

N Then to the disciple he said,  
✠ “This is your mother.”

N And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

N After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said:

✠ “I am thirsty.”

N A jar full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in the vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said,

✠ “It is accomplished”;

N and bowing his head he gave up the spirit.

N It was Preparation Day, and to prevent the bodies remaining on the cross during the sabbath – since that sabbath was a day of special solemnity – the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken away. Consequently the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with him and then the other. When they came to Jesus, they found he was already dead, and so instead of breaking his legs one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance; and immediately they came out blood and water. This is the evidence of one who saw it – trustworthy evidence, and he knows he speaks the truth – and he gives it so that you may believe as well. Because all this happened to fulfil the words of scripture:

Not one bone of his will be broken, and again, in another place scripture says:

They will look on the one whom they have pierced.

After this, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a disciple of Jesus – though a secret one because he was afraid of the Jews – asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission, so they came and took it away. Nicodemus came as well – the same one who had first come to Jesus at night-time – and he brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with spices in linen cloths, following the Jewish burial custom. At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in this garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. Since it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was near at hand, they laid Jesus there.



## The Solemn Prayers

*The people may either kneel or stand*

### 1. For Holy Church

Let us pray, dearly beloved, for the holy Church of God, that our God and Lord be pleased to give her peace, to guard her and to unite her throughout the whole world and grant that, leading our life in tranquillity and quiet, we may glorify God the Father almighty.

*Silent prayer. Then the celebrant says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in Christ revealed your glory to all the nations,  
watch over the works of your mercy,  
that your Church, spread throughout all the world,  
may persevere with steadfast faith in confessing  
your name.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

or: **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

### 2. For the Pope

Let us pray also for our most Holy Father Pope N., that our God and Lord, who chose him for the Order of Bishops, may keep him safe and unharmed for the Lord's holy Church,  
to govern the holy People of God.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose decree all things are founded,  
look with favour on our prayers  
and in your kindness protect the Pope chosen for us,  
that, under him, the Christian people,  
governed by you their maker,  
may grow in merit by reason of their faith.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

or: **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

### 3. For all orders and degrees of the faithful

Let us pray also for our Bishop N.,  
for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons of the Church  
and for the whole of the faithful people.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is sanctified and governed,  
hear our humble prayer for your ministers,  
that, by the gift of your grace,  
all may serve you faithfully.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

or: **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

*1. For catechumens*

Let us pray also for (our) catechumens,  
that our God and Lord  
may open wide the ears of their inmost hearts  
and unlock the gates of his mercy,  
that, having received forgiveness of all their sins  
through the waters of rebirth,  
they, too, may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who make your Church ever fruitful with new offspring,  
increase the faith and understanding of (our)  
catechumens,

that, reborn in the font of Baptism,  
they may be added to the number of your adopted  
children.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*or:* **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

*3. For the unity of Christians*

Let us pray also for all our brothers and sisters who  
believe in Christ,  
that our God and Lord may be pleased,  
as they live the truth,  
to gather them together and keep them in his one  
Church.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who gather what is scattered  
and keep together what you have gathered,  
look kindly on the flock of your Son,  
that those whom one Baptism has consecrated  
may be joined together by integrity of faith  
and united in the bond of charity.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*or:* **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

*5. For the Jewish people*

Let us pray also for the Jewish people,  
to whom the Lord our God spoke first,  
that he may grant them to advance  
in love of his name  
and in faithfulness to his covenant.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who bestowed your promises on Abraham and his  
descendants,  
graciously hear the prayers of your Church,  
that the people you first made your own  
may attain the fullness of redemption.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*or:* **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

*7. For those who do not believe in Christ*

Let us pray also for those who do not believe in  
Christ,

that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit,  
they, too, may enter on the way of salvation.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant to those who do not confess Christ  
that, by walking before you with a sincere heart,  
they may find the truth  
and that we ourselves, being constant in mutual love  
and striving to understand more fully the mystery of  
your life,  
may be made more perfect witnesses to your love in  
the world.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*or:* **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

*8. For those who do not believe in God*

Let us pray also for those who do not acknowledge  
God,

that, following what is right in sincerity of heart,  
they may find the way to God himself.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who created all people  
to seek you always by desiring you  
and, by finding you, come to rest,  
grant, we pray,  
that, despite every harmful obstacle,  
all may recognize the signs of your fatherly love  
and the witness of the good works  
done by those who believe in you,  
and so in gladness confess you,  
the one true God and Father of our human race.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*or:* **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

*9. For all in public office*

Let us pray also for those in public office,  
that our God and Lord  
may direct their minds and hearts according to his will  
for the true peace and freedom of all.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
in whose hand lies every human heart  
and the rights of peoples,  
look with favour, we pray,  
on those who govern with authority over us,  
that throughout the whole world,  
the prosperity of peoples,  
the assurance of peace,  
and freedom of religion  
may through your gift be made secure.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or: **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**

**10. For those in tribulation**

Let us pray, dearly beloved,  
to God the Father almighty,  
that he may cleanse the world of all errors,  
banish disease, drive out hunger,  
unlock prisons, loosen fetters,  
granting to travellers safety, to pilgrims return,  
health to the sick, and salvation to the dying.

*Silent prayer. Then the priest sings or says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
comfort of mourners, strength of all who toil,  
may the prayers of those who cry out in any  
tribulation  
come before you,  
that all may rejoice,  
because in their hour of need  
your mercy was at hand.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

or: **O Lord hear us we pray,  
O Lord give us your Love.**



**The Adoration of the Holy Cross**

*The showing of the Cross takes place in three stages.  
Three times the priest says or sings:*

*All stand*

Be-hold the wood of the Cross, on which hung the salvation of the  
world. R. Come, let us a-dore.

Behold the wood of the Cross,  
on which hung the salvation of the world.  
**R. Come let us adore.**

*At the end of the singing, all kneel and for a brief moment adore in  
silence while the Priest stands and holds the Cross raised.*

*While the adoration of the Holy Cross is taking place, the following Latin  
Crucem tuam adoramus. We adore your Cross O Lord. After  
Reproaches, the hymn Crux fidelis. Faithful Cross or Crucifixus and  
chants are sung, during which all who have a ready and joyful heart  
to the Cross remain seated.*

- 1. When I behold the wondrous cross,  
On which the prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.**
- 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
The vain things that attract me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.**
- 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
What grief and love flow mingled down  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

*(Tune: Tantum Ergo)*

**Sing, my tongue, the song of triumph,  
Tell the story far and wide;  
Tell of dread and final battle,  
Sing of Saviour crucified;  
How upon the cross a victim  
Vanquishing in death he died.**



**He endured the nails, the spitting,  
Vinegar and spear and reed;  
From that holy body broken  
Blood and water forth proceed:  
Earth and stars and sky and ocean  
By that flood from stain are freed.**

**Faithful Cross, above all other,  
One and only noble tree,  
None in foliage, none in blossom  
None in fruit your peer may be;  
Sweet the wood and sweet the iron  
And your load, most sweet is he.**

Chants to be sung during the Adoration of the Holy Cross

Ant. We adore your Cross, O Lord,  
we praise and glorify your holy Resurrection,  
for behold, because of the wood of a tree  
joy has come to the whole world.

May God have mercy on us and bless us;  
may he let his face shed its light upon us  
and have mercy on us.

Ps 100

*And the antiphon is repeated. We adore . . .*