



# The Stations of the Cross



# **FIRST STATION**

*Jesus is condemned to death*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





It is Friday - early in the morning. Jesus is brought from Caiaphas the High Priest to Pontius Pilate, the Governor, on trumped-up charges of treason and is condemned to death.





**JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH**



## **SECOND STATION**

### *Jesus accepts His Cross*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





A heavy cross is thrust into Jesus' arms. He is ordered to carry it to the site of His execution. Jesus accepts the cross. Carrying it by himself, he goes out to the Place of the Skull - Golgotha - to be crucified with two other men.





# JESUS ACCEPTS HIS CROSS



## **THIRD STATION**

*Jesus falls the first time*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





The cross is heavy and the road to Calvary, the road to Golgotha - the place of death - is long. Jesus, weary from lack of sleep, loneliness, fear, and the beatings he received slumps to the ground. Soldiers quickly drag him to his feet again.





# JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME



# **FOURTH STATION**

## *Jesus meets His Mother*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





In horror -  
stunned, numb – Mary watches.  
Her son, who glances at her in his  
agony, is being dragged  
off to his death.





# JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER



## **FIFTH STATION**

*Simon helps Jesus carry His Cross*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





Jesus is faltering under the load. The soldiers fear that he might die along the way. They seize Simon of Cyrene, put the cross on his shoulders, too, as he stands behind Jesus and make him help shoulder the load.





# **SIMON HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS**



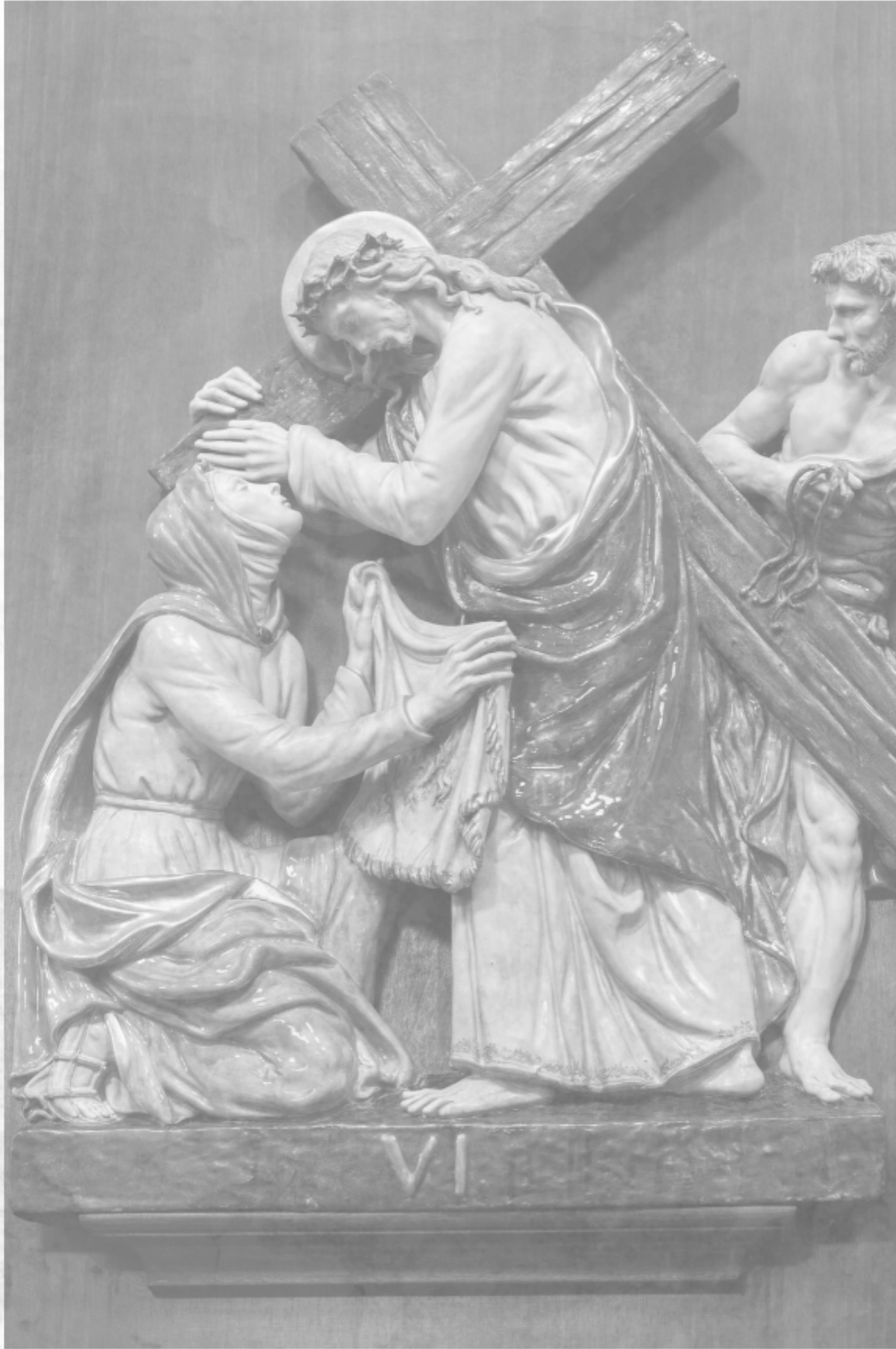
## **SIXTH STATION**

*Veronica wipes the face of Jesus*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





As Jesus passes by, a woman  
-Veronica we call her - reaches out  
of the press of the crowd and  
lovingly, gently wipes the blood  
and the sweat from Jesus' face.





# **VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS**



# **SEVENTH STATION**

*Jesus falls the second time*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





Jesus falls again, despite the help of Simon. He lies sprawled in the dirt, sweat beading on his face, mingling with the blood from the cuts on his forehead and the dust of these well-travelled streets. The soldiers, anxious to be over this job, roughly drag him to his feet again, cursing him.





# **JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME**



## **EIGHTH STATION**

*Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





A large crowd of women have followed Jesus' path to Golgotha. They are weeping and wailing in traditional mourning for this man, their friend. They are overcome by their grief and by their helplessness. Jesus says to them, "Don't weep for me but for yourselves and your children." Your tears are not enough.





# **JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM**



## **NINTH STATION**

*Jesus falls the third time*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





No sleep, nothing to eat or drink since supper the eve before, the interrogations, the scourging, the mockery - they have all taken their toll. Jesus falls again to the dust and grime of the crowded street of Jerusalem amidst the noise of weeping and heckling.





# **JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME**



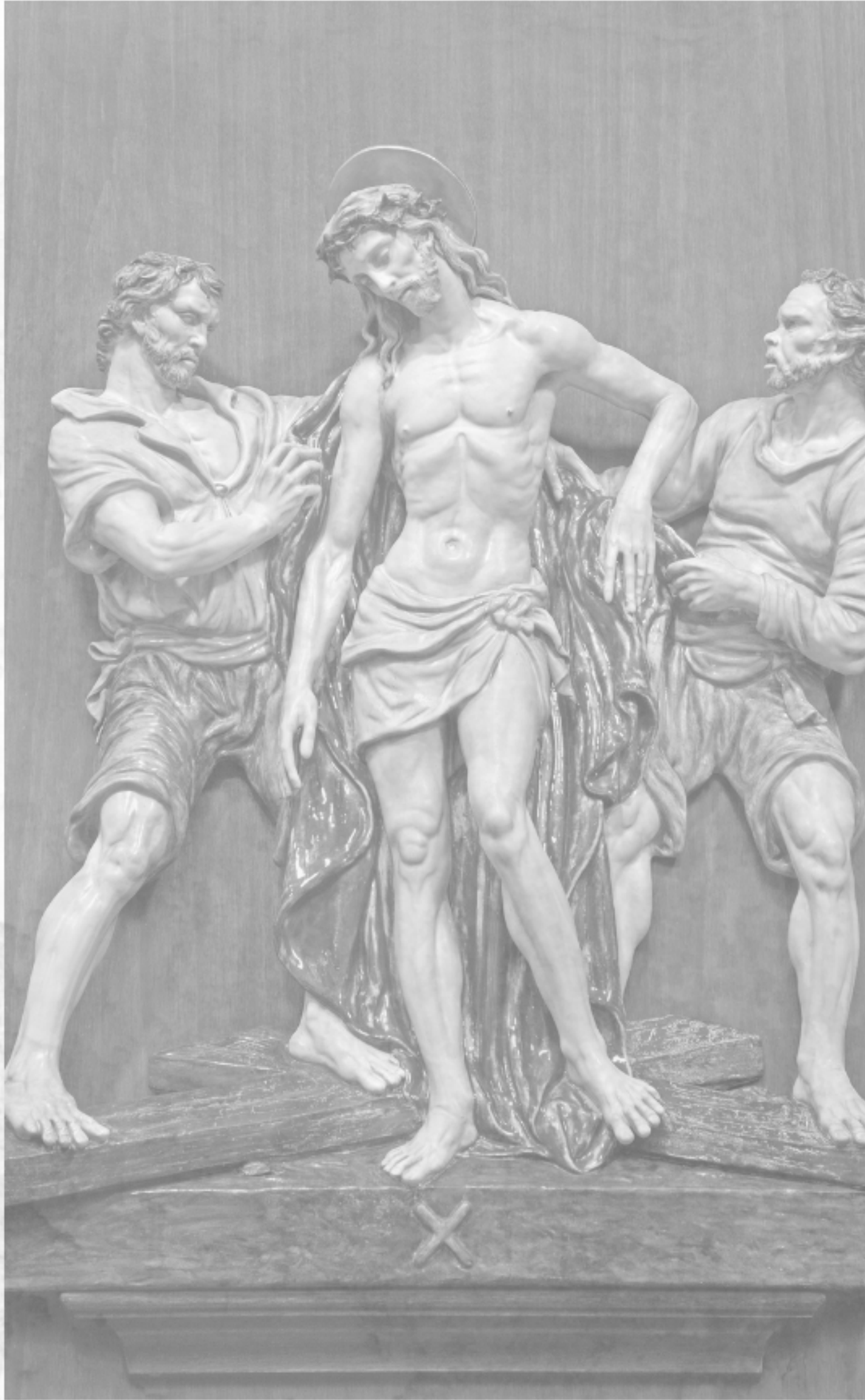
# TENTH STATION

*Jesus is stripped of his garments*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





Finally they arrive at the God-forsaken place where he will be crucified. People dump their garbage here. Hurriedly, roughly, his clothes are stripped from his back leaving him naked in front of the crowd - naked, exhausted and humiliated.





# **JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS**



# **ELEVENTH STATION**

*Jesus is nailed to the Cross*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





Roughly, the soldiers thrust Jesus down onto his cross. Holding him down - some sit on him - they pound the nails through his hands and feet. After he is lifted up, the soldiers throw dice for his clothing.





# **JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS**



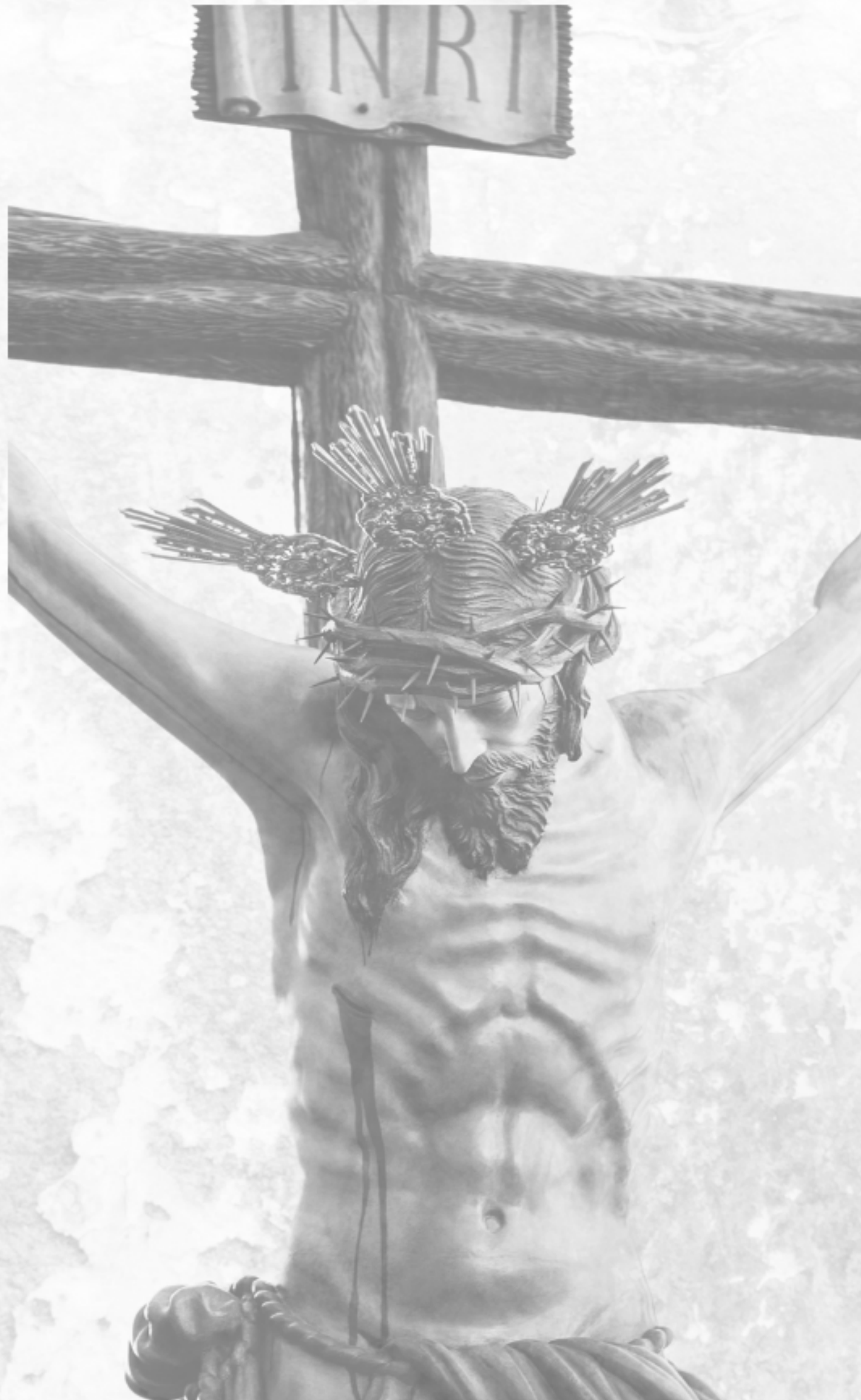
# **TWELFTH STATION**

## *Jesus dies on the Cross*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





Jesus saw his mother and John beside her and he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son," and to John, "Here is your mother." The thief on the cross beside him cries out, "Remember me, O Lord, when you come to your kingdom." After three hours, Jesus dies. "It is finished." He bows his head and gives up his spirit.





# **JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS**





***God so loved us,  
that He gave us  
His only Son.***



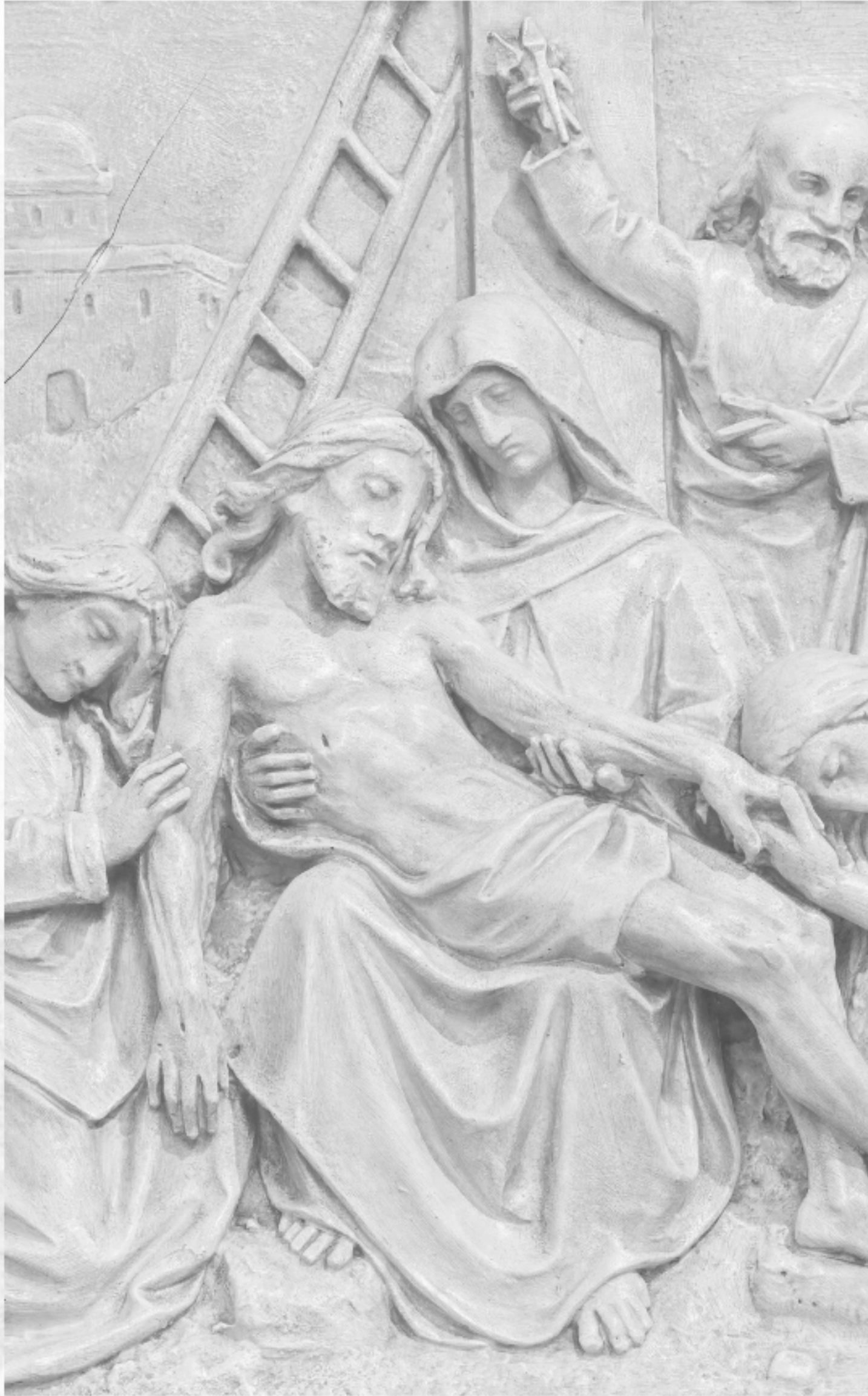
# THIRTEENTH STATION

*Jesus is taken down from the Cross*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





He is dead.

The darkness which had filled the sky since noon begins to fade. It will soon be Sabbath. The soldiers yank out the nails to get him down. The women who had followed him and were looking on from a distance, stands back awkwardly. Bleeding, broken, limp and heavy in his death - they place him in the arms of his mother.





# **JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS**



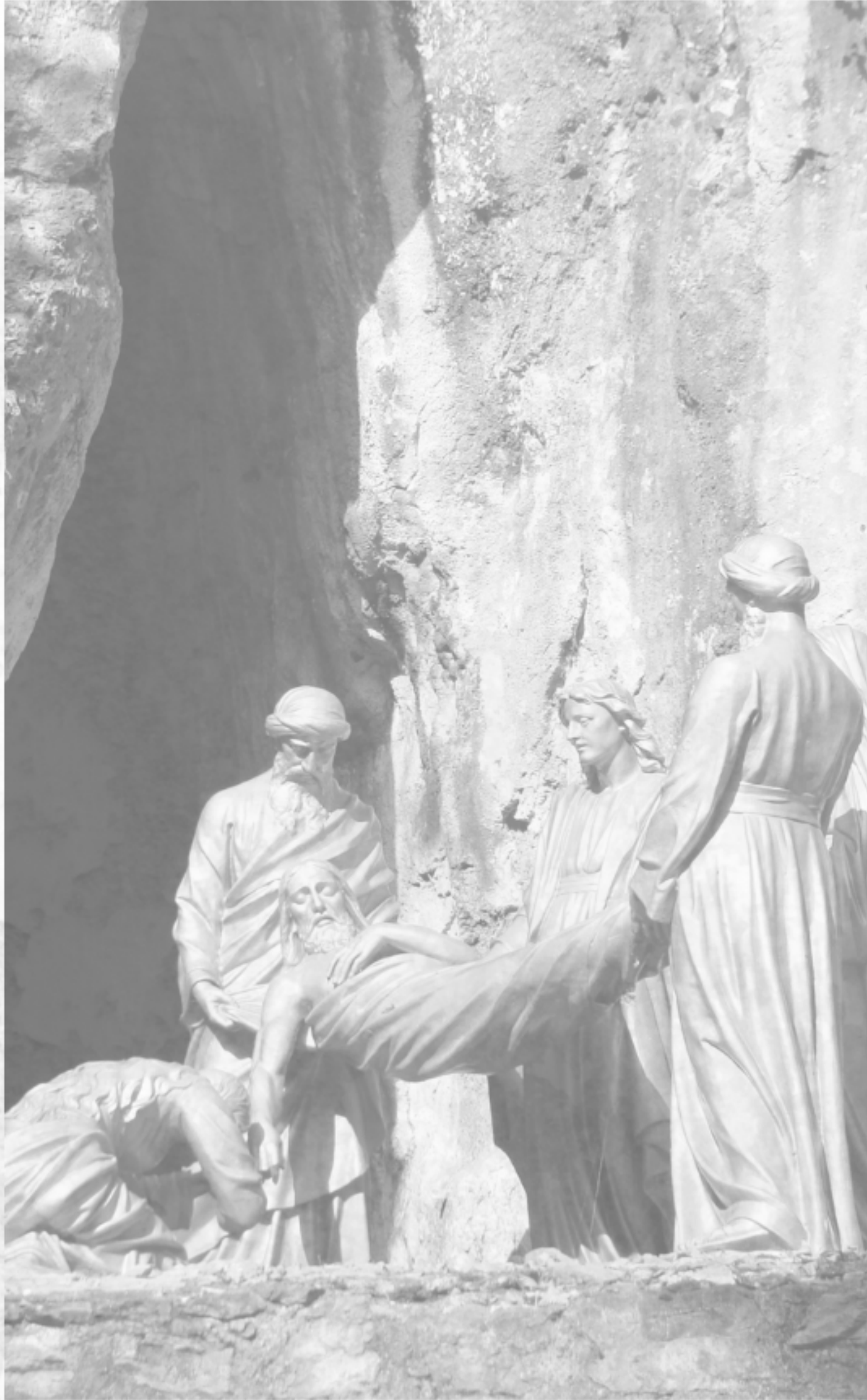
# **FOURTEENTH STATION**

*Jesus is placed in the tomb*

V. We adore you, O Christ and we bless you,

R. Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.





Relatives and friends carry his body to the gravesite - to the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, a rich man who was also a disciple of Jesus. They lay his body gently in the new tomb carved out of the hill, wrapped in a clean linen cloth. They roll a boulder across the entrance and silently withdraw.





**JESUS IS PLACED IN THE TOMB**




## **LET US PRAY**

**God, who by the Blood of Your  
only Son made the cross holy,  
grant, that we who rejoice in the glory of the Holy Cross  
may at all times and places rejoice in Your protection,  
through the same Christ, our Lord.**

**Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be...**



A painting of a face on a piece of burlap fabric, set against a dark background with a tree branch and leaves. The face is rendered in earthy tones of brown, red, and black, with a somber expression. The background is dark and textured, with a tree branch and leaves visible in the upper left corner.

# The Stations of the Cross