



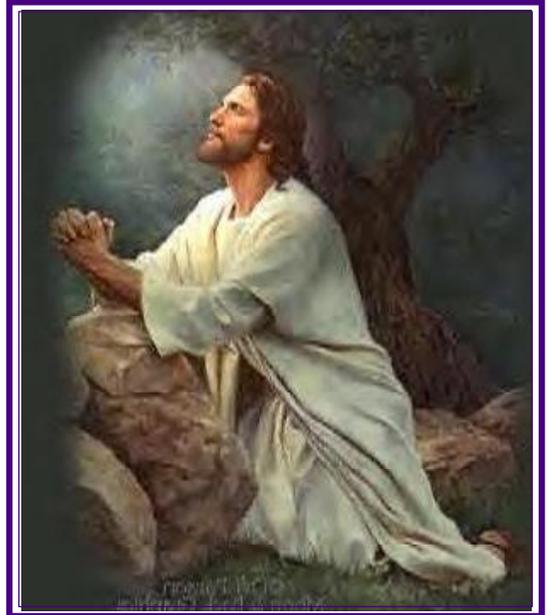
ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
Thunder Bay



Our Cathedral Way of the Cross
Our Model for Christian Living

Opening Scripture Reading

Jesus went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.' Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done'. While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?"



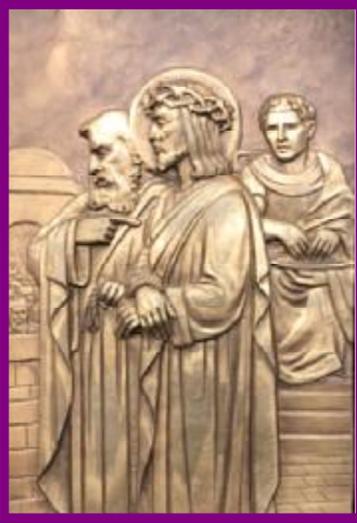
When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

Then they seized Him and led him away. *(Luke 22)*

Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus, as we take up our cross and accompany You to Calvary, help us to turn from our sinful ways and to ask for Your forgiveness. May Your Cross be our bridge to eternal life. Amen.



I Jesus is Condemned to Death

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Fearful of losing his position of authority, Pontius Pilate condemned Jesus to death but he refused to take personal responsibility for this action by washing his hands.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times that we blamed others for our sinful actions and were afraid to take responsibility for our own personal mistakes. Take away

our pride and grant us a spirit of humility. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

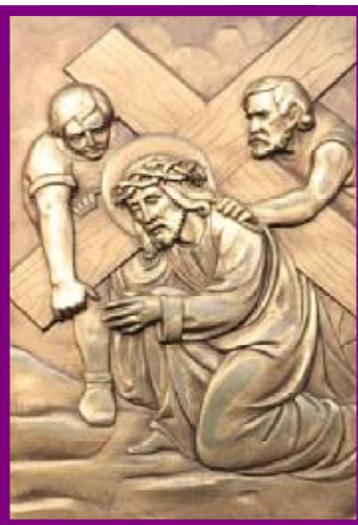
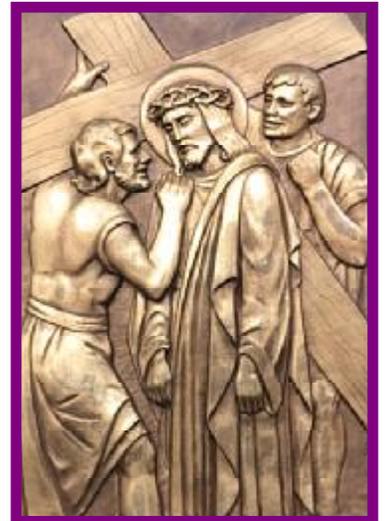
II Jesus Accepts His Cross

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Jesus willingly accepted the burden of His cross despite its size and weight. This terrible instrument of suffering and death was destined to become the source of hope, forgiveness and new life.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we failed to embrace the crosses in our own lives and refused to put our hope and trust in You. Grant us a spirit of inward joy as we accept our own crosses each day. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



III Jesus Falls the First Time

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Tired and weakened, Jesus fell under the weight of the cross and looked to the indifferent bystanders to help Him on His way.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we were deaf and indifferent to the voices of those around us who needed our help. Help us always to hear the

cries of those who are most in need. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



IV Jesus meets His Blessed Mother

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Despite the taunts and derision of the crowds, Mary came to the aid of her Son and nurtured Him with the life-giving love and affection which only a parent can give.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we neglected our family members and failed to love and nurture them.

Help us to love our family members and all who love us and always to care for each other. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

V Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry His Cross

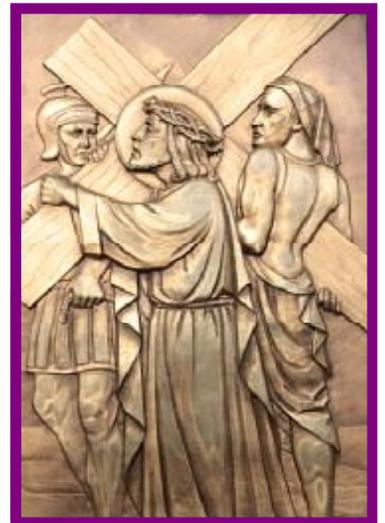
We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Not knowing Him and unaware of His plight, Simon of Cyrene is compelled to help Jesus carry His cross. This chance meeting changed Simon's life forever.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we reluctantly came to the aid of those who needed our friendship and support. May we find You, Lord, in our generous service to others.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



VI Veronica wipes the Face of Jesus

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Risking the ridicule of the crowd and endangering her own personal safety Veronica reached out to Jesus in His hour of pain and comforted and consoled Him in His suffering.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for having failed to help those in need for fear of being misunderstood and ridiculed by others. Take away our fear and help us to be

courageous leaders in our Community. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



VII Jesus falls the Second Time

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

As Jesus struggled to continue His journey to Calvary, the cross became overwhelmingly heavy and He fell a second time under its weight.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times when we became so overwhelmed by our own problems, that we gave way to self-pity and despair. Lighten our

burdens and help us to overcome them. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

VIII Jesus meets the Grieving Women of Jerusalem

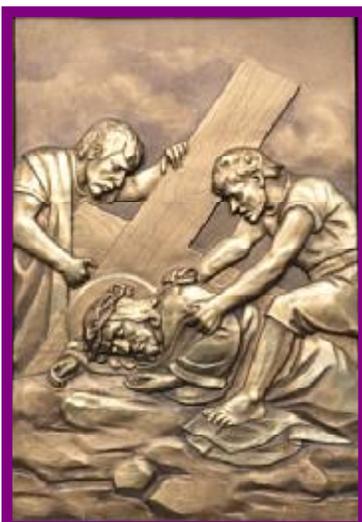
We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Feeling helpless and overcome with grief, the women of Jerusalem were moved to tears in sympathy for the suffering Christ.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we grieved for the oppressed, the innocent and the poor in our community but failed to help them. Open our hearts

to assist others in their plight. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



IX Jesus falls the Third Time

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

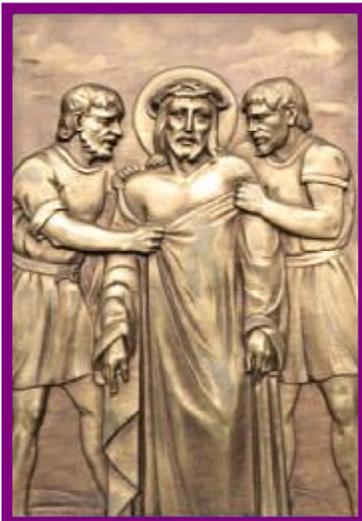
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

The third and final fall of Jesus was the most painful and discouraging of all. Instead of helping Him, the soldiers taunted and punished Jesus even more.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we added to the discouragement and to the sufferings of others by our deliberate sins against love. Grant us the

compassion to encourage and support the discouraged as best we can.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



X Jesus is stripped of His Garments

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Jesus' human dignity was diminished by the soldiers when they stripped off His garments to shame Him before the crowds.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we failed to respect the dignity of all human beings created in God's Image. Give us eyes to recognize You in our

sisters and brothers whose dignity has been diminished and motivate us to come to their aid. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

XI Jesus is nailed to the Cross

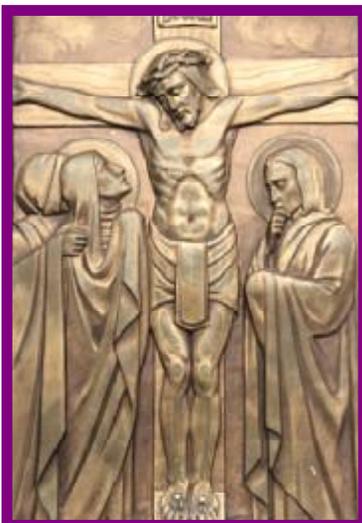
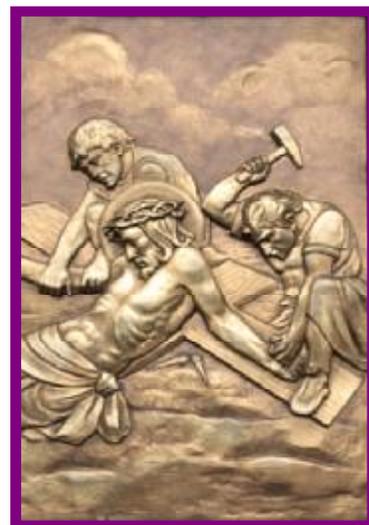
We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

With cold indifference the Roman soldiers drove nails through the hands and feet of Jesus, binding Him like a criminal to this instrument of punishment and death.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times when we caused pain and suffering to people by our unkind words and actions. Strengthen our resolve to respect

others as we would have them respect us. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



XII Jesus dies on the Cross

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

Jesus absolved without condition the unrepentant crowds who jeered at Him, when He said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do".

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for our resentments and grudges, towards those who may have hurt us and grant us a merciful and forgiving heart like Your own.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



XI Jesus is taken down from the Cross

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

After Jesus was taken down from the cross, His mother, Mary, embraced His lifeless body and grieved the death of her innocent Son.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we failed to grieve the loss of so many innocent lives in our world. Forgive all these sins of omission and help us

to put our Faith into action each day.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

XI Jesus is laid in the Sepulchre

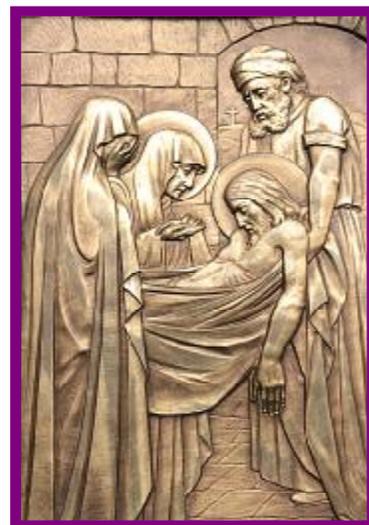
We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You!

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

One of Jesus' followers, Joseph of Arimathaea offered his own tomb to Jesus as a final and self-giving gift to his friend.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times we failed to be grateful and to appreciate our God-given gifts and talents. May we show our gratitude by using

them to serve our sisters and brothers. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...



Closing Scripture Reading

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.

It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with Him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how His body was laid. Then they returned, to prepare spices and ointments to anoint Him. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment. *(Luke 23)*



Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, inspire and guide us as we take up our crosses and walk with you each day. May the sorrows and joys, the sufferings and healings, the failures and triumphs of our lives be small deaths and resurrections that ultimately lead us to You.

Mary, Mother of the Lord, strengthen our Faith and lead us to be with Your Son forever. Amen.

The Apostolic Blessing

May the name of the Lord be praised.

Both now and forever.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

**May God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit bless us,
and always keep us in His gentle care. Amen.**