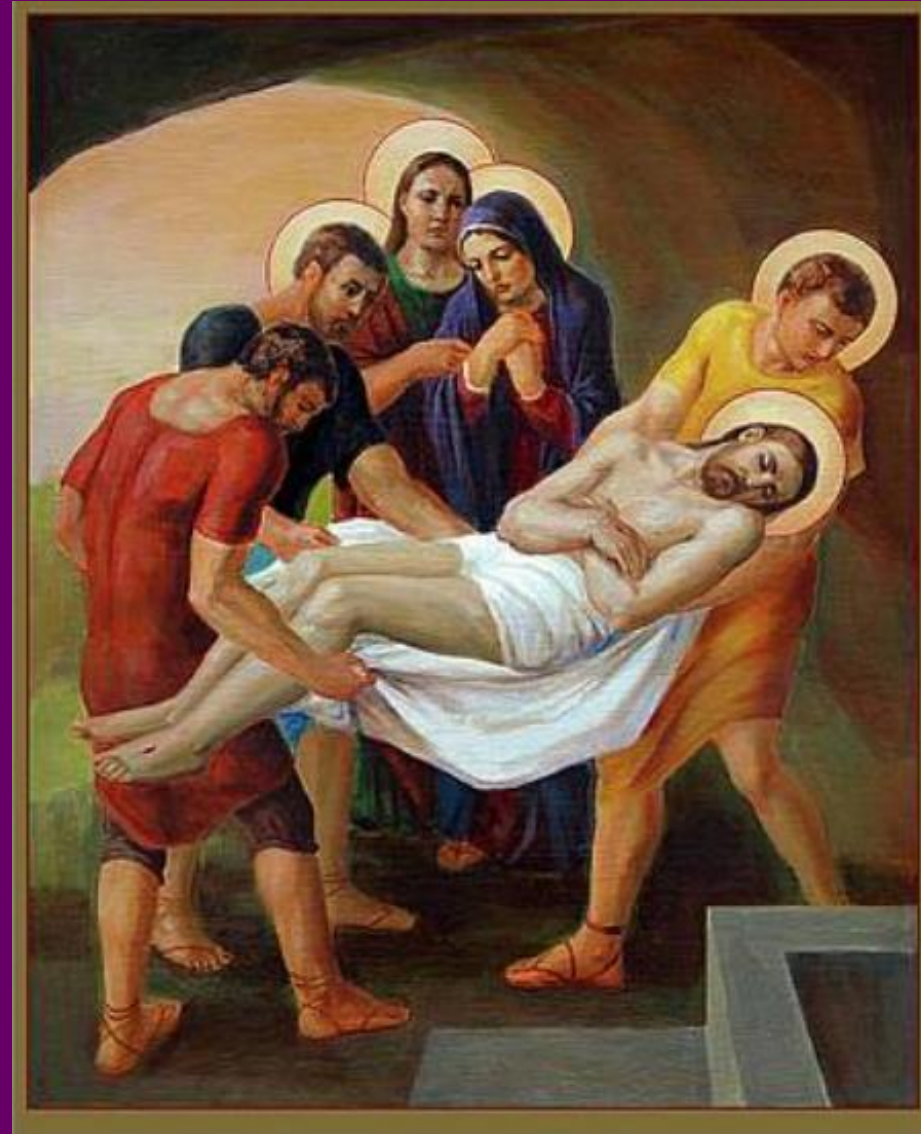
Hail Mary.

Glory be.



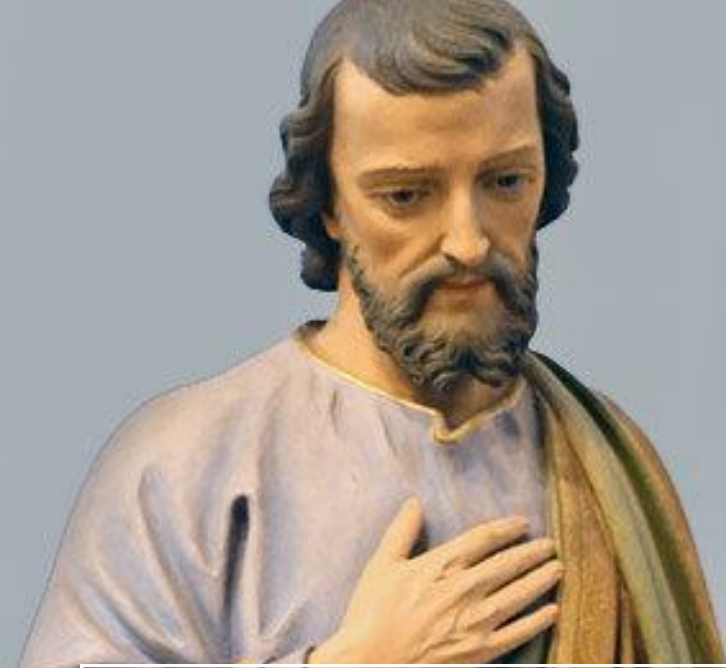
THE FOURTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

Virgin of all virgins
blest!
Listen to my fond
request:
Let me share your
grief divine.



CONCLUDING PRAYER

Thank you, Jesus, for allowing me to walk these stations with you. Thank you for giving us St. Joseph as an intercessor in our time of need. As I journey my own way of the cross for the years ahead, may I always remember that I have St. Joseph whose help I can turn to, in imitation of you my dear Savior, and your Blessed Mother.



YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

DECEMBER 8, 2020 – DECEMBER 8, 2021

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.

