

II: AN ILLNESS OF LONG DURATION

Offering of the Illness

O my beloved Jesus, I most willingly accept and offer to Thee this illness, which Thy divine Heart has sent me as a token of Thy love. I do so with a love similar to Thine and through thankfulness to Thee. Into Thy most sweet Heart I lay all my sufferings and pains, imploring Thee to unite them with Thy sacred Passion and to perfect them through its infinite virtue. Being unable to praise Thee as I ought, owing to my afflicted state, I beseech Thee to praise God the Father for my suffering with the same praise as Thou did extol Him in Thy bitterest pains while hanging on the cross. I pray Thee offer to Thy Father my interior and exterior distress in union with Thy sacred Passion and with the same love with which Thou did offer to Him all the torments and ignominies Thou hast endured. Amen.

Manner of following Mass at Home (Father von Cochem)

(For those who on account of sickness or old age cannot assist at Holy Mass)

From the Beginning of the Mass to the Offertory:

In the name of the Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, I wish to draw near Thy altars, O Jesus, and participate in all the holy Masses which are said this day and especially at this hour. It is by Thy will, O my Lord and God, that I should pay Thee homage, not at church, but in this my sickroom. So then I will consider in my heart. Blessed is the man whom God corrects; refuse not therefore the chastising of the Lord. For He wounds and cures. He strikes, and His hands shall heal (Job v. 17, 18). Behold the eyes of the Lord are on them that fear Him: and on them that hope in His mercy. To deliver their souls from death: and feed them in famine. Our soul waits for the Lord: for He is our helper and protector (Ps. xxxii. 1820).

Prayer to Obtain Assistance at the Hour of Death: (St. Mechtilde)

O my sovereign, holy Mary, Mother of God, as God the Father in the greatness of His omnipotence hath exalted thee and given thee power above all creatures, be with me, I beseech thee, in the hour of my death, and drive far from me all the snares and craft of my enemies. Amen. Hail Mary.

O my sovereign, holy Mary, Mother of God, as God the Son in the excellence of His unsearchable wisdom hath endowed thee with such great knowledge, and filled thee with such great light that thou knows the Most Holy Trinity more truly and intimately than all the saints, do thou so enlighten my soul in the hour of my death with the knowledge of the faith, that no error or ignorance may lead it astray. Amen. Hail Mary.

The Offertory:

O Most Holy Trinity, in union with the love with which Jesus Christ offered Himself on the cross, I offer to Thee this holy Mass, together with all the Masses which are said this day throughout the whole world* With it I offer Thee my suffering body, my afflicted soul, my cares and solitudes, my business, which on account of my illness I am unable to attend to, my thoughts, words and deeds, all of which I deposit on Thy holy altar, and unite with this holy sacrifice, so that all the blessings and prayers of the priest may also descend on my offering. Possessing no better gift than my heart, I take it in both my hands and offer it to Thee on Thy holy altar. All my crosses, and especially the bitterness of my malady, do I place into the chalice of Thy precious blood, and offer it to Thee in union with the bitter chalice which Christ willed to drink for our salvation on Mount Olivet, beseeching Thee graciously to accept and bless with Thy fatherly hand this, my offering. Amen.

The Sanctus:

Lord Jesus Christ, Who, when hanging on the cross, did utter seven words for our consolation, I humbly render Thee thanks for them, entreating Thee through the love and sorrow with which Thou did pronounce these words, to let my soul, whether I be living or dying, reap the happy effects thereof. I beseech Thee through the love with which Thou did plead for Thine enemies, forgive me everything whereby I have ever offended Thee. I beseech Thee through the love with which Thou did promise paradise to the good thief, deign graciously after this life to receive me into paradise. I beseech Thee through the love with which Thou did commend Thy holy Mother to St. John, commend me also to this loving Mother. I beseech Thee through the sadness with which Thou did complain to Thy Father, do not abandon me in my last hour. I beseech Thee through the burning thirst which Thou did will to suffer on the cross to extinguish in my heart all sinful desires. I beseech Thee through the consummation of the redemption of mankind not to let it be lost on me. Finally, I beseech Thee through the concluding prayer with which Thou did commend Thy spirit into the hands of Thy Father, to let my soul in its last hour be most earnestly commended to Thee.

Before the Consecration:

O most clement Jesus, how great is Thy love for us, because for our salvation Thou did will to come down from heaven to be made man and do and suffer so much in our behalf. Alas, how pitilessly, O most beloved Jesus, hast Thou been buffeted and outraged, how cruelly scourged, crowned and crucified. What is all my suffering when compared with Thine. And all this Thou did suffer while innocent, with exceeding love, only through pity for us, and did offer it to Thy Father for our sins. Nevertheless, Thy love is not yet satisfied, but in order to give us greater proofs of it, Thou dost come down again from heaven at each holy Mass, and do renew, Thy bitter Passion. Descend then, my dear Saviour, descend from Thy heavenly throne on our altars for me, and through Thy personal, bodily presence there in the church, bring salvation to my poor soul and my afflicted body. Come with Thy liberality also to my sickbed and enrich my poor heart with graces. Come with Thy love and enkindle our lukewarm hearts. Amen.

The Consecration:

I adore Thee, O Jesus, my Lord and my God, and I render Thee thanks for Thy bloody sacrifice on the cross. Have mercy on me, my God and my Redeemer. O Jesus, be gracious unto me. O Jesus, be merciful unto me. O Jesus, pardon me my sins. O precious blood of my Saviour, which was shed on the cross for my sins also, cleanse my soul from every stain of guilt and strengthen it for the life to come Amen. O Jesus, for Thee I live. O Jesus, for Thee I die. O Jesus, living or dead, I am Thine. I love Thee, O my God, with all my heart, And 'tis to me the greatest smart, That I offended Thee, O highest Good. Ah, wash me clean in Jesus' blood.

After the Consecration:

Most benevolent Jesus, I turn my eyes and my heart to Thee in the church, where Thou art now lying on the altar. Ah, do Thou also turn Thy eyes and Thy Heart to me in my house and to my sickbed. Behold my suffering, my illness, my exhaustion, my abandonment and my utter need. Take my interests in hand and be my faithful mediator and intercessor with the divine justice. In all the holy Masses which are now being said here and throughout the world, offer Thyself for me and obtain for me mercy and help in my present necessity. Show to Thy Father Thy thorn crowned head, Thy lacerated body, Thy five Holy Wounds and Thy crimson blood, in testimony of the bitter pains Thou did suffer for me, that He may also be to me a Father, and, delivering me from tribulation, restore to me health of body and soul. Ah, above all, implore Him that I may not be lost forever. Sprinkle me with Thy precious blood, let me have a share in Thy merits and I will honor, love and glorify Thee forever and ever. Amen.

Holy Communion:

O most sweet Jesus, how willingly would I receive Thee in Thy temple, for I am sick in body and soul and exceedingly miserable and helpless. From the bottom of my heart must I exclaim with the centurion in the Gospel: O Lord, I am not worthy that Thou should enter under my roof, but say only the word, and my soul shall be healed. But nevertheless, come to me, dear Lord, come spiritually to me. My heart longs for Thee, and the desires of my soul sigh for Thee. O kind, O beloved, O most sweet Jesus. Let me receive Thee in my heart and enjoy Thee, Feed me with Thy flesh. Heal me with Thy sacred wounds, strengthen me with Thy precious blood. O divine beverage, O heavenly medicine, heal my sick heart. O sweet blood, refresh me. O sacred blood, inflame me, that I may at all times burn with love for my most dear Jesus. May the body and blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ preserve my soul to life eternal. Amen.

The Benediction:

May the Most Holy Trinity bless me abundantly, so that I may preserve the effects of that blessing throughout my life. May Thy omnipotence, O Lord, bless me, Thy wisdom instructs me, Thy sweetness and consolation replenish me in all my pains, sorrows and tribulations. May God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost bless me for life everlasting. Amen.

The End of Holy Mass:

O dear Saviour, I now place myself under Thy holy cross and will there abide as long as Thou wilt. For to me, to live is Christ: and to die is gain. O sweetest Jesus, let Thy riven side pour strength and grace upon me, that nothing, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, Our Lord (Rom. viii. 39). From my innermost heart I say, Father, not my will, but Thine be done. If Thou wilt that I should continue to suffer, That I should not recover from this malady, Thy will be done. That I should live longer, Thy will be done. That I should soon die, Thy will be done. Yes, Thy holy will be done in life and in death and forever and ever. Amen.

The Our Father (Paraphrased for the Sick)

Our Father, Who art in heaven:

O God, my Father and Father of all men. How sweet and consoling it is for me to be allowed to call Thee Father, now that pain and sickness encompass me. This illness indeed is a chastisement, but Thou loves me and intends to promote my eternal salvation thereby, because Thou art my Father. Thou art in heaven, but art also on earth and with me. Thou sees and knows all my sufferings; Thou dost not allow me to suffer without necessity nor to call for help in vain, for Thou art my Father. This must be my consolation and my encouragement.

Hallowed be Thy name:

name will I extol for all the graces Thou hast bestowed upon me; I will glorify it by my constancy in suffering, and by patiently offering my illness for Thy greater honor. Let Thy name be praised and extolled when I suffer; let Thy name be praised and extolled when I die and enter into eternity. The name of the Lord be praised now and forever.

Thy Kingdom come:

kingdom of Thy grace, come. Reign, O my God, in my heart through Thy love, and, the battle being ended, receive me into the kingdom of Thy glory, where Thou hast prepared unspeakable bliss for those who love Thee. Lord, give me strength, that I may persevere unto the end and then come to Thee.

Thy will be done on earthy as it is in heaven:

It is Thy will, O my Father, that I am now ill and suffer; let it be done in me, for Thy will is at all times holy, just, wise and good, although we may not understand it. Thy will be done in me. I submit to it with

perfect obedience, willingly accepting from Thy hand the bitter chalice of suffering. Father, whether I live, or suffer or die, let Thy will be done in me.

Give us this day our daily bread:

Until now, Thou hast given me, besides the daily sustenance, innumerable graces and benefits, for which I return Thee thanks and beg Thee to forgive me every misuse of Thy gifts. Give me also, O my God, for the rest of my life what is needful to me. But above all, give the necessary nourishment to my immortal soul: the teaching of Thy Word, the consolation of Thy holy religion, the food of the most holy body and blood of Jesus Christ, and the grace for obtaining life eternal.

Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive:

Alas, O my God, great and oppressive is the weight of my sins. Through the merits of Jesus Christ, through the blood He has shed for me, I beseech Thee, blot them out, and forgive me. With David the Prophet do I implore Thee, Remember Thou not the sins of my youth; from my hidden iniquities purify me, and from the sins of others preserve me. Forgive also, O Lord, my daily shortcomings, my want of patience, my despondency in this my illness and all my other faults. From the bottom of my heart do I pardon all those who have ever offended me; I pardon them as I wish that Thou should pardon me.

And lead us not into temptation:

Lord, do not permit temptation to be too great for me. If Thou wilt try me still longer and chastise me by sickness and pain, preserve me also from murmuring and impatience, from pusillanimity and despair, give me the grace to come off victorious in the trial and to persevere. Let me not sink under the heavy burden of my sufferings and pains, but grant that, strengthened by Thee, I may bear them with patience and resignation. Above all, O my God, do not permit me to be overcome in my death agony, in the last decisive conflict.

But deliver us from evil:

O God, if it is Thy holy will and beneficial to me, deliver me from the pains of illness, that evil which has oppressed me so long. Yet, the greatest, the only true evil is sin and an ungodly death. Merciful God, preserve me from it. Both in life and in death maintain me in Thy grace and love. Amen.

The Hail Mary (Paraphrased for the Sick)

Hail Mary:

O Mary, Star of the sea, all the needy and oppressed look up to thee. And so do I from my bed of sickness, lifting up my imploring eyes to thee and asking thee for help. O Mary, my Mistress and my Queen, let thy power and goodness be made manifest in me. O Mary, with all the faithful, all the holy angels and all the heavenly host I salute thee, saying Hail, Mary. God has raised thee to the Full of grace, greatest dignity, and wills that through thy hands abundant graces should flow down upon mankind. O Mary, Virgin full of grace, thou who art the comforter of the afflicted, the help of Christians, the health of the sick, obtain for me, poor creature, health of body and soul.

The Lord is with Thee:

The Lord has done great things in thee. The eternal Father has chosen thee to be His Daughter, the only begotten Son to be His Mother, and the Holy Ghost to be His Spouse. Thou art therefore all powerful with God, O Blessed Virgin; implore Him that His grace may never depart from me.

Blessed art thou among women:

Thou art most blessed among thy sex. Thou art free from the curse of original sin and as a virgin hast given birth to Jesus, the Saviour of the world. O Mary, the one chosen Mother of the Redeemer, all the

nations of the earth call thee blessed. Never shall thy praise die on my lips; at all times will I extol and glorify thee, in order to make myself worthy of thy help and intercession.

Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus:

Praised and extolled be thy divine Son, from Whom all salvation and benediction flows forth. Blessed and extolled be Jesus, through Whom we obtain assistance in life, consolation and strength in suffering, peace and rest in death. O Blessed Virgin, would that I were happy enough, with thee and all the saints, to praise for all eternity Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb. Help me to attain thereto.

Holy Mary, Mother of God:

Mother of God, Mother of Christ, Mother of mercy and my Mother. Pray for us sinners. Look upon me, thy poor helpless child, calling out to thee from this valley of tears. Pray for me now, who am weak, sick and miserable; pray for me who in this vale of pilgrimage am surrounded by numerous foes striving to wrest from me the possession of the heavenly inheritance; obtain for me a lively faith, a firm hope, an ardent love, an invincible patience and the grace of final perseverance. But especially pray for me at the hour of death; commend me to Jesus, thy Son; present me to Him, that I may die happily and possess Him forever. Amen.

Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus

Lord, have mercy on us,
Christ, have mercy on us,
Lord, have mercy on us,
Jesus, hear us,
Jesus, graciously hear us,
God the Father of heaven, *have mercy on us.*
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, God the Holy Ghost, *have mercy on us.*
Holy Trinity, one God, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, Son of the living God, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, splendor of the Father, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, brightness of eternal light, Jesus, king of glory, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, sun of justice, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, Son of the Virgin Mary, Jesus amiable, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus admirable, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, the powerful God, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, father of the world to come, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, angel of the great council, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, most powerful, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, most patient, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, most obedient, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, meek and humble of Heart, Jesus, lover of chastity, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, lover of us, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, God of peace, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, author of life, *have mercy on us.,*
Jesus, model of all virtues, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, zealous for souls, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, our God, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, our refuge, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, father of the poor, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, treasure of the faithful, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, good shepherd, *have mercy on us.*

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Jesus, true light, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, eternal wisdom, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, infinite goodness, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, our way and our life, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, joy of angels, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, king of the patriarchs, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, master of the apostles, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, teacher of the Evangelists, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, strength of martyrs, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, light of confessors, *have mercy on us.,*
Jesus, purity of virgins, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, crown of all saints, *have mercy on us.*
Be merciful, spare us, O Jesus.
Be merciful, graciously hear us, O Jesus.
From all evil, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From all sin, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From Thy wrath, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From the snares of the devil, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From the spirit of fornication, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From eternal death, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From the neglect of Thy inspirations, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through the mystery of Thy holy incarnation, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy nativity, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thine infancy, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy most divine life, Through Thy labors, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thine agony and Passion, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy cross and dereliction, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy languors, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy death and burial, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy resurrection, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thine ascension, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy joys, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy glory, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, spare us, O Jesus,
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Jesus,
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, O Jesus,
Jesus, hear us,
Jesus, graciously hear us,
Let us Pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast said: Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: give, we beseech Thee, to us who ask, the grace of Thy most divine love; that with all our hearts, words, and works we may love Thee, and never cease praising Thee. Make us, O Lord, to have a perpetual fear and love of Thy holy name, for Thou never fails to govern those whom Thou dost solidly establish in Thy love. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Devotion to the Five Wounds

Act of Contrition:

As I kneel before Thee on the cross, most loving Saviour of my soul, my conscience tells me it was I who nailed Thee to that cross with these hands of mine, as often as I have fallen into mortal sin, wearying

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Thee with my monstrous ingratitude. My God, my chief and most perfect Good, worthy of all my love, seeing Thou hast ever loaded me with blessings. I cannot now undo my misdeeds as I would most willingly, but I can and will loathe them, grieving greatly for having offended Thee Who art infinite goodness. And now kneeling at Thy feet, I will try at least to compassionate Thee, to give Thee thanks, to ask of Thee pardon and contrition.

Wound of the Left Foot:

Holy wound of the left foot of my Jesus, I adore thee, I compassionate thee for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. I thank thee for the love whereby thou wast wearied in overtaking me on the way to ruin, and didst bleed amid the thorns and brambles of my sins. I offer to the eternal Father the pain and love of thy most holy humanity, in atonement for my sins, all which I detest with sincere and bitter contrition. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father. Holy Mother, pierce me through; In my heart each wound renew Of my Saviour crucified.

Wound of the Right Foot:

Holy wound of the right foot of my Jesus, I adore thee, I compassionate thee for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. I thank thee for the love which pierced thee with such torture and shedding of blood in order to punish my wanderings, and the guilty pleasures I have granted to my passions. I offer to the eternal Father all the pain and love of thy most holy humanity, and I pray unto thee for grace to weep over my transgressions with burning tears, and to enable me to persevere in the good which I have begun without ever swerving again from my obedience to the commandments of my God. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Wound of the Left Hand:

Holy wound of the left hand of my Jesus, I adore thee, I compassionate thee for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. I thank thee for having, in thy love, spared me the scourges and eternal damnation which my sins have merited. I offer to the eternal Father the pain and love of thy most holy humanity, and I pray thee to teach me how to turn to good account my span of life, and bring forth worthy fruits of penance, and so disarm the angry justice of my God. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Wound of the Right Hand:

Holy wound of the right hand of my Jesus, I adore thee, I compassionate thee for that most bitter pain which thou didst suffer. I thank thee for thy graces lavished on me with such love, in spite of all my miserable obstinacy. I offer to the eternal Father all the pain and love of thy most holy humanity, and I pray thee to change my heart and its affections and make me do all my actions in accordance with the will of God. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father.

Wound of the Sacred Side:

Holy wound in the side of my Jesus, I adore thee, I compassionate thee for the cruel insult thou didst suffer. I thank Thee, my Jesus, for the love which suffered Thy side and Heart to be pierced, that so the last drops of blood and water might issue forth, making my redemption to abound. I offer to the eternal Father this outrage, and the love of Thy most holy humanity, that my soul may enter once for all into that most loving Heart, eager and ready to receive the greatest sinners, and from it may never more depart. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Act of Confidence (Father von Cochem)

To obtain pardon of our sins through the merits of Jesus Christ: O my God, when I think of my past life, I am filled with fear and trembling, for I have committed so many and such grievous sins and have thereby greatly insulted Thine infinite justice. I have incurred a debt which I shall never be able to pay, even though I were to practice the most severe penances. Nevertheless, I do not despair, having

recourse to the superabundant satisfaction of my Redeemer. Remember, O most loving Father, the torments which Thy Son endured when hanging on the cross, and what martyrdom He underwent for me. Behold how His royal head is crowned with thorns, and His divine face disfigured with spittle. See His bruised shoulders, His lacerated back and breast, His mangled body, His wounded arms and knees, His pierced hands and feet, His whole frame covered with blood and wounds. Behold, I place this wounded body of my Redeemer between myself and Thee, between Thy justice and my misery, between Thy strict judgment and my grievous sins. I have sinned much, but Thy Son has made an atonement infinitely greater. I owe Thee much, but He has paid far more. Grievously have I offended Thee, but Thy Son has done yet more to satisfy Thee. Therefore, I rely on the merits of Thy dear Son and through Him I hope to obtain mercy. Let, then, His bitter agony be my salvation and let not His sufferings be lost for my soul. May His burning tears wash my soul, and His precious blood blot out all the stains of my sins. May His ignominious death preserve me from everlasting death. Accept, O my Lord, His bitter torments in satisfaction for my heavy sins. If a single drop of His precious blood would suffice to atone for more than all the sins of the world, what will be the worth of all the drops of His precious blood? But now, in order to satisfy for my sins, I offer Thee each and every drop of my Saviour's blood, together with all His merits. I do not doubt Thou wilt receive my offering, and in consideration of it graciously pardon me all my sins and release me from the punishment which yet remains for them. Amen.

The Seven Words of Christ on the Cross

Divine Jesus, incarnate Son of God, Who did vouchsafe for our salvation to be born in a stable, to lead a life of poverty, toil, and misery, and to die a painful death on the cross, I beseech Thee, at the hour of my death, say to Thy heavenly Father: Father, pardon him, to Thy Mother Behold thy son. And to my soul: This day shalt thou be with Me in paradise. O my God, my God, do not abandon me in that hour. I thirst; yea, my soul thirsts for Thee, my God, Who art the source of living water. My life vanishes like a shadow; yet a little while, and all will be consummated. Therefore, O my adorable Saviour, I commend my spirit into Thy hands; from this moment, and for all eternity, Lord Jesus, receive my soul. Amen.

The Way of the Cross

(Beginning Each Station) We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee, Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.

1st Station - Jesus is condemned to death:

My Jesus, oft have I signed Thy death warrant by my sins: save me by Thy death from that eternal death I deserve. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

2nd Station - Jesus receives his cross:

My Jesus, Who by Thine own will did take on Thee the cross which I made for Thee by my sins: oh, make me know the weight of them, and sorrow for them ever while I live. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

3rd Station - Jesus falls the first time:

My Jesus, the heavy burden of my sins has made Thee fall down beneath the cross. My Jesus, I loathe them, I detest them, I beseech Thee to pardon them; aided by Thy grace, I will never commit them more. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

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4th Station - Jesus meets His Mother:

Jesus, most suffering. Mary, Mother most sorrowful. For the past by sin, I have caused you pain and sorrow yet by divine grace shall be no more, but I will love you faithfully until death. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

5th Station - Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry His cross:

My Jesus, happy was that man of Cyrene, who aided Thee to bear the cross. Happy shall I be if I, too, aid Thee to bear the cross by suffering with patience and good will the crosses Thou shalt send me during life. My Jesus, give me grace to do so. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

6th Station - Veronica wipes the Face of Jesus:

Jesus, most compassionate, Who did deign to print Thy sacred countenance upon the cloth with which Veronica wiped the sweat from Thy brows; print in my soul deep, I pray Thee, the lasting memory of Thy most bitter pains. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

7th Station - Jesus falls a second time:

My Jesus, oft have I sinned, and by sin often made Thee fall beneath the cross. Help me to use such efficacious means of grace, that I may never fall again into sin. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

8th Station - Jesus comforts the women of Jerusalem:

My Jesus, Who did comfort the pious women of Jerusalem who wept to see Thee so tormented: comfort my soul with Thy mercy, for in Thy mercy alone is my sole trust. Oh, may I never frustrate it Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

9th Station - Jesus falls a third time:

My Jesus, by all the bitter woe Thou did endure, a third time Thou did fall beneath the heavy cross: oh, never let me fall away, but rather let me die than ever mortally sin again. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

10th Station - Jesus is stripped of his garments:

My Jesus, Who was stripped of Thy clothes, and drenched with gall, strip me of love for things of earth, and make me loathe all that savors of the world and sin. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

11th Station – Jesus is nailed to the cross:

My Jesus, by those agonizing pains Thou did endure when the hard nails pierced Thy tender hands and feet and fixed them to the cross, oh, make me ever crucify my flesh with the spirit of true Christian penance. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

12th Station – Jesus dies on the cross:

My Jesus, three hours did Thou hang in agony upon the cross, and then did die for me: let me die before I sin again; and if I live, may I live to love Thee and to serve Thee faithfully. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

13th Station – Jesus is taken down from the cross:

Mary, Mother most sorrowful, the sword of grief went through thy soul when thou did see thy dear Son Jesus lying lifeless in thy bosom: ask for me hatred of sin, which was the cause of His death, and made thee suffer so much; and then obtain for me grace to live a true Christian life and save my soul. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

14th Station – Jesus is laid in the tomb:

My Jesus, beside Thee in the tomb I desire that I may ever remain as one dead; and if I live, I wish to live only to Thee; that so one day I may come with Thee to taste of the bliss of heaven, the fruit of Thy Passion and most painful death. Amen. Holy Mother, pierce me through: In my heart each wound renew, Of my Saviour crucified. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

Let us Pray:

God, Who by the precious blood of Thy only begotten Son, did sanctify the standard of the cross; grant, we beseech Thee, that all those who rejoice in the glory of the same holy cross may at all times and places feel the gladness of Thy protection. Through the same Christ Our Lord.

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be for to the holy intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary (St. Alphonsus)

Most holy, immaculate Virgin, and my Mother. Mary, to thee, who art the Mother of my Lord, the Queen of the world, the advocate, the hope, the refuge of sinners, I have recourse who am the most miserable of all. I worship thee, O great Queen, and I thank thee for all the graces which thou hast hitherto granted me; and especially I thank thee for having delivered me from hell, which I have so often deserved. I love thee, most amiable Lady; and for the love which I bear thee, I promise always to serve thee, and to do all that I can that thou mayest also beloved by others. I place all my hopes in thee, and I confide my salvation to thy care; accept me for thy servant, and receive me under thy mantle, O Mother of mercy And since thou art so powerful with God, do thou deliver me from all temptations, or rather obtain for me strength to triumph over them until death. Of thee I ask the true love of Jesus Christ; through thee I hope to die a good death. My Mother, by the love which thou bears to God, I beseech thee to help me always, but especially at the last moment of my life; leave me not until thou sees me safe in heaven, blessing thee, and singing thy mercies for all eternity. Amen

Prayer to St. Joseph (Father von Cochem)

In this my illness and need, I fly to thee, O most faithful foster father of Christ, St Joseph, and confidently invoke thy assistance. Thou art appointed by God to be the special patron of the dying, and as such thou art honored by every pious soul. Therefore, I also venerate thee as my advocate and recommend to thee my perilous passage out of this world. O dear St. Joseph, under thy care take my poor soul and my last hour. I beseech thee through thy great love for Jesus and Mary, and through all the joys and sorrows thou did share with them, let my great necessity move thy heart and fill it with compassion for me, thy poor client Protect me against the evil one and strengthen me in my grievous temptations. Cheer me in my despondency, strengthen me with consolation, that I may not despair. As Jesus and Mary did faithfully assist thee in thy death, sweetly consoling and encouraging thee, so mayest thou with Jesus and Mary faithfully assist, console and support my anguished soul. Into thy holy hands, into thy loving arms, on which thou did so frequently bear the dear little Jesus, do I recommend my sinful soul, imploring thee to receive it into thy holy hands and embrace it with thy loving arms. Amen.

Prayer to St. Barbara

O God, Who hast chosen St. Barbara to be the consolation of the living and of the dying, grant, we beseech Thee, through her intercession, that we may always live in Thy holy love, and place all our hopes in the merits of the most bitter Passion of Thy Son, so that we may never be surprised by the death of sin, but that, fortified by the Sacraments of Penance, Holy Eucharist and Extreme Unction, we may enter without fear upon the journey to eternal glory. This we ask most earnestly through the same Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

