

## OPENING PRAYER

O Jesus, we are about to walk with You  
through the stages of Your Agony and Death.  
We are about to spend a brief time  
renewing the sacrifice  
that gave us the life of a Christian;  
that upholds us  
by the graces You have won;  
and brings us along the road  
to a salvation that all took place  
— and continues today —  
by Your sacrifice on the Cross.  
Help us to understand a little better  
— to love a little more —  
and to give of ourselves more generously  
by our use of these fifteen remembrances  
of Your Divine Vocation.

AMEN.

## FIRST STATION

### *Jesus is Condemned to Death*

V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



O Jesus, You are standing all alone. No friends are with You — nobody to speak up for You — no one to help defend You. You spent all Your life in helping others, in performing miracles and curing and doing good things for everybody. And now they are going to kill You for it. When I am scolded by my parents or superiors for something I didn't do, help me to remember what You did for me — how You accepted criticism and scolding and didn't complain.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.



*Let us Pray.* O God, many times people don't seem to understand. They jump to conclusions and yell at me for something I didn't do, or didn't mean. Help me to accept their mistakes as You accept the mistakes I make in this life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SECOND STATION

### *Jesus Accepts His Cross*

- V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



As You place the cross over Your shoulder, You know for certain that it will not be taken away until You are nailed to it on Calvary. But You take it just the same. Crosses are problems and nobody likes them. Crosses are not happy things but they are a part of our human life. I don't think I can promise You that I will look for them during my life, but I do promise that I will try to carry them when You send them to me.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, my problems may seem small to a lot of grown-ups, but You know that they are big as far



as I'm concerned. These crosses aren't easy but when I'm about to complain about them, help me to remember Christ and His Cross. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THIRD STATION

#### *Jesus Falls*

V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



You've lost a lot of blood, Christ, because of the mean treatment You received. You are weak and almost ready to faint from the pain You have — and You fall. Nobody seems ready to help You, either. The soldiers push You, and kick You, and yell at You to get up and keep going. You fall from weakness but somehow You do find the strength to get up and keep going. You continue what You started.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, I know there are a lot of times that I begin to do things and then get tired of them. Or else, I don't do them too well and I want to forget about them. Sometimes, I get hollered at in school because I don't pay attention to what I should



be doing. Help me, God, to be like Your Son — help me to keep at the things I started and to complete them as best I can. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### FOURTH STATION

##### *Jesus Meets His Mother*

V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed  
the world.



With all the yelling and screaming going on, and with all the hateful and dirty words they are shouting at You, You finally find someone who loves You and feels for You. It is Your Mother. She can't do much for You to stop the suffering, but she gives You a look that tells You she is suffering with You, and You are helped by this. Someone does understand.

V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.



*Let us pray.* O God, you gave me my parents. No one else in the whole world could be my mother or father. Thank You God for that gift. No matter how hard things seem for me, I know that they are there and that they really do love me. Help me to show them I love them. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## FIFTH STATION

### *Simon Takes the Cross*

V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



The soldiers are afraid that You may not make the hill to Your crucifixion. You are getting weaker and weaker. So they grab a man out of the crowd, a man named Simon, and they force him to carry Your cross for awhile. He doesn't want to, but they make him do it. He'd rather just stand there and watch what is going on. He didn't come to help You, but here he is carrying Your cross.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, I guess I would have to say that I am a lot like this man Simon. How many times I



could have helped someone else. Maybe by watching my younger brother or sister; maybe by helping a classmate with her studies; maybe by offering to go to the store or help with the dishes. Help me to do more than just stand by and watch. Help me to be a doer. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SIXTH STATION

### *Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus*

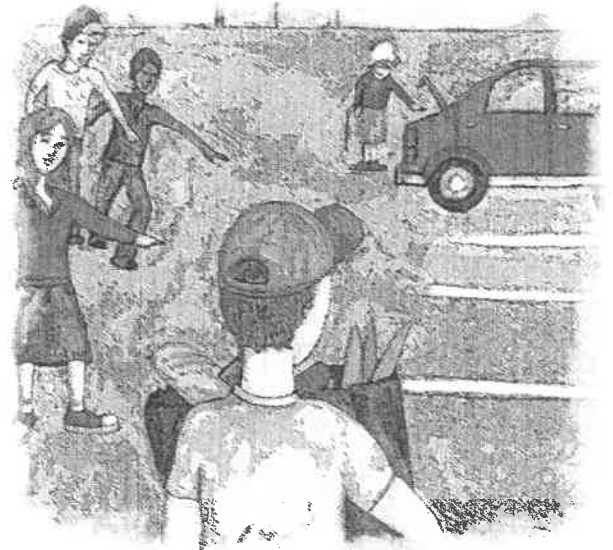
- V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



Suddenly, the march to Calvary stops. A woman comes forward — her name is Veronica. She takes a cloth and begins to wipe Your face and to clear away the sweat and the blood. She offers a little comfort. And because of her kindness, You leave upon that cloth an imprint of Your face. Even when You're about to die, You continue giving to those who will accept You.

- V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, teach me to give a little of myself to someone who needs me. Teach me to go



out of my way and help even when I'm not asked. It takes a lot of strength to be like Veronica — to offer help when you will be laughed at by the others in the crowd. But help me be like her — that is what it means to be a Christian. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

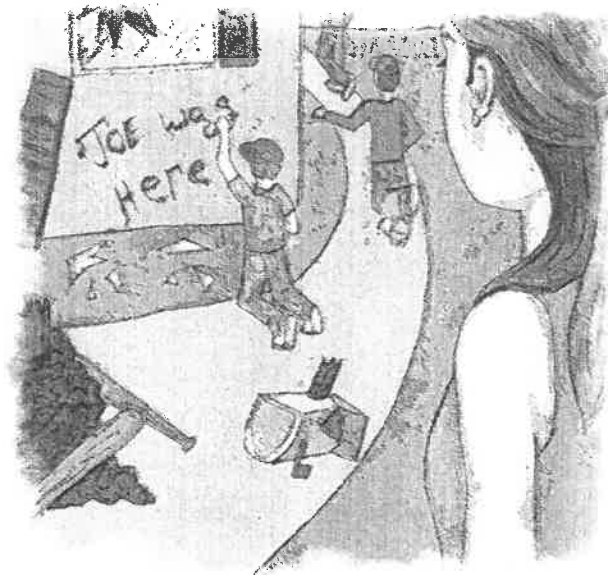
## SEVENTH STATION

### *Jesus Falls Again*

- V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



This is the second time that You have fallen on that dirt road. This time it is even harder to get up. The weight of that cross is growing heavier and heavier. But You struggle and try. You keep trying and soon You are on Your feet again. You continue Your march that will lead to Your death and our salvation.



- V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, there are so many things that try to keep me down. I don't understand all of them. All the things I read in the papers about the killings and the riots and the crime. Help me rise above them. Help me to continue on in Your way through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



EIGHTH STATION  
*Jesus Meets the Women*



V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

On the side of the road You are traveling, there is a group of women who are watching. As You pass them, You see they are crying. You stop for just a moment to talk to them. You try to offer them some comfort for their sorrow. How like You, my God. They are crying for You and Your sufferings, and in turn You stop and try to make them feel better.



V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, many times I get so wound up in myself I forget about others. Many times I don't think about anybody but myself. Help me be aware that others have problems also, and that others need help besides myself. Help me to give them whatever help I can. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## NINTH STATION

### *Jesus Falls the Third and Last Time*

- V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



You are nearing the Hill of Calvary. And once more You fall beneath Your cross. The top of that hill means the end of Your human life — but it is also the place where You can save the world and do Your Father's Will. Despite the weakness that overcomes Your body, the sight of that hill gives You the added strength to get up once more and continue on. You rise. You lift Yourself up. You continue.

- V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.



*Let us pray.* O God, these three falls are an example to me. You are telling me that no matter how often I have fallen by disobedience, by carelessness, by lying or cheating, that all I really need to do is lift myself up and try again. If I try, You will help — and when we work together like that, I can be the person You want me to be. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## TENTH STATION

### *Jesus is Stripped of His Clothes*

- V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.



The soldiers rip off the cloak they threw on You after Your beating at Pilate's Palace. All the wounds are torn open once more and Your whole body is a mess of blood and sores. Some of the people make jokes or laugh at You or spit at You. They tell You to perform a miracle and they will believe You — and little do they know that You are about to perform the greatest of all miracles — the salvation of the whole world.

- V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.



*Let us pray.* O God, as Jesus is stripped of His clothes, let me always be aware of the need to keep my body and soul pure and clean. Help me to overcome worldly desires and be more like Christ. Help me to share in this great miracle of salvation by always being pure in my thoughts, in my words, and in my actions. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ELEVENTH STATION

*Jesus is Nailed to the Cross*



V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

You are now stretched out upon Your Cross and the soldiers begin to take the spikes and drive them through Your hands and feet. You are nailed like a wild savage to a piece of wood. Everybody is laughing at You; soldiers are playing dice for the few pieces of Your clothing that are worth taking; the whole world seems to have gone crazy. You gave them nothing but love and kindness, and all man has to offer You are steel spikes driven through Your body.

V. The Lord be with you.

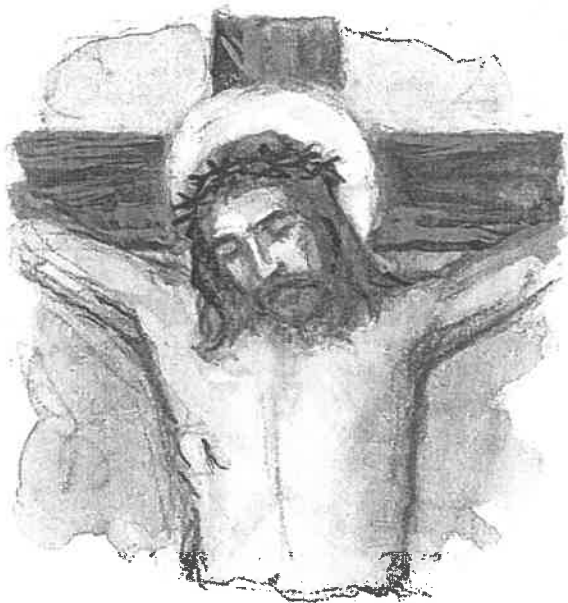
R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, man is sometimes like an animal rather than a human being. We hurt one another by laughing at the color of skin — or the way a man speaks — or the way he dresses — all the things that are unimportant we make the most important. Never let me drive a steel spike into someone else by my display of hatred or injustice or bigotry. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



TWELFTH STATION

*Jesus Dies*



Death is but a moment away. Let me take this time to speak to You in my own words and to tell You something of my feelings and love for You.

V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

### THIRTEENTH STATION

*Jesus is Removed From the Cross*



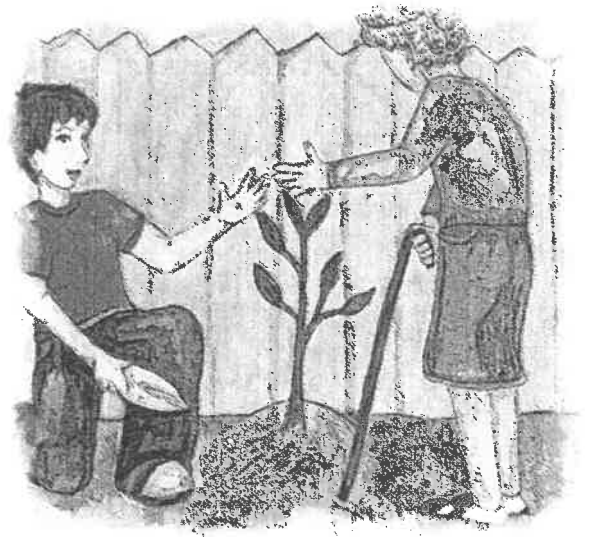
V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

How roughly You were put upon that cross and now, how gently You are taken from it. You are placed in the arms of Your Mother and all the dirt and blood is wiped away and You are treated in a good way. We always seem to be kinder when we see death, and we talk about all the good things of the dead person. If only we could learn to see all those good things while they were alive, if we could only learn to be good to one another while we are alive, it would be a lot easier to change into the better life You have promised us.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.



*Let us pray.* O God, I will live on this earth maybe ten, twenty, sixty or seventy years. Help me make this life a happy place for everyone I meet. Let me say nice things to them and about them while they are alive to hear them. Let me care that they are happy — it will make me much happier if I do. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## FOURTEENTH STATION

### *Jesus is Buried*

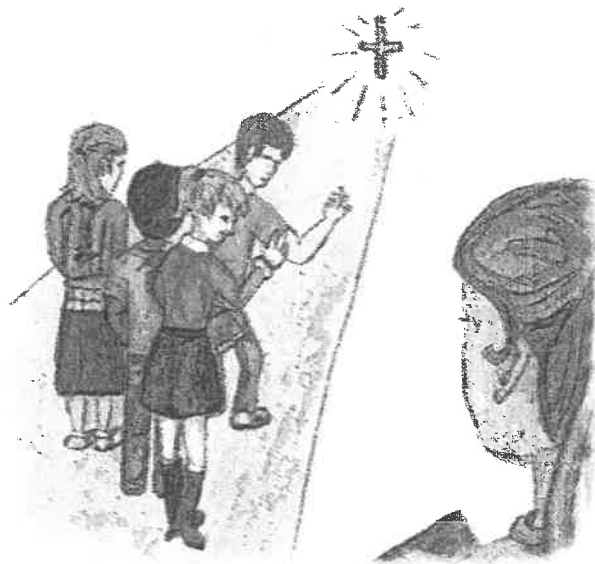


- V. We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.  
R. Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

You are placed in Your tomb. The stone is rolled over the entrance, and You lie in death. But my Christ, I know that in three days You will rise. You will give a new meaning to life and a new way for us to live. You will rise from the dead, and death will have lost its hold on us, and our fears will be thrown away because You have proven You are the Son of God.

- V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.

*Let us pray.* O God, no matter how hard things seem to be, they couldn't be much tougher than the life lived by Your Son. And despite all His sufferings, it



all came out all right. You promise me that same outcome if I will remain close to You in my life. Help me always to follow the road of Christ — to accept what I cannot change; to change what I can for the betterment of mankind; and to follow closely the road You have planned for me in the years to come. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## WERE YOU THERE?

Intro: **D - A - A7 - D**

**D** **Bm** **Em A** **D**  
 1. WERE YOU THERE WHEN THEY CRUCIFIED MY LORD?  
**F#m** **Bm** **Em A7**  
 WERE YOU THERE WHEN THEY CRUCIFIED MY LORD?  
**D** **F#m** **D** **Bm**  
 O ----- OH, SOMETIMES IT CAUSES ME  
**G** **Em** **D**  
 TO TREMBLE, TREMBLE, TREMBLE  
**G** **Bm** **Em A** **D**  
 WERE YOU THERE WHEN THEY CRUCIFIED MY LORD?

1st Station  
 ..... HE STOOD BEFORE THE JUDGE  
 2nd Station  
 ..... HE KNELT TO TAKE HIS CROSS  
 3rd Station  
 ..... HE FELL BENEATH HIS CROSS  
 4th Station  
 ..... SWEET MARY FACED HER SON  
 5th Station  
 ..... THEY FORCED A STRANGER'S HELP  
 6th Station  
 ..... THE WOMAN WIPED HIS FACE  
 7th Station  
 ..... HE FELL A SECOND TIME  
 8th Station  
 ..... THE WOMEN WEPT FOR HIM  
 9th Station  
 ..... A THIRD TIME HE FELL DOWN  
 10th Station  
 ..... THEY STRIPPED HIM OF HIS CLOTHES  
 11th Station  
 ..... THEY NAILED HIM TO THE CROSS  
 12th Station  
 ..... HE BOWED HIS HEAD AND DIED  
 13th Station  
 ..... THEY TOOK HIM FROM THE CROSS  
 14th Station  
 ..... THEY LAID HIM IN THE TOMB

