

embracing His holy feet, * kissing His sacred Wounds, * saying with my last breath: * “Jesus, Mary and Joseph, * I give you my heart and my soul.” * Amen.

3. THE HAIL MARY OF OUR SORROWFUL MOTHER

(Prayer of St. Bonaventure)

Hail! Mary, * full of sorrows, * the Crucified is with thee; * tearful art thou amongst women, * and tearful is the fruit of thy womb, * Jesus. * Holy Mary, * mother of the Crucified, * give tears to us, * Crucifiers of thy Son, now, * and at the hour of our death. * Amen.

4. FOR OUR SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Queen of Martyrs * and Mother of Consolation * by that sword of sorrow which pierced thy soul, * when thou didst see thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord raised upon the cross, * pierced with nails and covered with His own Blood; * pray for these sick persons, *

Priest: Pause here and name the sick persons for whom you are making the Novena. *(Pause.)* We intend that this Novena be made primarily for the recovery of health of those sick persons whose names have been turned in—during the past nine weeks—in any Church where this Novena is in progress. . . .

—that they may * by thy powerful intercession * be cured of their illness, * and thus we may both in time and eternity give thee heartfelt thanks.

FOURTH STATION MARY MEETS JESUS ON THE WAY TO CALVARY

People stand, while Priest reads the following meditation:

Come, O ye sinners, come and see if ye can endure so sad a sight. This Mother, so tender and loving, meets her beloved Son, meets Him amid an impious rabble, who drag Him to a cruel death, wounded, torn by stripes, crowned with thorns, streaming with blood, bearing His heavy cross. Ah, consider, my soul, the grief of the blessed Virgin thus beholding her Son! Who would not weep at seeing this Mother's grief? But who has been the cause of such woe? I, it is I, who with my sins have so cruelly wounded the heart of my sorrowing Mother! And yet I am not moved; I am as a stone, when my heart should break because of my ingratitude.

People kneel and recite aloud the following prayer:

O Virgin most holy, * I crave pardon for the sorrows I have caused thee. * I know and confess that I deserve it not, * for it is I through whom thy Jesus was so treated; * yet do thou call to mind that thou art the Mother of mercy. * Show mercy, then, to me, * and I promise to be more faithful to my Redeemer in the time to come, * and thus to console thee for the many sorrows I have offered to thine afflicted heart. * Amen.

Priest: Hail Mary, etc.

Priest: Virgin Most Sorrowful.

People: Holy Mary, etc.

People: Pray for us.