



*Mary's Way of the Cross  
&  
Friday Lenten Mass*

***ALL STAND WHEN BELL RINGS:***

**HYMN**

1. O sacred head, surrounded by crown of piercing thorn!  
O bleeding head, now wounded, reviled and put to scorn!  
Our sins have marred the glory of your most holy face,  
Yes angel hosts adore you, and tremble as they gaze.

***ALL KNEEL:***

***Preparatory Prayer***

**PRESIDER AND PEOPLE:** My Lord, Jesus Christ, You have made this journey to die for me with unspeakable love; and I have so many times ungratefully abandoned You. But now I love You with all my heart: and, because I love You, I am sincerely sorry for ever having offended You. Pardon me, my God, and permit me to accompany You on this journey. You go to die for love of me; I want, my beloved Redeemer, to do for love of you. My Jesus, I will live and die always united to You.

***ALL STAND:***

**HYMN**

2. The Lord of ev'ry nation was hung upon a tree;  
His death was our salvation, our sins, his agony.  
O Jesus, by your Passion, your life in us increase;  
Your death for us did fashion our pardon and our peace.



*The First Station*  
*Pilate condemns Jesus to die*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

It was early Friday morning when I saw my son.  
That was the first glimpse I had of him since they took him  
away. His bruised and bleeding skin sent a sword of pain  
deep into my heart and tears down my cheeks.  
Then Pilate, from his chair of judgement, asked the crowd  
why they wanted my son executed. All around me they  
shouted,  
“Crucify Him!”  
I wanted to plead with them to stop,  
but I knew this had to be.  
So I stood by and cried silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord Jesus,  
it is hard for me to imagine the anguish your mother felt at  
your condemnation. But what about today, when I hold a  
grudge?  
“Crucify Him!”  
When I judge others?  
“Crucify Him!”  
Doesn't this bring tears of anguish to both you and your  
mother? Forgive me, Jesus.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
confident in Heaven's might (X2)



## *The Second Station*

*Jesus accepts His cross*

**PRESIDER:** We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

Regaining a little strength, I walked with the crowds to the entrance of the square. A door flew open and my son stumbled out, the guards laughing behind him. Two men dragged over a heavy wooden cross and dropped it on his shoulders. Then, they shoved him down the road. My pain for him was unbearable. I wanted to take the cross from him and carry it myself. But I knew this had to be, So I walked on silently

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord Jesus,  
I beg you to forgive me for the many times  
I have added more weight to your cross  
by closing my eyes to the pain and loneliness  
of my neighbor.  
Forgive me for gossiping about others  
and for always trying to find excuses  
to avoid certain people who wish to talk with me.  
Help me to be like Mary,  
always seeing to lighten the crosses of others.  
Forgive me, Jesus.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

In the weight of crossbeams wooden  
Jesus feels the heavy burden  
of our frail humanity. (X2)



## *The Third Station*

*Jesus falls the first time*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

I followed close behind my son as he stumbled toward  
Calvary. Nothing had ever hurt me more than to see him  
in such pain. I saw the cross digging into his shoulders.  
My heart dropped when I saw him fall face to the ground,  
the heavy cross landing squarely on his back.  
For a moment I thought my beloved son was dead.  
Now, my whole body began to tremble.  
Then the guards kicked him. He rose slowly and began to  
walk again, yet they still whipped him.  
I wanted to protect him with my own body.  
But, I knew this had to be,  
so I walked on and wept silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord, how often have I seen you fall,  
and, unlike Mary, have left you there without concern?  
How often have I seen people make mistakes  
and laughed at them? How often do I find myself getting  
angry when someone does things differently than I?  
Mary offered you her support through your entire passion.  
Help me to do the same for you  
by the support I give to others.  
Lord, have mercy on me.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Stumbling under weight so crushing  
Jeering crowds upon Him rushing  
Jesus falls, returns to dust. (X2)





## *The Fourth Station*

*Jesus meets His afflicted Mother*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

I had managed to break through the crowd  
and was walking side by side with my son.  
I called to him through the shouting voices.  
He stopped.  
Our eyes met.  
Mine full of tears and anguish, his full of pain and  
confusion. I felt helpless; then his eyes said to me,  
“Courage! There is a purpose for this.”  
As he stumbled on, I knew he was right.  
So I followed and prayed silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord Jesus,  
Forgive me the many times our eyes have met  
and I turned mine away.  
Forgive me the times things did not go my way  
and I let everyone know about it.  
Forgive me the times I brooded over little inconveniences  
or became discouraged  
and did not heed your call to courage!  
Yes, Lord, our eyes have met many times, but fruitlessly.

## HYMNS

Którys za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

She who knows her heart in sorrow  
will be pierced, here bravely follows  
in her Son's distress and pain. (X2)



## *The Fifth Station*

*Simon helps Jesus carry the cross*

**PRESIDER:** We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

I could now see the almost complete helplessness on the face of my son as he tried to carry his heavy load.  
Each step looked as if it would be his last.  
I felt his every pain in my heart and I wanted the whole thing to end. Then I noticed some commotion near Jesus.  
The guards had pulled a protesting man from the crowd.  
They forced him to pick up the back of the cross to help lighten my son's load.  
He asked the guards why this had to be.  
I knew,  
and so I followed silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord Jesus,  
I have many times refused to help you.  
I have been a selfish person  
who has often questioned your word.  
Don't let me remain like Simon,  
but help me to be like your mother, Mary,  
who always silently followed and obeyed.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Simon, one with Jesus bearing  
shows the way of our own sharing  
taking up our daily cross. (X2)



## *The Sixth Station*

*Veronica offers her veil to Jesus*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

As I continued close by Jesus,  
a woman pushed past the guards, took off her veil  
and began to wipe my son's sweating, bloody face.  
The guards immediately pulled her back.  
Her face seemed to say,  
"Why are you doing this to him?"  
I knew,  
So I walked on in faith, silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord,  
This woman gave you the best she could.  
On the other hand, I have wanted to take more than I give.  
So many opportunities arise every day for me to give to  
you by giving to others – but I pass them by.  
My savior, never let me ask why again,  
But help me to give all I have to you.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)



## *The Seventh Station*

*Jesus falls the second time*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

Again my son fell,  
and again my grief was overwhelming  
at the thought that he might die.  
I started to move toward him,  
but the soldiers prevented me.  
He rose and stumbled ahead slowly. Seeing my son fall,  
get up again, and continue on, was bitter anguish to me.  
But, since I knew this had to be,  
I walked on silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord,  
of all people, Mary was your most faithful follower, never  
stopping in spite of all the pain she felt for you.  
I have many times turned away from you by my sins  
and have caused others to turn away from you.  
I beg you to have mercy on me.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)





## *The Eighth Station*

*Jesus speaks to the women*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

I was walking few steps behind Jesus when I saw him stop.  
Some women were there crying for him and pitying him.  
He told them not to shed tears for him. They had the  
opportunity to accept him as the messiah;  
like many others, they rejected him instead.  
He told them to shed tears for themselves,  
tears that would bring their conversion.  
They did not see the connection  
Between that and his walk to death.  
I did,  
and as he walked on, I followed silently.

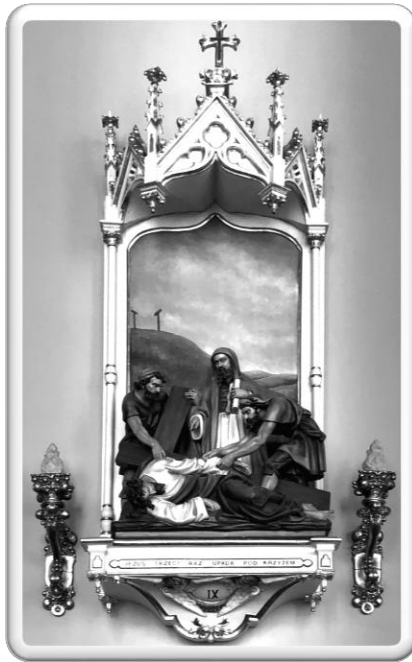
## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

My savior,  
Many times have I acted like these women, always seeing  
the faults of others and pitying them.  
Yet, very rarely have I seen my own sinfulness  
and asked your pardon.  
Lord, you have taught me through these women.  
Forgive me, Lord, for my blindness.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)



## *The Ninth Station*

*Jesus falls the third time*

**PRESIDER:** We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

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

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

This fall of Jesus was agony to me. Not only had he fallen on the rocky ground again, but now he was almost at the top of the hill of crucifixion.

The soldiers screamed at him and abused him, almost draggin him the last few steps.

My heart pounded as I imagined what that would do to him next.

But, I knew this had to be,

So I climbed the hill silently behind him.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

My loving Jesus,

I know that many times I have offered my hand to help people, but when it became inconvenient or painful to me, I left them, making excuses for myself.

Help me, Lord, to be like your mother, Mary, and never take my supporting hand away from those who need it.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)



*The Tenth Station*  
*Jesus is stripped of His garments*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

With my son finally relieved of the weight of the cross,  
I thought he would have a chance to rest.  
But the guards immediately started to rip his clothes  
off his blood-clotted skin. The sight of my son  
in such pain was unbearable.  
Yet, since I knew this had to be,  
I stood by and cried silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord,  
In my own way I too have stripped you.  
I have taken away the good name of another by foolish talk,  
and stripped people of human dignity by my prejudice.  
Jesus,  
There are so many ways I have offended you  
through the hurt I have caused others.  
Help me to see you in all people.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)



## *The Eleventh Station*

*Jesus is nailed to the cross*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

As they threw Jesus on the cross,  
he willingly allowed himself to be nailed.  
As they punctured his hands and his feet  
I felt the pain in my heart. Then they lifted up the cross.  
There he was, my son, whom I love so much, being scorned  
as he struggled for the last few moments of earthly life.  
But I knew this had to be,  
So I stood by and prayed silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord,  
What pain you endured for me, and what pain your mother  
went through. Seeing her only son die for love of me!  
Yet, both you and she are ready to forgive me  
as soon as I repent of my sin.  
Help me, Lord, to turn away from my sinfulness.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)





## *The Twelfth Station*

*Jesus dies upon the cross*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

What greater pain is there for a mother than to see her son die right before her eyes! I, who had brought this savior into the world and watched him grow, stood helplessly beneath his cross as he lowered his head, and died. His earthly anguish was finished, but mine was greater than ever. Yet, this has to be and I had to accept it, So I stood by and I mourned silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

My Jesus,  
Have mercy on me for what my sins have done to you and to others. I thank you for your great act of love. You have said that true love is laying down your life for your friends. Let me always be your friend. Teach me to live my life for others, and not fail you again.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)



## *The Thirteenth Station*

*Jesus is taken down from the cross*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

The crowd had gone; the noise had stopped. I stood quietly with one of Jesus' friends and looked up at the dead body of our savior, my son.

Then two men took the body from the cross and placed it in my arms. A deep sorrow engulfed my being. Yet, I also felt deep joy. Life had ended cruelly for my son, but it had also brought life to all of us.

I knew this had to be,  
and I prayed I silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Lord,  
Your passion had ended.  
Yet, it still goes on whenever I choose sin over you.  
I have done my part in your crucifixion, and now, my savior, I beg your forgiveness with all my heart.  
Help me to live a life worthy of you and your mother.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)



## *The Fourteenth Station*

*Jesus is placed in the sepulcher*

PRESIDER: We adore You, O Christ and we praise You.

***ALL GENUFLECT***

**PEOPLE:** Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

***ALL RISE***

## READER:

We brought Jesus' body to a tomb and I arranged it there  
myself, silently weeping, silently rejoicing.  
I took one my look at my loving son, and then walked out.  
They closed the tomb and before I left, I thought,  
I knew this had to be . . .  
It had to be for you!  
I would wait in faith . . . silently.

## PRESIDER/PEOPLE:

Yes, my Lord,  
This had to be because you love me, and for no other  
reason. All you ask is that I live a good life. You never  
said such a life would be easy. I am willing to leave sin  
behind and live for you alone, in my brothers and sisters.

## HYMNS

Któryś za nas cierpiał rany,  
Jezu Chryste zmiłuj się nad nami.

Meeting Pilate's earthly power  
Jesus lives these final hours  
Confident in Heaven's might (X2)

***ALL KNEEL:***

***Prayer to Jesus Christ Crucified***

**PRESIDER AND PEOPLE:**

My good and dear Jesus, I kneel before you,  
asking you most earnestly to engrave upon my heart  
a deep and lively faith, hope and charity,  
with true repentance for my sins,  
and a firm resolve to make amends.  
As I reflect upon your five wounds,  
and dwell upon them with deep compassion and grief,  
I recall, good Jesus, the words the Prophet David  
spoke long ago concerning yourself:  
“They pierced My hands and My feet;  
they have numbered all My bones.”

***ALL STAND:***

**HYMN**

3. In this, your bitter Passion, Good Shepherd think of me  
With your most kind compassion, Unworth though I be:  
Beneath your cross abiding Forever would I rest,  
In your dear love confiding, And with your presence blest.

*Holy Mass will begin immediately following.  
We invite you to stay and  
celebrate the Holy Eucharist.*

# Mother of Divine Mercy Parish

Sweetest Heart of Mary  
St. Josaphat

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