

OUR LADY OF SORROWS

The Seven Sorrows of Mary

SEPTEMBER 15



INTRODUCTION

Mary, the Mother of Christ suffered with Him since He was a child. As a child, there were three sorrowful moments: the prophecy of Simeon, the flight to Egypt and the loss of the child for three days. As an adult, there were four sorrowful situations during His Passion: meeting Jesus on His way to Calvary, the crucifixion and death of Jesus, being taken down from the cross, and Jesus laid in the tomb.

Dramatization:

Scene 1. *The prophecy of Simeon*

Narrator: When the day came to present Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem, they consecrated Him to the Lord and offered up two turtle-doves, according to the law of the Lord. Simeon, inspired by Holy Spirit, went to the temple and took baby Jesus in his arms and blessed God with these words.

SIMEON: Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, for my eyes have seen the Savior of the World.

Narrator: Then he said to Mary,

SIMEON: Behold this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

Characters: narrator, Joseph, Mary, Jesus and Simeon

Scene 2: *The flight to Egypt*

Narrator: The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him...

Angel: Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.

Characters: Narrator, Angel, Joseph, Mary and Jesus

Scene 3: *Jesus lost and found in the Temple*

Narrator: Each year His parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when He was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After Passover was over, and they were returning home, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They returned to Jerusalem to look for Him. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who hear Him were astounded at His understanding and answers. He returned with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother kept all these things in her heart

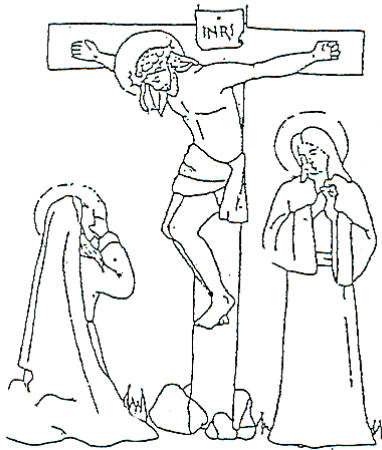
Characters: Narrator, Joseph, Mary, Jesus, teachers of the law, people in caravan



Scene 4. Mary meets Jesus on the way to Calvary

Narrator: Jesus carries Him cross. The soldiers have already scourged Him, humiliated Him and tortured Him beyond recognition. The heavy cross is tied to His arms a He stumbles to Calvary. The Virgin Mary comes to His side and with Her heart filled with sorrow, accompanies Him to His final mission.

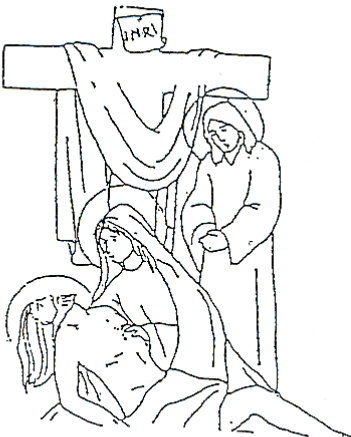
Characters: Soldiers, Jesus, Mary



Scene 5: Jesus dies on the Cross

Narrator: From noon onward, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, and gave up His spirit. Mary, His Mother, suffered with Him at the foot of the cross.

Characters: Mary and Jesus on the Cross



Scene 6: Jesus being taken down from the cross

Narrator: Mary received the body of Jesus in her arms. John, the beloved disciple, accompanies Mary when she receives His body, her heart filled with sorrow.

Characters: Mary, John the disciple, Jesus

Scene 7: Jesus laid in the tomb

Narrator: None of His disciples dared claim His body. Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. Do he came and took his body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to Him at night also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes. They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with spices, according to the Jewish burial custom. They laid Him in a tomb and rolled a boulder to seal the opening. Mary suffers intensely to see her Son trapped by King of Darkness. But relying on her faith in Jesus' words and supported by His spirit, she keeps hope of a reunion. She passes from the pain, the fear, the doubt, the uncertainty of the cross to a joyous an brave conviction announcing His resurrection.

Characters: Mary, John, Jesus, Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus

