

**PASSION
OF
JESUS CHRIST**

- Joseph Bosco

Opening Prayer

†
In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

– Amen!

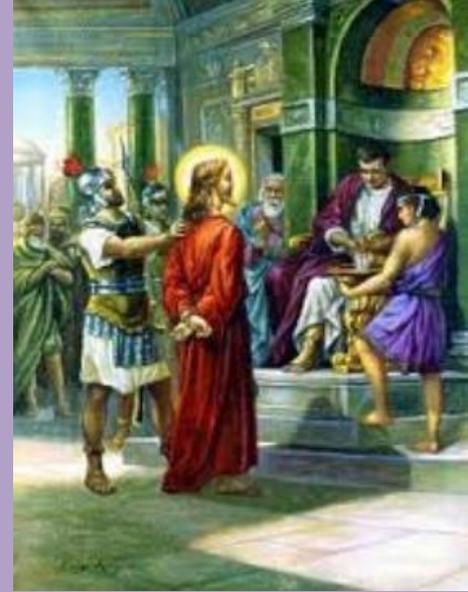
Act of Contrition:

O' Lord Jesus, You have made this journey of passion, to die for me with unutterable love; but I have so many times offended and abandoned You; but now I Love You with all my heart, and because I love You, I am sincerely sorry and repent for distancing myself from You.

Forgive me, my God and permit me to accompany You on this journey of passion. You go to die for Love of me; it is my heart's desire, my beloved redeemer to live and die united with You.

I. JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Mathew 27:24-26 / Luke 23:24-25



Meditation:

The judge and the creator is now judged by the created; *“Here is the man!”* says Pilate (Jn 19:15) *“Crucify him! Crucify him!”* cries the chief priests and the guards (Jn 19:16). Jesus who forgave sins, is being condemned; Jesus who healed sickness and cleansed wounds is now being scourged and crowned with thorns; Jesus who raised to life the dead is being told *“Away! Take him away! Crucify him!”* (Jn 19:15).

Reflection:

How is my judgmental mind? How often do I judge others, even worse condemn? How many times have I washed my hands against the truth?

Judge not others and I will not be judged!

“Lord help me not to condemn other”

Prayer:

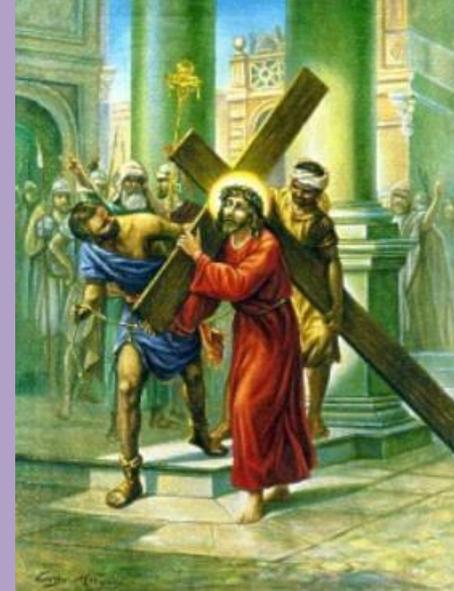
Almighty and ever living Father, I ask Your forgiveness for the times I have judged unjustly and for the times I have not stood for the truth.

I implore your Grace and Mercy on the people who are condemned and persecuted, and also for the souls in purgatory.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

II. JESUS CARRIES THE CROSS

John 19:17-18



Meditation:

After scourging, mocking and torture comes The Cross. The cross is indeed heavy, Jesus accepts it willingly, kisses it lovingly and fulfills the desire to accomplish this journey of passion to His death.

It was not only the physical weight of the cross that added to His torment, but also the weight of my sins; moreover the weight of my sins weighed heavier.

If it was not for Jesus, my Savior, I would have been thrown into the abyss of hell for my sins; for He bore them on His Cross for me.

Reflection:

God so Loved the world that He gave His only Son, Jesus as a ransom for my sins, and Jesus willingly accepted to die for my sins.

How many times have I taken this for granted and turned away from God and my Savior to sin again?

“My Savior, help me to carry my cross and follow you”

Prayer:

Eternal Father, I thank and praise You for ransoming Your Son’s life for my sins. I ask for your help and strength to combat temptations and live more worthy of eternal life.

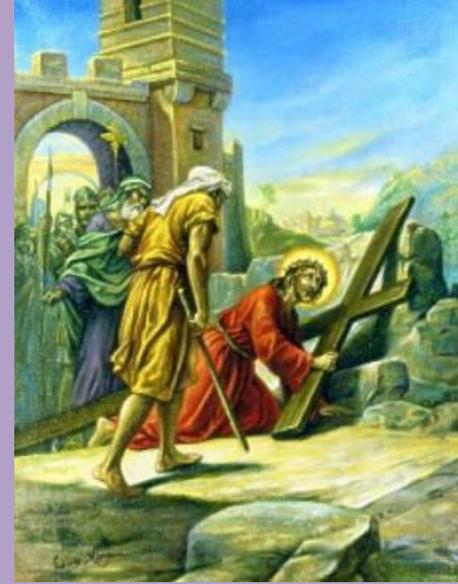
Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

III. JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

Isaiah 53: 4-6

Meditation:

Jesus was physically weak; added to the weight of the cross, the striking by the soldiers made Him stumble and fall to the ground. Even though it is hard, Jesus is focused, He tries and gets up as He is determined to save me from my bondage of sin, by Him dying on the cross.



Reflection:

It was not the weight of the cross, Lord, but the weight of my sins that made You stumble. How many times have I stumbled and tripped over my petty temptations and weaknesses? Was I focused to the cross while I fell? Have I been determined not to fall for temptations again?

“Jesus, my redeemer, help me to rise from my temptations and sins”

Prayer:

Forgiving Lord Almighty, with a contrite heart I seek Your forgiveness for all my faults. I need Your Grace and Strength to avoid temptations and live a holy life pleasing in Your sight.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

IV. JESUS MEETS HIS SORROWFUL MOTHER

Luke 2: 34-35



Meditation:

The Sorrowful Mother meets Her Son amidst chaotic sufferings. The mere look of each other passes a million arrows to wound each heart. Mary, as foretold by Simeon, accepts the Father's Will with Her heart melting in Sorrow; consoles Her Son on the way of His Passion.

Reflection:

Have I been a source of consolation towards others? Have I accepted my own sufferings of my daily life as a sacrifice? Did I have recourse to the Mother of Sorrows during the time of my sufferings?

“Assist me, O' Mother of Sorrows, now and at the hour of my death”

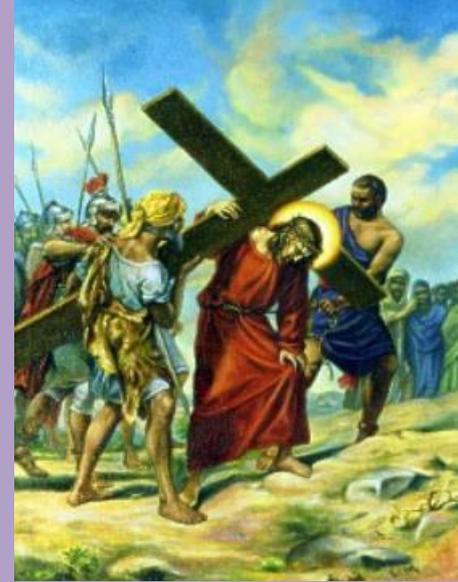
Prayer:

Merciful Father, help me to be a source of consolation in this world of misery and trials; and You my 'Mother of Sorrows' intercede for me, Your child that I may obtain Grace & Mercy to lead a life worthy of eternal salvation.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

V. SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY THE CROSS

Mark 15: 21



Meditation:

Jesus was very weak and weary that it was hard for Him to walk hastily. Fearing He would die on the way, when they wished Him to die an ignominious death of suffering on the cross, they made Simon of Cyrene to help Jesus with the cross.

Reluctantly he accepted not knowing fully the circumstance, as a passer by he did not want to partake in the shame. Little did he know that he was helping an ‘Innocent Lamb’ to its slaughter.

Reflection:

How is my deeds and voices towards the innocent? Do I follow the teachings of Jesus, to help others in any situation? How is my charity towards the needy?

“Jesus, Lord, help me to see you in my neighbor”

Prayer:

All powerful eternal God, give me Grace to take up the burden of the needy, help me to share my gifts and talents towards others; so that some day I may help Jesus himself.

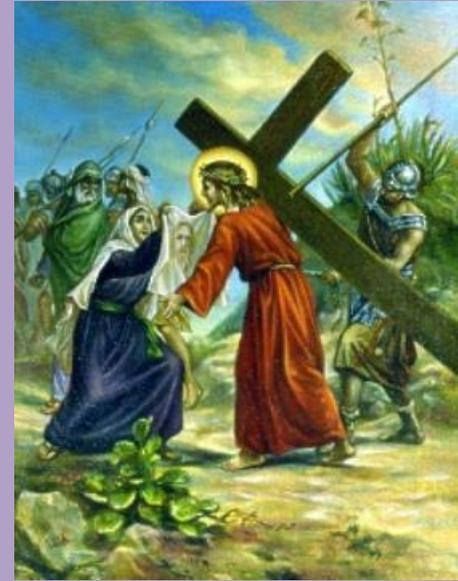
Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

VI. VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

Isaiah 53: 2-3

Meditation:

Bruised, derided, cursed and defiled was the face of Jesus. The sweat with blood which oozed out of His lacerated flesh invited Veronica to refresh her Savior's face; bowing in humility she stretched out the cloth before Jesus who not only accepted to be wiped but also leaves behind His ever-lasting countenance on the cloth.



Reflection:

How wonderfully pure was my soul when it was baptized, since then how much worse have I disfigured it by my sins?

How willing am I to be wiped off my guilt through the sacraments so that Jesus can leave behind His countenance on my soul?

“Jesus, make me an instrument of Peace to others.”

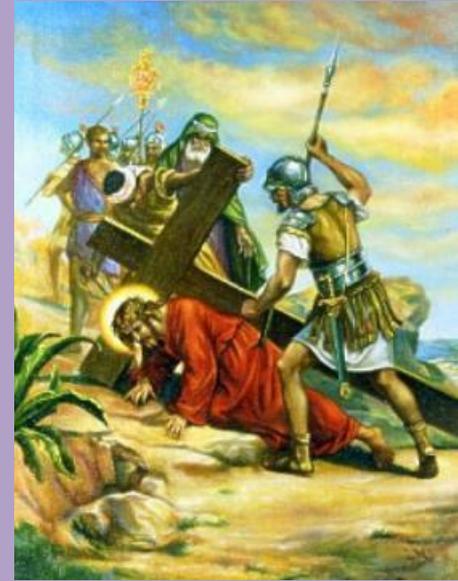
Prayer:

Eternal Father, I offer You my soul full of guilt as I have disfigured it since my Baptism. As You only can restore its former beauty, I implore You to cleanse me by the blood of Your Son and imprint His Face on me forever.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

VII. JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

Psalm 38: 8-9



Meditation:

The weight of the cross and the soldier's blows to hasten His steps, my Lord Jesus Christ falls to the ground under the cross a second time.

My Lord takes up this sufferings just for me so that one day I might feast with Him in the divine eternal banquet.

He willingly rises up to fulfill His Father's Will and His destiny.

Reflection:

How many times have I asked pardon, obtained Mercy and begun again to offend Jesus? How many times have I fallen into the same sins again and again? Do I really resolve not to fall in Sin?

“Jesus, my redeemer, help me not to fall ever again into my transgressions”

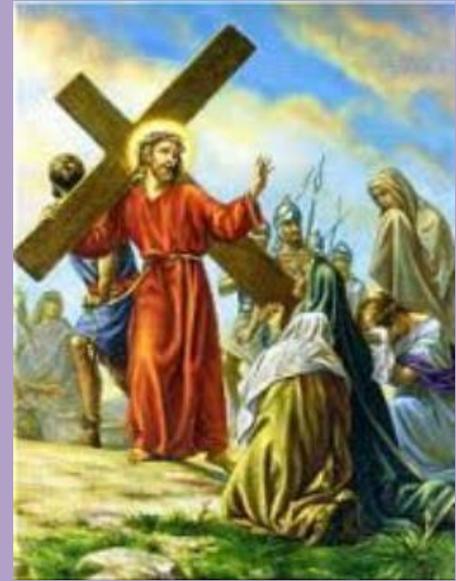
Prayer:

Loving God, by the merits of Your Son's second fall, help me not to fall in my past sins and have a firm resolution to sin no more.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

VIII. JESUS CONSOLES THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

Luke 23: 28



Meditation:

It was the people's response, "*Let His blood be upon us and upon our children.*" (Mt 27:25) for they were unaware of the curse they incur upon themselves; but Jesus by His mercy not only asks the women to pray for themselves and their children but also later generously forgives them. (Lk 23:34)

Reflection:

How are my words and actions towards others daily? Do I think of the consequences of my words before speaking? Do I realize the impact of my actions before acting?

"Forgive me Jesus, for an unknown action of mine!"

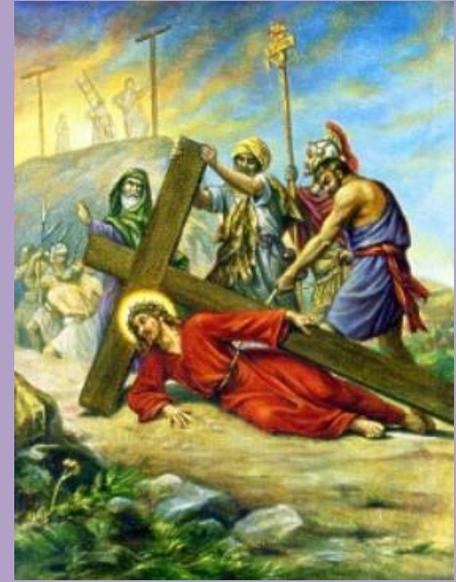
Prayer:

Almighty Father, by the prayer of Your Son, forgive all my actions that had a negative impact on people I knew, by Your Grace help me to be more conscious of my words and actions.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

IX. JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

Psalm 37: 23-24



Meditation:

The grave sins of mine oppressed Jesus and made him weak. His strength is diminished but His love for me is not. He has surrendered completely to the Will of His Father, that His suffering will buy my Salvation. As Jesus falls the third time, the cruelty level increases. More cruel it is when I fall again in sin unwilling to resolve.

Reflection:

How often do I help others who wish to resolve their life in faith? Am I a stumbling block for other's path to righteousness?

“Help me Jesus, to rise in faith for your Glory!”

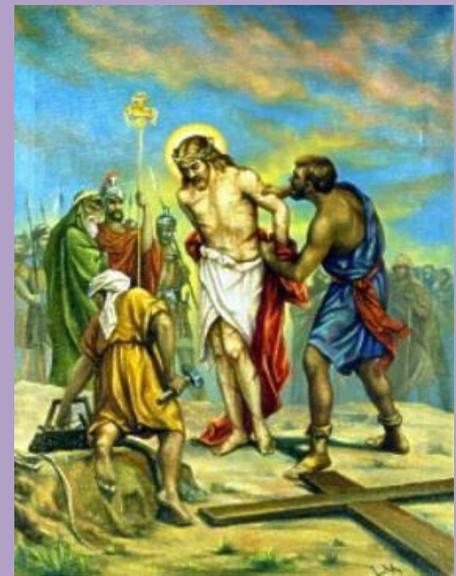
Prayer:

Almighty and Merciful Father, I implore your Grace to enrich me in path of Faith. Help me understand the beliefs and guide me in the path of righteousness.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

X. JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

John 19: 23-24



Meditation:

Jesus, the Lord of the Lords is stripped. The King of the universe stands naked on this earth. The creator is made to depart from the created with nothingness. The garment adhered to His lacerated flesh and came off so violently renewing the pains of His wounds from the scourges. Thus was my redeemer so cruelly humiliated at the end of His earthly journey.

Reflection:

How attached am I to the worldly desires? Am I willing to strip myself of my sins? How do I react when I am humiliated? Do I intentionally humiliate others and strip them of their faults publicly?

“Have mercy on me Jesus, make me more humble!”

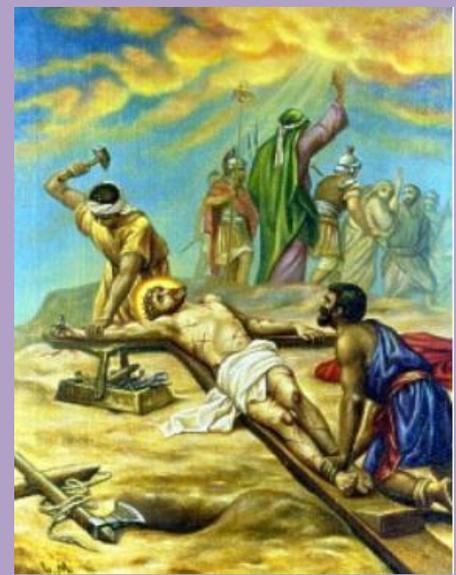
Prayer:

Merciful Father, search my heart internally and strip me of all my guilt. I seek your mercy so that I may detach myself of the worldly pleasures and set my eyes on the eternal salvation.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

XI. JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Luke 23: 33-43



Meditation:

Jesus Christ who freed humans from demons is now bound by nails to the Wooden Cross. My Lord stretches His arms willingly to be nailed as a symbol of Love; He bore my sins, nailed it to the cross, thus securing a place for me in His Eternal abode.

“For us it is just; this is payment for what we have done., but this Man has done nothing wrong.”(Lk 23:41) “Yet ours were the sorrows He bore, our were the sufferings He endured.”(Is 53:4)

Reflection:

How deep am I nailed to my sins? Do I seek forgiveness and grace while I still can? Are my thoughts pure and God-centered? Am I prepared to meet my sudden end?

“Jesus, remember me when You come into your Kingdom” (Lk 23:42)

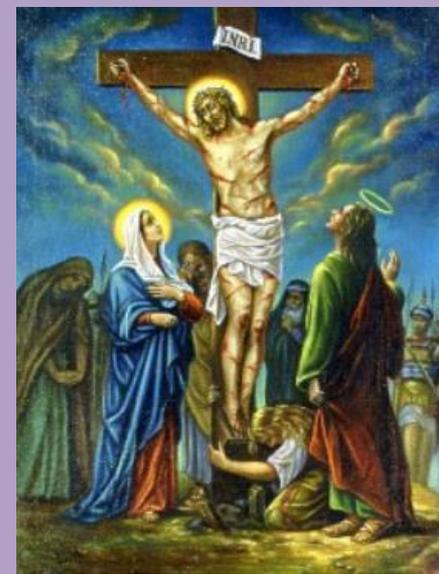
Prayer:

Glorious and Almighty Father, nail myself to the cross that I may follow on the path of Jesus who instructed me to deny myself and take my cross, so that one day I may share the eternal and everlasting light.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

XII. JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

John 19: 28-30



Meditation:

After three hours of agony, pain and suffering; Jesus felt dejected; *“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabbathani”* (Mt 27:46) my transgressions that caused Him to feel dejected, still His Love for me is not diminished. His obedience to His Heavenly Father consumes Him and even in that agony asks to quench His thirst (Jn 19:28-29) thus fulfilling every single stroke written about Him. *“It is accomplished”* (Jn 19:30)

“ABANDONS HIS WEIGHT TO THE CROSS, BOWS HIS HEAD AND GIVES UP HIS SPIRIT”

Reflection:

How much obedient am I in following God’s commandments? Do I fulfill all obligations stipulated by Jesus through His Church? Am I willing to fulfill till the end, all my responsibilities?

“Jesus walk me to the path of righteousness”

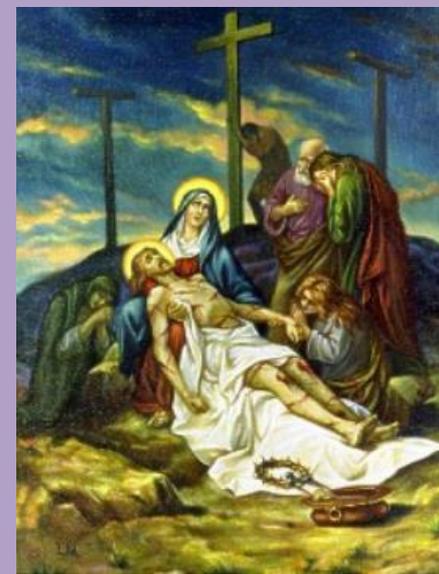
Prayer:

Eternal Father, I implore Your strength to carryout my daily responsibilities, both Spiritual & Temporal and one day confidently echo the words of my redeemer, *“It is finished and I commit my spirit unto You”*.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

XIII. JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

John 19: 40



Meditation:

Jesus poured out on me His last drop of blood and water from His side, thus the source of life gushed forth and an ocean of Mercy opened up. Gospel of John (19:34-35) narrates a truthful and a trustworthy testimony that stands until the present day.

Joseph & Nicodemus took Jesus down from the cross and placed Him in the arms of His Sorrowful Mother, who accepted Him with unutterable tenderness, and pressed Him close to Her Bosom.

Reflection:

How do I receive the Body of Christ in the Sacrament of Communion; do I receive Him worthily? How pure was Mary's heart that God made her bore His only Son, Jesus?

“O’Mother of Sorrows, intercede to cleanse my soul from all Sins!”

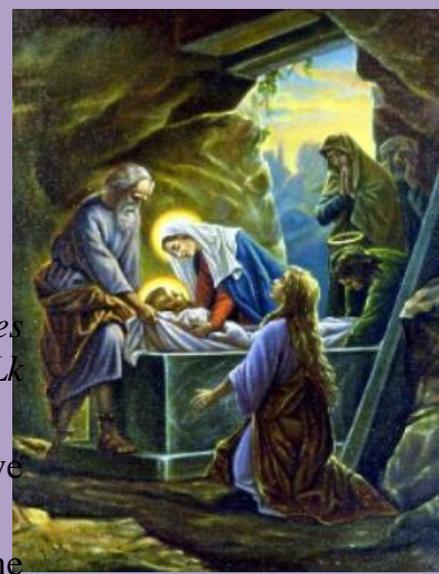
Prayer:

Loving Father, by the intercession of my beloved Mother, forgive me for the times I have received your Son's Body unworthily. Cleanse me and help me stay pure in heart, and live a life worthy in your sight.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

XIV. JESUS IS LAID IN THE SEPULCHER

Matthew 27: 59-60



Meditation:

My Lord is rested in a tomb, indeed not of His own as He said, *“Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His Head.”* (Lk 9:58)

Jesus was not of this world but He willingly entered it to mediate the Father’s Love for me and left it purging my sins.

The tomb stone is rolled, shutting Jesus at rest, but this is not the end, its just the beginning, for Jesus will conquer and reign in Majesty forever.

Reflection:

Do I stay purged from what Jesus has done for me on the Cross? How open am I for correction, though it includes pain and suffering? Do I roll the stone hindering God’s Grace to me and to others through me?

“Shut me off from the pleasures of the world, my Jesus”

Prayer:

Eternal Father, I offer you, the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your beloved Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in atonement for my weaknesses. Purge me again from my sins and help me live and die united with you.

Through the Passion of Your divine Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

Concluding Prayer

Almighty and ever-living Father, I have enriched my Christian calling by following your Son's Passion which you gave us as an example of humility, obedience and patience.

Graciously grant me that I, inflamed by His infinite Love may continue to live this temporal life bearing my cross of this world and stay focused on Spiritual life that I may one day inherit.

Through your Son, my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever; – Amen!

For the intentions of Our Holy Father, Our Bishop and Our Pastors.

1 Our Father..., 3 Hail Mary's... and 1 Glory be...

†
In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

– Amen!