

## Stations of the Cross

### Jesus Walk of Love

#### First Station Jesus is Condemned to Death

Narrator: We begin now the Walk of love which Jesus took for us many years ago. Let us stop for a moment and thank him quietly to ourselves. (after some silence) Now we begin.

Pilate: Why do you bring this man to me? I can find no fault in him!

Jewish Priest: He is a shame to us! He is an enemy of Rome! and he claims to be the Christ the Son of God!

Pilate:

*Jesus*, do you hear these charges? Do you have nothing to say for yourself?

Narrator: But Jesus said nothing to protect Himself.

Pilate: I can find no fault in Him. What would you have me do?

All: Crucify Him! Crucify Him!

Narrator: The journey now begins. Jesus is condemned to die.

Have you ever felt blamed for something you did not do? Have you ever blamed someone for something so you would not get into trouble?

All: Lord Jesus. help us to accept hard things as you did. Keep us always aware of others' feelings! too so that we will never place blame. Help us to forgive.

#### Second Station Jesus Accepts His Cross

Narrator: Jesus. Willingly accepts the burden placed on his shoulders. He begins to carry the heavy load to the place where he will die for us. (pause}

May we always be willing to carry the burdens of others as Jesus did. There are many ways in which we are asked to help make the lives of others more enjoyable. Do we do these things willingly? Even if it is a little hard?

All: We do love you. Lord. We want to follow your example. With you as our model we will accept the burdens of others in order to help them.

#### Third Station :Jesus Falls

Narrator: As Jesus fell the first time let us all now get on our knees. (pause)

Often we are discouraged by our failures. Let us remember that no matter how badly we may fail! there is one who loves us still and walked this journey of love to prove this to us.

All;Thank you, Jesus, for this journey. As you continued on even after your fall, so must we. Because of your great love for us we know that we can get up and start over, no matter how hard that may seem when we are down.

#### Fourth Station: Jesus meets His Mother

Narrator: Here is Jesus looking into the eyes of his mother, Mary.

As Mary looks sadly at her own Son, there is a strength that passes between them. Mary, as Jesus' mother, must also walk this journey

of love. (pause)

*The love of our parents for us is so very great. Do we take their love without giving in return? Do we demand to have things our way? Just as Mary and Jesus could strengthen each other in such a sad time, we can support our parents with our love. We should give it gladly.*

All: Jesus, please help us learn to recognize how much our parents love us and give to us. We want to show them how much we really care about them.

Fifth Station Simon Takes the Cross

Narrator: After meeting his mother along the way, someone unknown to him was forced to help Jesus since the soldiers were afraid that Jesus was getting too weak to make it all the way. Jesus gratefully accepted the help.

Do our parents and friends ever need help when we are too busy to notice? We should try to make sure that a stranger is never needed to help someone we love. Also, we can learn from Jesus to accept even though we are often trying to be "strong" or capable

All: Whatsoever you do for the least of My brethren, that you do unto Me."

Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the Face of Jesus

Narrator: At last, after suffering with burning eyes, sweat, and blood, Jesus is offered a cloth to wipe his face. Once he was healing and helping all those in need. Now he appears helpless and gladly accepts the aid offered.

May we, like Veronica, never be afraid to step out and do what is right. We can spread the love and goodness that Jesus taught. Then we will be able to join Jesus on the journey of love with peace and courage.

All: Jesus, give us the courage to walk up to those in need and to offer them the help they need. We need to learn how to act more often instead of sitting and letting someone else do all the work

Seventh Station- Jesus falls Again

Narrator: Jesus falls a second time. The weight is heavier this time and it is harder to get up. Jesus is forced up and pushed onward. He continues this Journey of love to show us that we always can be assured of a friend.

Have you every noticed that some people always seem to be happy and popular while others never seem to have any friends? Maybe you could offer to make that person's Journey a little easier by saying: "*Hello, would you like to walk to school with me?*"

Hi! we're going over to play some ball. Do you want to come?

*You really read that story well in class today.*

Ask your mom if you can come over to my house after school.

There are lots of ways to make a person feel more welcome. Let's promise ourselves to make room for a new friend in our lives.

All: Lord Jesus, I hope that I will never try to make others feel badly by making fun of them or excluding them from games. The heaviness they feel when hurt by others can be lightened if I would just open up to them. Please help me take the first steps to making a new friend.

Eighth Station: Jesus meets the women

Narrator: Jesus is hurting, straining under the cross. Some women and children are following him and standing by the roadside, crying for him. He stops and speaks to them, to comfort them. Even in his great pain, he can sense the troubles of others and give of himself to them.

All: May we learn from you, Jesus, and be ready to think Of others no matter how things may be going for us. Help us to overcome the feelings of sorrow for ourselves and to turn to others.

Ninth Station: Jesus Falls the Third & Last Time

Narrator: Think of Jesus as he tries so hard to walk this road. His body is aching, and he feels alone and sad. Once again he falls. He must be feeling as though it is no use. Yet he finds the strength to get up and keep going. Somehow, even with all the pain he is feeling, he can accept the will of the Father and complete the journey of love.

Have we ever wanted to give up? Have we ever felt that an assignment is too hard or that our parents are asking too much of us? Can we learn from Jesus?

Quiet prayer asking for help to do some particular task that is specially difficult.

Tenth Station Jesus is Stripped of His Clothes

Narrator: Jesus comes to the place where the soldiers will crucify him. The soldiers tear off his clothes. Jesus is about to give up everything, even his life!

Am I ever willing to give up something, even something small for someone else? Do I ever feel jealous of someone because I feel that he or she has more than I? Please help me to understand that you are our example. You were willing to give up all things for us.

All: Jesus, I have been given many things. You have blessed me with many talents and have made me special. Let me be willing to strip away all feelings of pride and to understand that what I have has been given to me by you so that I may share with others.

Eleventh Station: \_\_\_\_ Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Narrator: After the Long walk to this place, and the hurt of being stripped, Jesus is nailed to the cross. This is such a total sign of love for us! Can we ever forget that the Son Of God was willing to die for us?

At this time we will pause and think about this.

Twelfth Station: \_\_\_\_ Jesus Dies

Narrator: Jesus hangs there on the Cross with his hands outstretched and open to accept death for us, between two criminals.

Criminal 1: Aren't *you* the Messiah? Save us, then, and yourself!

Criminal 2: \_\_\_\_ have you no fear of God? (turning to Jesus) He is innocent, We are only paying the just price for our misdeeds. Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus: I promise you: this day you shall be with me in paradise.

Narrator: It was about midday and a darkness fell over the whole land. Jesus cried out. . Father! into your hands I commend my spirit.

Soldier: truly, this was an innocent man.

Narrator: And it was finished.

All: God, 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.

Thirteenth Station: \_\_\_\_ Jesus is Removed From the Cross

Narrator: After the soldiers have made sure that Jesus is dead, some of his friends come and take him from the cross. Mary, his mother, *is* waiting to *hold* the dead body of her Son. She has been with him through it all and remains quiet now as she thinks of what he has given.

All: Mary, we want to learn from your faith and trust. Please give us your motherly help.

Fourteenth Station: \_\_\_\_ Jesus is Buried

Narrator: Jesus is taken to the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea who had gone to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Guards are placed around the tomb, and the friends of Jesus leave.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS PRESENTATION

ACOLYTE WITH CANDLE GOES UP CENTER AISLE WITH LEADER

- 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.

INTRODUCTION

SINCE THE TIME OF JESUS~ CHRISTIAN PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS REMEMBERED THE DAY ON WHICH JESUS DIED~ AND THE EVENTS OF THAT GOOD FRIDAY. IN CHURCHES~ CHAPELS AND SOME MONASTERY GARDENS~ PEOPLE PRAY AT CARVINGS OR PICTURES OF THE SAD EVENTS OF JESUS' PASSION AND DEATH.

WE CALL THIS ACT OF REMEMBERING "THE WAY OF THE CROSS", AND WE CALL " THE EVENTS "STATIONS". MOST OF JESUS' LIFE WAS BUSY~ HAPPY AND LIFE GIVING. IN THE "WAY OF THE CROSS" WE LOOK AT THE ONE DAY IN JESUS' LIFE WHEN HE SUFFERED AND DIED.

JESUS SUFFERED AND DIED FOR LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US. HIS WAY OF THE CROSS WAS A WAY OF LOVE.

LEADER: THE FIRST STATION -- JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU~  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD.

NARRATOR: AFTER JESUS WAS BETRAYED BY HIS OWN APOSTLE, JUDAS, HE WAS TAKEN TO PRISON. HERE THEY BEAT HIM, MADE FUN OF HIM AND CROWNED HIM WITH PAINFUL THORNS.

MAY OF HIS ENEMIES WANTED JESUS OUT OF THE WAY - THEY WANTED HIM TO DIE. THEY TOOK HIM TO THE PALACE OF THE GOVERNOR, PONTIUS PILATE, WHO CONDEMNED HIM TO DIE ON A CROSS.

JESUS, WHO WAS INNOCENT~ WOULD DIE FOR LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS, HELP ME TO KEEP ON CARING AND LOVING EVEN WHEN OTHERS REJECT MY LOVE OR WITH ME HARM. TEACH ME FORGIVENESS. AMEN.

LEADER: THE SECOND STATION -- JESUS

WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU

NARRATOR: THE SOLDIERS BROUGHT A LARGE WOODEN CROSS TO JESUS, AND HE TOOK IT UPON HIS SHOULDERS. IT WAS ROUGH AND HEAVY. JESUS

WAS WEAK, TIRED AND HURTING, BUT HE BEGAN TO CARRY THE CROSS TO CALVARY, WHERE HE WOULD DIE.

SOMETIMES THE CROSS IS CALLED THE "WOOD OF SALVATION". ON THE DAY OF HIS DEATH, JESUS CHANGED THE CROSS INTO A SIGN OF HOPE AND SALVATION FOR EACH OF US. THE WORLD'S EVIL AND HATED CAN BE CHANGED BY GOD'S LOVE.

JESUS COULD CHANGE THIS CROSS, WHICH HE CARRIED FOR LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.

CARRIES THE CROSS. PRAISE: YOU, HAVE REDEEMED THE

ALL: DEAR JESUS, HELP ME TO CARRY MY HURTS AND CROSSES. GIVE ME YOUR LOVE AND TEACH ME TO TALK WITH YOU. AMEN.

OUR FATHER HAIL MARY GLORY BE...

LEADER: THE THIRD STATION --JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST,. AND WE PRAISE YOU,  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD.

NARRATOR: JESUS WAS SO WEAK AND TIRED AS HE WALKED THE ROAD TO CALVARY. SOON AFTER HE BEGAN TO CARRY THE CROSS, IT BECAME TOO HEAVY AND TOO PAINFUL FOR HIS FAILING STRENGTH. JESUS FELL TO THE GROUND UNDER THE WEIGHT OF THE CROSS. NO ONE HELPED HIM, AND IT SEEMED HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GET UP.

WITH COURAGE AND PATIENCE, HE GOT UP AND BEGAN TO WALK THE ROAD AGAIN. HE DID THIS FOR LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS, HELP ME WHEN MY WORRIES, FEARS OR SADNESS WEIGH ME DOWN. HELP ME WHEN I AM TOO TIRED TO BEGIN AGAIN. TEACH ME YOUR COURAGE AND PATIENCE. AMEN

OUR FATHER... HAIL MARY... GLORY BE...

LEADER: THE FOURTH STATION...JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU,  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD .

NARRATOR: JESUS' MOTHER, MARY, WAS ALWAYS A FAITHFUL FOLLOWER OF HER SON AND HIS TEACHINGS. SO MANY TIMES SHE WALKED WITH HIM AS HE TOLD OF GOD'S LOVE, CURED THE SICK AND HELPED THOSE WHO WERE IN PAIN. SHE LOVED HIM AND WAS SO PROUD OF HIM.

ON THIS WALK TO CALVARY, MARY WAS STILL THERE WITH LOVE FOR HER SON. JESUS WAS THANKFUL THAT SHE WAS THERE FOR HIM. THE PAIN IN THEIR EYES SPOKE MORE THAN ANY WORDS.

WITHOUT WORDS JESUS KNEW THAT HIS MOTHER LOVED HIM.

HE HAD LEARNED SO MUCH FROM MARY ABOUT THE LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE FOR US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS, PLEASE HELP ME ALWAYS TO STAND BY THE PEOPLE I LOVE AND WHO LOVE ME. HELP ME TO MAKE MY PARENTS PROUD OF ME AND TEACH ME TO LOVE YOUR MOTHER, MARY. AMEN.

OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY..

GLORY BE...

LEADER: THE FIFTH STATION..SIMON HELPS JESUS CARRY THE CROSS  
WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU,

ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE  
WORLD.

NARRATOR: THE CROSS SEEMED TO GET HEAVIER WITH EVERY STEP  
JESUS TOOK. THE SOLDIERS NOTICED JESUS GETTING WEAKER. HE  
WAS STAGGERING AND ABOUT TO FALL UNDER THE LOAD ON HIS  
SHOULDERS.

THE SOLDIERS PULLED A MAN FROM THE CROWD ALONG THE ROADSIDE.  
THEY FORCED HIM TO HELP JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS. THIS STRANGER,  
WHOSE NAME WAS SIMON OF CYRENE, WAS NOT ONE OF JESUS'  
FOLLOWERS. PERHAPS HE WAS TOO FRIGHTENED TO REFUSE TO HELP.  
SIMON DID HELP JESUS TO CARRY THE CROSS. MAYBE HIS LIFE WAS  
CHANGED FOREVER BECAUSE HE HELPED ONE WHO WAS WEAKER THAN HE.  
THIS IS WHAT IS MEANT BY LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF ALL OTHERS.

ALL: DEAR JESUS, HELP ME TO SEE THOSE WHO NEED MY HELP. HELP ME TO  
ALWAYS LEND A HAND WHEN ASKED OR NEEDED. TEACH ME TO LOVE ALL  
OTHER PEOPLE. AMEND

OUR FATHER... HA I L MARY... GLORY BE...

LEADER: THE SIXTH STATION -- VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS  
WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU,

ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE  
WORLD.

NARRATOR: CROWDS HAD GATHERED ALL ALONG THE ROADSIDE OF THE  
WAY TO CALVARY -- THE WAY OF THE CROSS. MANY OF THE PEOPLE WERE  
THERE TO SEE JESUS DIE. THERE WERE OTHERS, THOUGH, WHOSE HEARTS  
BROKE AS THEY SAW JESUS' CRUEL SUFFERING.

A WOMAN NAMED VERONICA STEPPED OUT FROM THE CROWD INTO THE  
ROADWAY. AS JESUS HELD HIS CROSS, VERONICA HELD OUT A CLOTH --  
PERHAPS HER OWN VEIL -- AND WIPED THE BLOOD AND

SWEAT FROM THE FACE OF JESUS. HER SIMPLE KINDNESS WAS ONE OF THE  
MOST LOVING THINGS THAT HAPPENED TO JESUS ON THAT WAY. IT HELPED  
HIM TO CONTINUE THAT DAY DURING WHICH HE SHOWED HIS LOVE OF GOD  
AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS~ HELP ME TO DO THE SIMPLEST ACTS OF KINDNESS FOR LOVE OF YOU. TEACH ME THE POWER OF A HUG OR A LOVING WORD OF SUPPORT. AMEN.

OUR FATHER... HAIL MARY...

GLORY BE..

LEADER: THE SEVENTH STATION -- JESUS FALLS TA SECOND TIME  
WE ADORE YOU~ OH CHRIST~ AND WE PRAISE YOU

ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD

NARRATOR: THE WALK TO THE CALVARY HILL WAS ONLY HALF OVER AND THERE STILL WAS A LONG DISTANCE TO GO. IT SEEMED THAT AGAIN JESUS WAS MADE TO CARRY HIS CROSS ALONE. IT HAD BECOME HARDER AND HARDER FOR HIM TO STAND UP.

JESUS WAS OUT OF BREATH AND HAD NO STRENGTH LEFT. HE STUMBLED~ STAGGERED AND FELL AGAIN.

THE WEIGHT OF THE HEAVY CROSS ALMOST CRUSHED HIM TO THE GROUND. HOW COULD THIS EVER BE THE "WOOD OF SALVATION"? YET JESUS AGAIN STOOD UP, LIFTED HIS CROSS AND BEGAN TO WALK FORWARD. HE WAS ABLE TO DO THIS BECAUSE OF HIS STRONG LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS, HELP ME TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE ALWAYS WITH ME TO LIFT ME TO YOURSELF AND CARRY ME THROUGH THE DIFFICULT TIMES. TEACH ME TO GIVE A HAND TO OTHERS WHO SEEM WEIGHTED DOWN. AMEN  
OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE..

LEADER: THE EIGHTH STATION -- JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN

WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YDU,

ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD.

NARRATOR: THERE WERE STILL OTHERS WHOSE HEARTS BROKE WHEN THEY SAW JESUS IN SUCH PAIN. THIS GROUP OF WOMEN WITH THEIR CHILDREN WERE CRYING BECAUSE SO MANY HAD TREATED JESUS SO CRUELLY.

PERHAPS AT THAT MOMENT THE WOMEN REMEMBERED HOW JESUS USED TO LIFT THEIR CHILDREN AND HOLD THEM CLOSE TO HIS HEART. NOW THEY WISHED THEY COULD HOLD THE SUFFERING JESUS IN THEIR ARMS.

JESUS TOLD THEM TO WEEP FOR THEMSELVES AND FOR THEIR CHILDREN -- FOR THE CRUELTY OF THE WORLD WOULD TOUCH THEM JUST AS IT HAD TOUCHED HIM. HIS EYES WERE FILLED WITH HIS LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.

ALL~ DEAR JESUS~ HELP ME TO REMEMBER THAT I AM YOURS AND THAT YOU HOLD ME TO YOUR HEART AT ALL TIMES. TEACH ME TO NEVER BE CRUEL OR UNLOVING. AMEN

OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE..



LEADER: THE NINTH STATION .. JESUS FALLS A THIRD TIME

WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU,  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE  
WORLD.

NARRATOR: THE CROWDS CONTINUED TO WATCH JESUS STRUGGLE TO  
CARRY THE CROSS UPON WHICH HE WOULD DIE. MANY MOCKED HIM WHILE  
OTHERS WERE FILLED WITH SADNESS. JESUS' FOLLOWERS WERE  
FRIGHTENED. SOME OF THEM WENT INTO HIDING.

JESUS CAME TO THE CALVARY HILL AND TRIED TO CLIMB IT. HE HAD LOST  
MUCH STRENGTH; HE WAS BLEEDING AND SO EXHAUSTED. UNDER THE  
HEAVY WEIGHT OF THE CROSS, JESUS FALLS AS IF HE WAS DEFEATED.  
AGAIN HE STRUGGLES TO STAND UP. HE WILL NOT BE DEFEATED BECAUSE  
JESUS HAS CHOSEN TO LIVE THIS WAY OF THE CROSS OUT OF LOVE OF GOD  
AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS~ HELP ME TO KEEP TRYING WHEN I AM FEELING DEFEATED.  
HELP ME TO KEEP MY EYES ON YOU AND TEACH ME THAT YOU ARE MY  
STRENGTH. AMEN.

OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE..

LEADER: THE TENTH STATION -- JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS CLOTHES

WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU,  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE  
WORLD.

NARRATOR: HAVING BEEN ABLE TO STAND AGAIN AND LIFT HIS CROSS JESUS  
TOOK THOSE FINAL STEPS TO THE TOP OF THE CALVARY HILL. THE SOLDIERS  
WHO HAD GUARDED HIS WAY OF THE CROSS LET JESUS DROP THE CROSS  
TO THE GROUND.

AS JESUS STOOD IN FRONT OF THE CROWDS, HE WAS AGAIN MOCKED AND  
HUMILIATED. THE SOLDIERS PULLED OFF HIS CLOTHES LEAVING HIM  
EMBARRASSED AND WITHOUT HIS DIGNITY. HE WAS TREATED AS A COMMON  
CRIMINAL. HIS ENEMIES SAW HIM AS A WORTHLESS HUMAN BEING. HIS  
FOLLOWERS SAW HIM AS THE HUMAN BEING WHO LIVED THE LOVE OF GOD  
AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS, HELP ME TO TREAT EVERY PERSON WITH DIGNITY AND  
RESPECT. HELP ME TO CLOTHE THEM WITH LOVE AND TEACH ME  
REVERENCE FOR ALL LIFE. AMEN

OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE..

LEADER: THE ELEVENTH STATION -- JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS.

WE ADORE YOU OH CHRIST AND WE PRAISE YOU

ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE  
WORLD.

NARRATOR: IN THE TIME OF JESUS, MANY CRIMINALS DIED ON A  
CROSS. THEY WERE FORCED TO DIE TIED TO A CROSS FOR ALL TO

SEE. JESUS WAS NOT TIED. BUT HIS HANDS AND FEET WERE  
NAILED TO THE WOOD BEFORE HIS CROSS WAS LIFTED FOR ALL TO SEE.  
EVERYONE SAW NOW THAT THIS "PREACHER," AND "PROPHET"  
COULD NOT ESCAPE.

JESUS, WHO HAD RELEASED PEOPLE FROM THE PRISONS OF  
BLINDNESS, SIN~ SICKNESS AND DEATH~ WAS NOW UNABLE TO GET  
FREE. HOW COULD JESUS BEAR THIS PAIN AND SUFFERING? IT  
COULD ONLY BE HIS GREAT LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS~ HELP ME ALWAYS TO BE A PERSON WHO FREES  
AND HELPS OTHERS WHO ARE TRAPPED IN PAIN AND LONELINESS. TEACH ME  
TO REALIZE THAT YOU HAVE WON OUR FREEDOM. AMEN.  
OUR FATHER HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE..

LEADER: THE TWELFTH STATION -- JESUS DIES UPON THE CROSS  
WE ADORE YOU OH CHRIST AND WE PRAISE YOU

ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD

NARRATOR: COULD THIS HAVE BEEN THE "WOOD OF SALVATION?"  
COULD THIS CROSS BE OUR HOPE AND SALVATION?

JESUS CALLED OUT TO GOD, FOR HE WAS FRIGHTENED, FEELING  
ABANDONED AND ABOUT TO DIE. HE WAS FULL OF PAIN. MORE  
IMPORTANT THAN HIS PAIN WAS HIS LOVE OF GOD AND HIS CARE FOR HIS  
MOTHER AND FOR THE PEOPLE AROUND HIM. HE ASKED THEM TO  
CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH DRAINED AND HIS FEAR RELIEVED~ HE GAVE HIS  
SPIRIT OVER TO GOD AND DIED UPON THE CROSS. TO THE  
END~ HE SPOKE OF HIS LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.

ALL: DEAR JESUS~ HELP ME TO SEE DEATH AS ANOTHER STEP IN THE LIFE  
YOU GIVE US. TEACH ME HOW TO LIVE AND HOW TO DIE. AMEN.

OUR FATHER~.. HAIL- MARY..

GLORY BE..

LEADER:: THE THIRTEENTH STATION --JESUS IS PLACED IN MARY'S ARMS  
WE ADORE YOU, OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU

ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE  
WORLD.

NARRATOR: WHEN HER CHILD JESUS WAS STILL A BABY, MARY WAS TOLD  
THAT HE WOULD BE REJECTED BY MANY AND THAT HER HEART WOULD BE  
BROKEN.

WHEN HER CHILD~ JESUS. DIED ON THE CROSS~ SOME FRIENDS GENTLY  
TOOK HIS BODY DOWN FROM THAT CROSS AND PLACED IT IN MARY'S ARMS.  
MARY HAD HELD JESUS LIKE THIS WHEN HE WAS A BABY. NOW HIS BODY HAD  
NO LIFE LEFT IN IT.

MARY'S HEART BROKE WITH SUCH SADNESS, EMPTINESS AND GRIEF. SHE  
REMEMBERED HER HAPPY DAYS WITH HER SON. SHE REMEMBERED HER  
PRIDE AND SHE REMEMBERED THE PROPHECY. JESUS

HAD BEEN REJECTED FOR HIS LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US.  
ALL: DEAR JESUS~ HELP ME TO COMFORT THOSE WHO LOSE SOMEONE  
THEY LOVE.~ TEACH ME YOUR COMPASSION. AMEN.  
OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE..

LEADER: THE FOURTEENTH STATION -- JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB  
WE ADORE YOU OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD  
NARRATOR: WHEN HE WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM, THE LIVELY NEW BABY  
JESUS RESTED IN A BORROWED MANGER. HIS MOTHER CARED FOR HIM WITH  
LOVE~ JOY AND TENDERNESS.  
WHEN HE DIED ON CALVARY'S HILL, THERE WAS NO PLACE TO REST HIS  
BODY. FRIENDS PLACED HIS LIFELESS BODY IN A BORROWED TOMB. THIS  
WAS THE FINAL STOPPING PLACE OF JESUS' WAY OF THE CROSS.  
WITH LOVE, BROKEN HEARTS. AND GREAT TENDERNESS~ HIS MOTHER AND  
HIS FRIENDS CARED FOR HIM. THEY WASHED HIS BODY~ ANOINTED IT WITH  
PERFUMES AND COVERED IT.  
ALL: DEAR JESUS. HELP ME NOW TO BRING YOUR LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE  
OF ALL PEOPLE EVERYWHERE. TEACH ME TO WALK WITH YOU IN LIFE. AMEN.  
OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE...

LEADER: THE FIFTEENTH STATION- THE RESURRECTION  
WE ADORE YOU OH CHRIST, AND WE PRAISE YOU  
ALL: BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE  
WORLD  
NARRATOR: JESUS' WAY OF THE CROSS DID NOT END IN SADNESS  
BUT IN JOY. ON EASTER SUNDAY, HE ROSE FROM THE TOMB GLORIOUSLY  
ALIVE.

FOR LOVE OF GOD AND LOVE OF US THE CROSS BECAME THE  
"WOOD OF SALVATION".  
ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK~ AT THE FIRST SIGN OF DAWN~ THEY WENT  
TO THE TOMB WITH THE SPICES THEY HAD PREPARED. THEY FOUND THAT  
THE STONE HAD BEEN ROLLED AWAY

FROM THE TOMB, BUT ON ENTERING THEY DISCOVERED THAT THE BODY OF  
THE LORD JESUS WAS NOT THERE. AS THEY STOOD THERE NO KNOWING  
WHAT TO THINK~ TWO MEN IN BRILLIANT CLOTHES SUDDENLY APPEARED AT  
THEIR SIDE. TERRIFIED, THE WOMEN LOWERED THEIR EYES. BUT THE TWO  
MEN SAID TO THEM, "WHY LOOK AMONG THE DEAD FOR SOMEONE WHO IS  
ALIVE? HE IS NOT HERE; HE HAS RISEN. REMEMBER WHAT HE TOLD YOU  
WHEN HE WAS STILL IN GALILEE; THAT THE SON OF MAN HAD TO BE HANDED  
OVER INTO THE POWER OF SINFUL MEN AND BE CRUCIFIED, AND RISE AGAIN  
ON THE THIRD DAY?" AND THEY REMEMBER HIS WORDS. LUKE 24, 1-B.

ALL: LORD JESUS, HELP ME TO WALK WITH YOU EACH DAY OF MY LIFE, EVEN  
TO CALVARY. THE SORROW AND JOY, THE PAIN AND  
HEALINGS THE FAILURES AND TRIUMPHS OF MY LIFE ARE TRULY SMALL  
DEATHS AND RESURRECTIONS THAT LEAD ME TO CLOSENESS WITH YOU.  
GIVE ME THE FAITH AND TRUST I NEED TO WALK WITH YOU ALWAYS. AMEN  
OUR FATHER.. HAIL MARY.. GLORY BE..