

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

(Join with the LEADER in making the sign of the Cross on yourself by using the finger tips of your right hand to touch your forehead as the LEADER says...)

LEADER: In the name of the Father,
(Touch the middle of your chest as the LEADER says...)
and of the Son,
(Touch your left shoulder as the LEADER says...)
and of the Holy
(Touch your right shoulder as the LEADER says...)
Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

LEADER: **THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR VOCATIONS**

Gracious God, each of us is called to discipleship with Your Son Jesus through the sacrament of Baptism.

We are sent to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus, to share the Good News of God's saving love.

Hear our prayer as we ponder the redemptive vocation of Jesus who continues to call men and women to walk in His way, renewing His Church and caring for His people.

We give You thanks for the mystery of every vocation and we pray for all who have answered Your call.

Send forth Your Holy Spirit upon the faithful and enkindle in them the fire of Your love, drawing many young men and women to dedicate themselves with an undivided heart to the love of Christ and His Kingdom.

ALL: Amen.

LEADER: **THE FIRST STATION: PILATE CONDEMNNS JESUS TO DIE.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how Jesus Christ, after being scourged and crowned with thorns, was unjustly condemned by Pilate to die on the cross.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, we ask that You call young men and women today to publicly accept Your invitation to follow You in spite of what others may think or say. Give to them a passion for reaching out through Your love to the needs of Your brothers and sisters.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

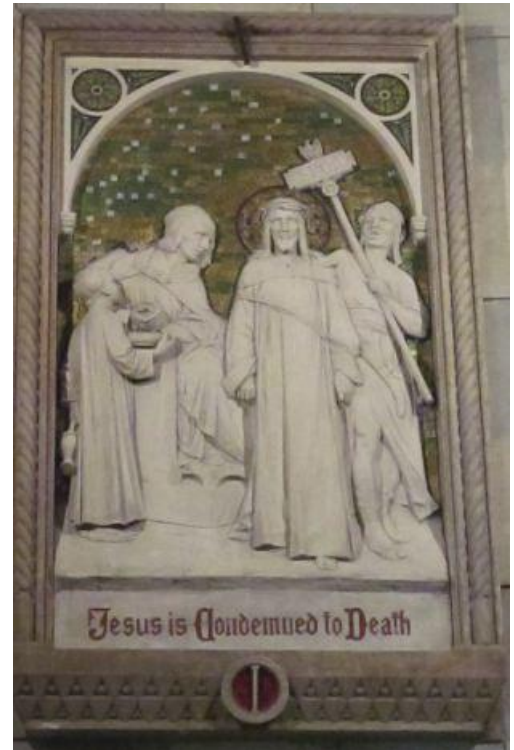
ALL: Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...using the tune of the "Stabat mater dolorosa")ⁱ

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



LEADER: **THE SECOND STATION: JESUS ACCEPTS HIS CROSS.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider Jesus as He walked this road with the cross on His shoulders, thinking of us, and offering to His Father in our behalf, the death He was about to suffer.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, help those You call to see in the cross the symbol of union with You. Give to them the zeal and talent to minister to those who are burdened with pain, sorrow, confusion and alienation. Let them see that in the cross is life.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

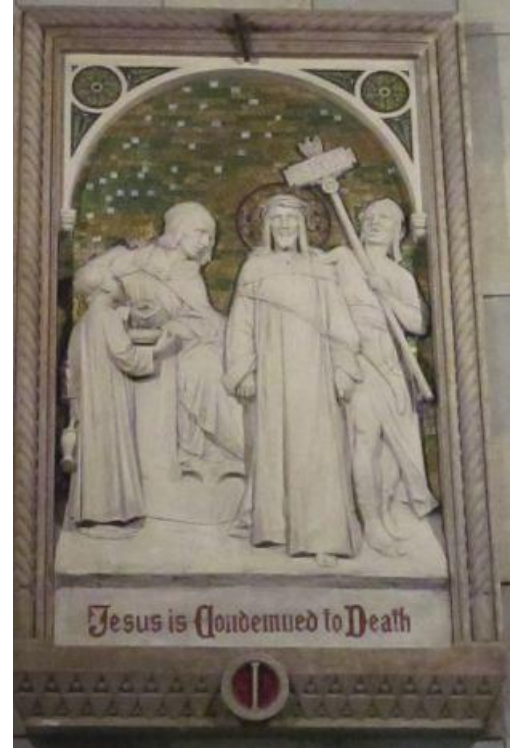
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

O, how sad and sore depressed
Was that Mother highly blessed
of the sole Begotten One



LEADER: **THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider the first fall of Jesus. Loss of blood from the scourging and crowing with thorns had so weakened Him that He could hardly walk; and yet He had to carry that great load upon His shoulders. As the soldiers struck Him cruelly, He fell several times under the heavy cross.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, let those You call know that they do not have to be perfect. Let them be open to Your transforming grace that can accomplish more than anyone could imagine. Give to those who respond to Your call to the priesthood and consecrated life, a deep trust that You will complete what You have begun in them.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

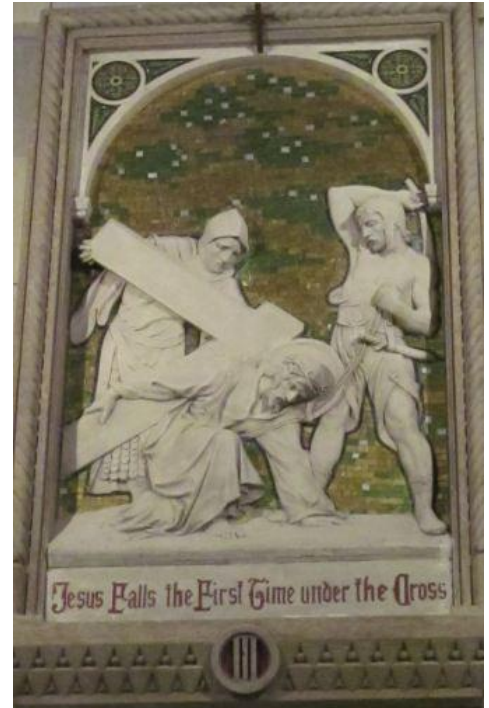
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

Christ above in torment hangs
She beneath beholds the pangs
of her dying, glorious Son



LEADER: **THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS AFFLICTED MOTHER.**
We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how the Son met His Mother on His way to Calvary. Jesus and Mary gazed at each other and their looks became as so many arrows to wound those hearts which loved each other so tenderly

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, instill in young men and women the desire to come to know Your Mother and find in their prayerful reflection of the scriptures, a woman of faith, hope and love whose vocation is an example for all. Help parents to promote and support vocations among their children, families and church communities.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

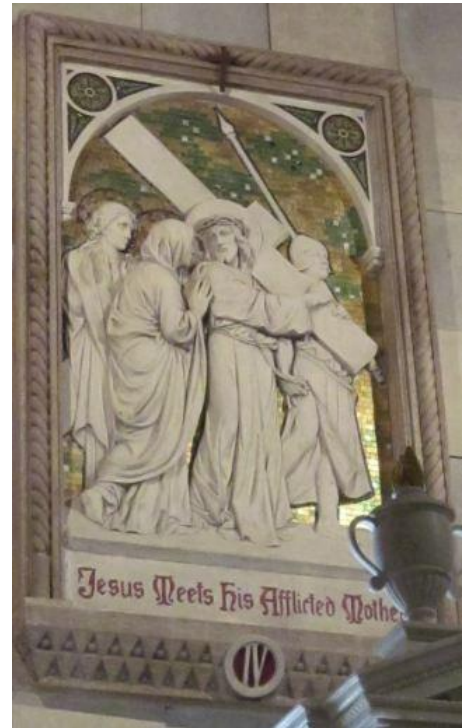
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE FIFTH STATION: SIMON HELPS JESUS CARRY THE CROSS.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how weak and weary Jesus was. At each step He was at the point of expiring. Fearing that He would die on the way when they wished Him to die the infamous death of the cross, they forced Simon of Cyrene to help carry the cross after Our Lord.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, send forth your grace upon those you call to church leadership. Help them to accept and affirm others' gifts in the building of community, in proclaiming the message and in reaching out in service.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

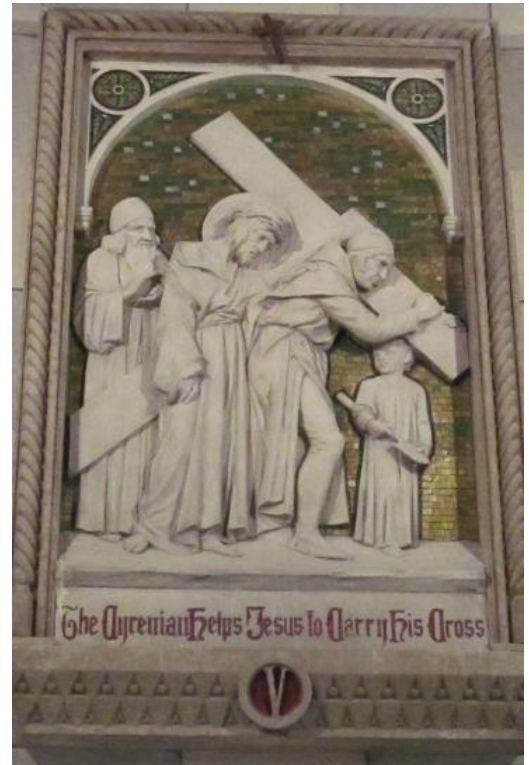
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE SIXTH STATION:
VERONICA WIPES THE FACE
OF JESUS.** We adore You, O Christ,
and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You
have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider the compassion of the holy
woman, Veronica. Seeing Jesus in such
distress, His face bathed in sweat and
blood, she presented Him with her veil.
Jesus wiped His face, and left upon the
cloth the image of His sacred
countenance.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, call forth numerous men and
women to see Your face on all whom
they meet. Help Your servants to truly understand that whatever good is
done to the least of Your brothers and sisters is done to You.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom
come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among
women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

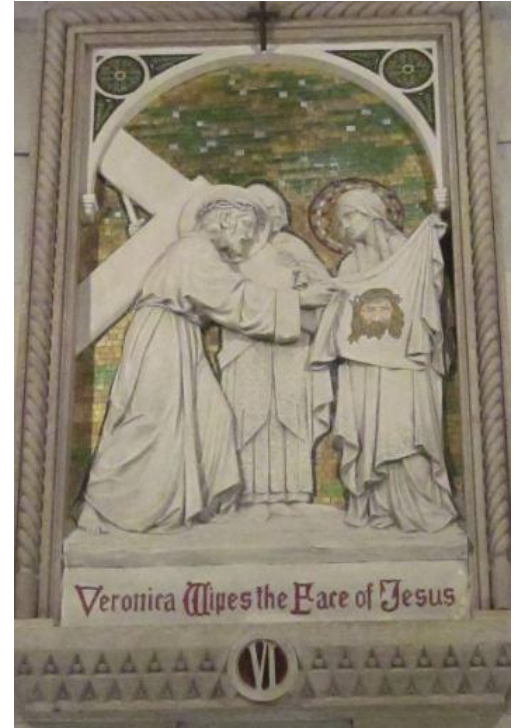
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our death. Amen.

LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE SEVENTH STATION:
JESUS FALLS THE SECOND
TIME.** We adore You, O Christ,
and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You
have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how the second fall of
Jesus under His cross renews the
pain in all the wounds of the head
and members of our afflicted Lord.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, teach those You call to the
priesthood and consecrated life to
accept their own and others'
limitations, relying on God's
merciful grace. Help them in these
times of darkness to reach out especially to those whom the world calls
"fallen"—persons who are addicted, imprisoned, poor, aged, of ill health.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom
come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but
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LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among
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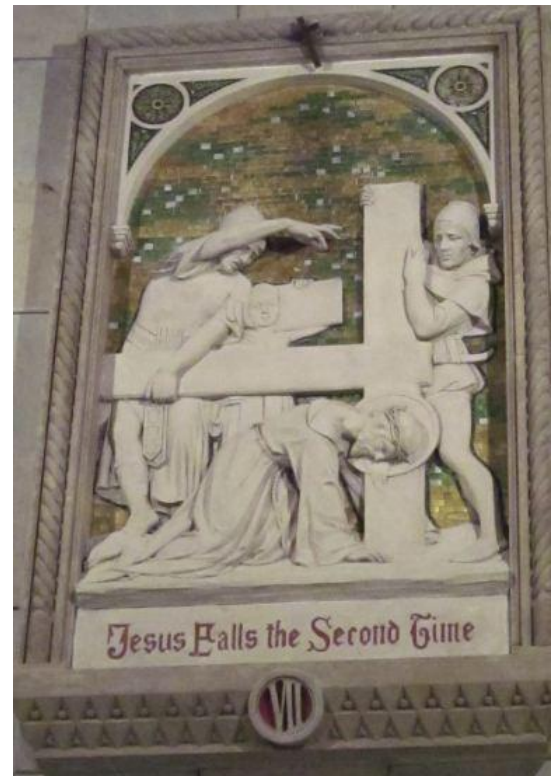
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our death. Amen.

LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE EIGHTH STATION: JESUS SPEAKS TO THE WOMEN.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how the women wept with compassion seeing Jesus so distressed and dripping with blood as He walked along. Jesus said to them, “Weep not so much for Me, but rather for Your children.”

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, remove any prejudices or biases from all whom You call to walk with You as priests or in the consecrated life. Let those who follow You see that all God’s people are created equal, male and female, regardless of race or culture, and that our heavenly Father has no favorites. Let their words and example speak of Christ’s justice, peace and joy.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

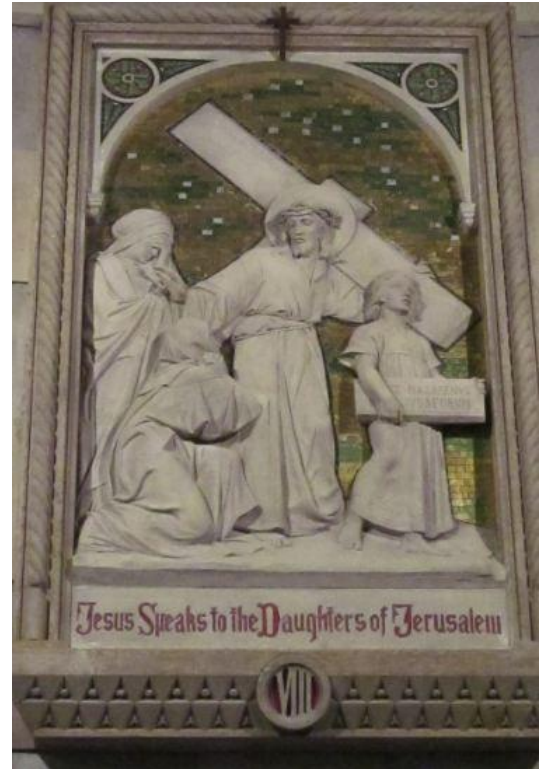
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how Jesus Christ fell for the third time. He was extremely weak and the cruelty of His executioners was excessive; they tried to hasten His steps though He hardly had strength to move.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, help those You call to know that all vocations are grace-filled; that priests, sisters, brothers, deacons, consecrated men and women, married and single are all favored by God. Instill in them the understanding that nothing can separate them from the love of God who is actively present in good times and in bad.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

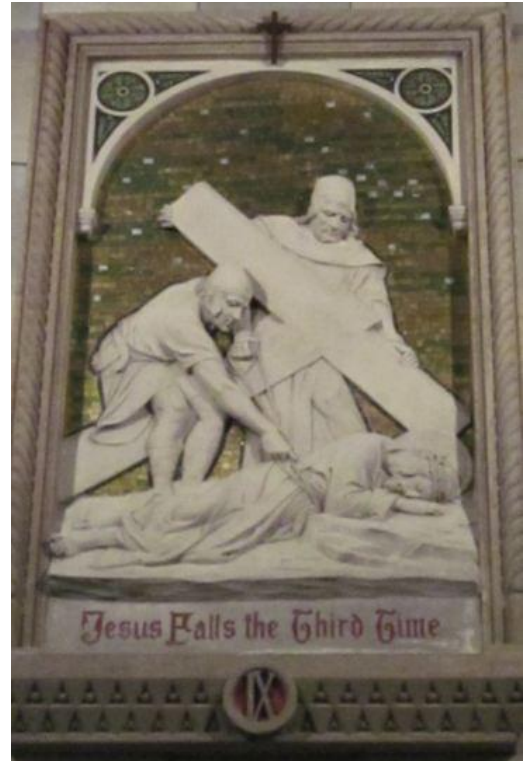
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how Jesus was violently stripped of His clothes by His executioners. The inner garments adhered to his lacerated flesh and the soldiers tore them off so roughly that the skin came with them. Have pity for your Savior so cruelly treated.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, grant that all those being called to the priesthood and consecrated life will clothe themselves with sincere compassion, humility, kindness, gentleness and patience, forgiveness and thankfulness...and over all these virtues, let them put on love. May they understand that their vocation discernment is their deepest response to Your love.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

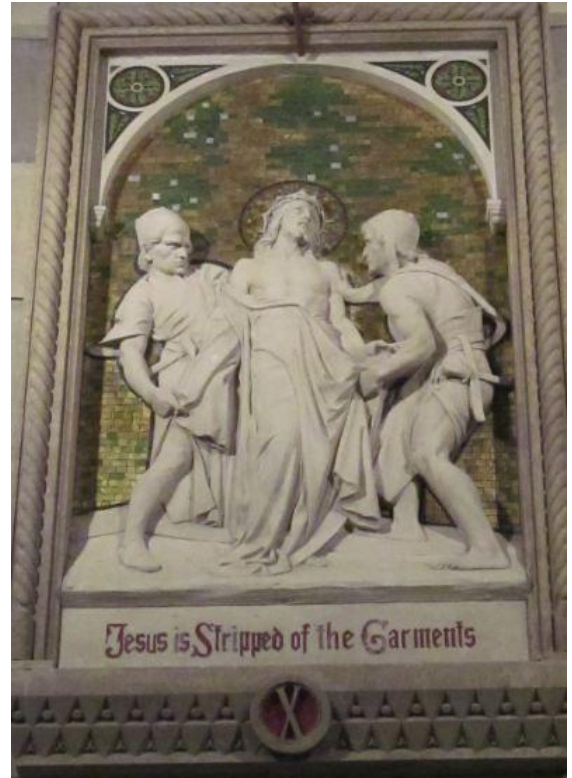
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

Holy Mother, pierce me through
in my heart each wound renew
of my Savior crucified.



LEADER: **THE ELEVENTH STATION:
JESUS IS NAILED ON THE
CROSS.** We adore You, O Christ,
and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You
have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider Jesus, thrown down upon the
cross, He stretched out His arms and
offered to His eternal Father the
sacrifice of His life for our salvation.
They nailed His hands and feet, and
then, raising the cross, left Him to die
in anguish.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, instill in youth today a deep
desire to make a difference in the
world no matter what the cost. Let the courageous example of modern
martyrs inspire them to meet all challenges with faith, hope and love. Fill
them with Your presence and the grace to respond to the call to “go out to
all the world.”

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom
come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but
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LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among
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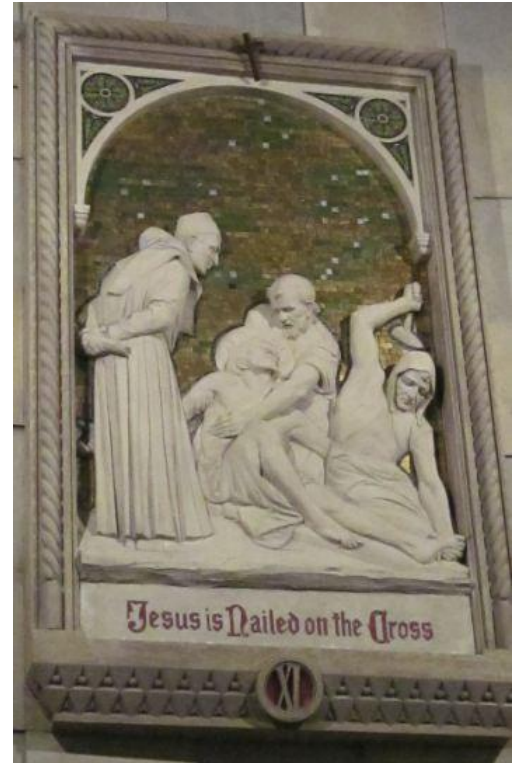
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our death. Amen.

LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE TWELFTH STATION:
JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS.** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how Jesus, after three hours of agony on the cross, is finally overwhelmed with suffering and, abandoning Himself to the weight of His body, bows His head and dies.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, give to all who are considering their vocation a deep love of the Eucharist, the Most Holy Sacrament of Your passion, death and resurrection. Let them find in the Mass a daily renewal of Your invitation to live their lives through You, with You, and in You, giving glory and honor to God our Father.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

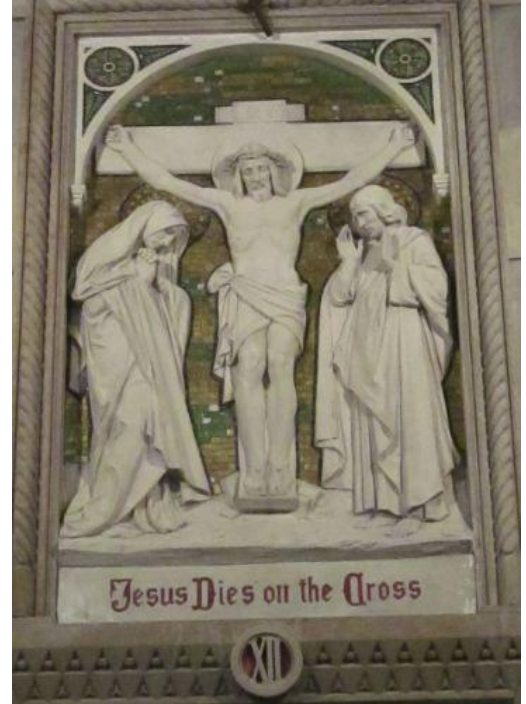
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LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE THIRTEENTH STATION:
JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM
THE CROSS.** We adore You, O
Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have
redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how, after Our Lord had died,
He was taken down from the cross by
two of His disciples, Joseph and
Nicodemus, and placed in the arms of
His afflicted Mother. She received Him
with unutterable tenderness and pressed
Him close to her bosom.

(Kneel)

ALL: Jesus, touch the minds, hearts and
spirits of those You call to serve the people of God. Fill them with the
assurance of our Blessed Mother's love and care for them, especially as
they grow to embrace their vocations. Enable them to respond to Your
call to bring Your redeeming presence to a world grieving, fearful and
hungry for Your Truth through prayer and service.

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom
come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but
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LEADER: Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among
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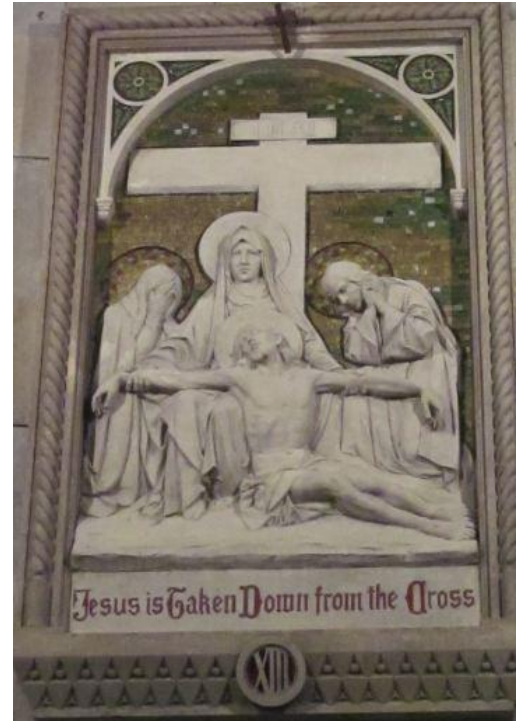
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our death. Amen.

LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



LEADER: **THE FOURTEENTH STATION:
JESUS IS PLACED IN THE
SEPULCHER.** We adore You, O
Christ, and we praise You.

(Genuflect)

ALL: Because, by Your holy cross, You have
redeemed the world.

(Rise)

LEADER: Consider how the disciples carried the
body of Jesus to its burial, while His
holy Mother went with them and
arranged it in the sepulcher with her
own hands. They then closed the tomb
and all departed.

(Kneel)

ALL: We thank you, Jesus, for the infinite power of Your death and resurrection
which brought salvation and healing to the world. We thank You for all
whom You have called to follow You in the past 2000 years, men and
women formally dedicating their lives to the building up of Your Church.
We pray for all seminarians and novices in formation. Let all young men
and women today reflect on the lives of the saints, and let them come to
meet and know priests, religious, and lay ministers in our times who
continue to respond to Christ's call, "Come, follow me."

LEADER: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom
come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but
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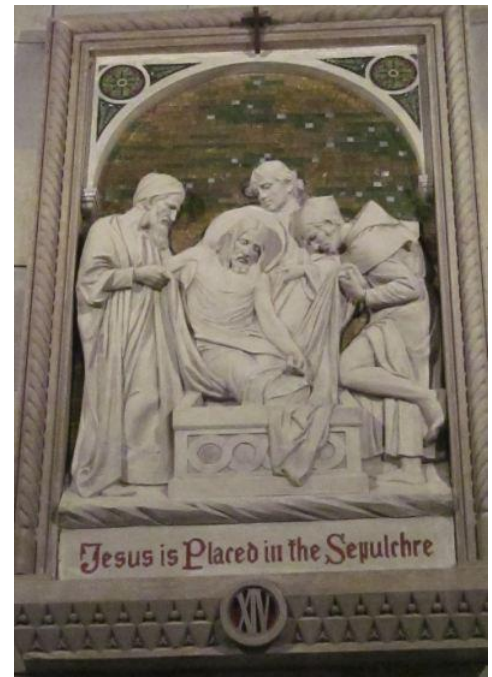
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our death. Amen.

LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

(Sing...)

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



(Join with the LEADER in making the sign of the Cross on yourself by using the finger tips of your right hand to touch your forehead as the LEADER says...)

LEADER: In the name of the Father,

(Touch the middle of your chest as the LEADER says...)

and of the Son,

(Touch your left shoulder as the LEADER says...)

and of the Holy

(Touch your right shoulder as the LEADER says...)

Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

(These stations were adapted from: <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/discerning-men/upload/Stations-of-the-Cross-for-Vocations.pdf>)

ⁱThe “Stabat mater dolorosa” is a sorrowful hymn that takes its name from the first three Latin words of the song. Roughly translated it means “the sorrowful mother stood”. The words of this hymn meditates on the suffering of Mary, Jesus Christ’s mother, during his crucifixion as she stood at the foot of His Cross.