



JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH



JESUS IS MADE TO BEAR HIS CROSS



JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME



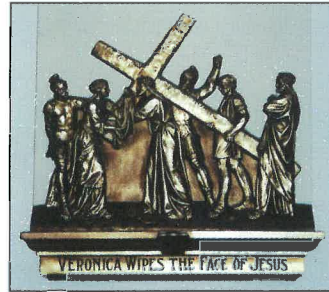
THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



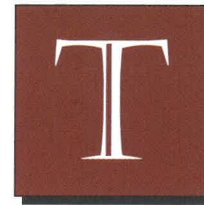
JESUS MEETS HIS AFFLICTED MOTHER



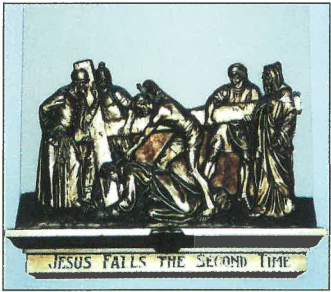
SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS



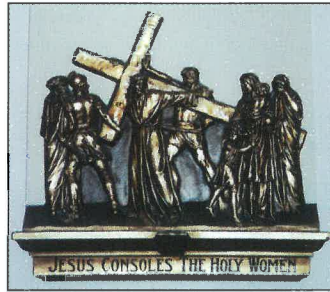
VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS



The stations of the Cross - The Way of the Cross probably started soon after Our Lord's death. Surely His mother, Mary, and the Apostles walked over the same sorrowful route many times afterward. Even today devout pilgrims tread the "Via Dolorosa", the sorrowful way, from Pilate's Praetorium to Calvary. Since it was impossible for



JESUS FALL THE SECOND TIME



JESUS CONSOLES THE HOLY WOMEN



JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

most pilgrims to visit the original site, reproductions of The Way began to appear. In the 15th century Blessed Alvarez, a Dominican, erected in Spain groups of Chapels in which were painted Passion scenes. The Franciscans probably are responsible for The Way of the Cross devotion. Throughout Europe they erected the Stations in their churches, obtaining rich indulgences for them. However, a uniform number was never used, and at one time 37 stations were erected. Finally Pope Clement XII fixed the number as fourteen in 1731. All that is necessary for the Way of the Cross devotions are fourteen blessed wooden crosses, but the faculties are obtained from the Minister General of the Franciscans. In most modern churches these are accompanied by images or paintings of the scenes commemorated as they are within St. Joseph's Parish, Douro.



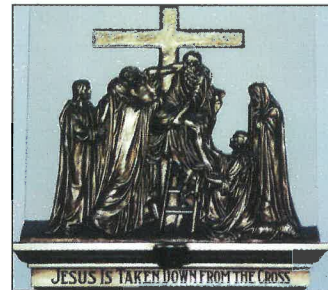
JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS



JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS



JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS



JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS



JESUS IS LAID IN THE SEPULCHRE