

Seven Sorrows of Our Lady

First Sorrow: *The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:24-35)*

And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

Response Prayer:

God of all glory you prepare Blessed Mary ever Virgin for the cross she too was to bear. Prepare each of us for the cross to which we are called to carry. Grant this for the glory of your Son Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Second Sorrow: *The Flight of the Holy Family to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)*

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Response Prayer:

Gracious Lord you watched over your dear son in the face of trial. We pray in all the trials we face in our life let us in all humility turn to you trusting that you will call us out of the trials we face. WE pray through your Son our Blessed Lord. *Amen.*

Third Sorrow: *The Search of Jesus Lost in the Temple (Luke 2:41-49)*

journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

Response Prayer

Heavenly Father, In the rush of this world we too have days where we must search for Jesus. We pray open the eyes of our heart to see him forever in your presence making intercession for us. We ask through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Fourth Sorrow: *The Meeting of the Women of Jerusalem with Jesus Carrying the Cross (Luke 23:27-29)*

And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Response Prayer

O Holy God in your mercy we weep for our sins and the sins of the whole world. We in our pride led your Son to be crucified. Break our hearts for love of you that we may gathered to you. In Jesus' name we pray. *Amen.*

Fifth Sorrow: *The Watch of the Mother of Jesus as He dies on the Cross (John 19:25-27)*

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the scripture), "I thirst." A bowl full of vinegar stood there; so they put a sponge full of the vinegar on hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Response Prayer

Blessed Jesus in your agony your love never ceased. We pray that as you gave your Blessed Mother into the care of John you will also always provide for us through your never ending grace and mercy. We pray in your most precious Name. *Amen.*

Sixth Sorrow: *The Taking of the Body of Jesus from the Cross (John 19: 34-37)*

But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness -- his testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth -- that you also may believe. For these things took place that the scripture might be fulfilled, "Not a bone of him shall be broken." And again another scripture says, "They shall look on him whom they have pierced."

Response Prayer

Merciful Father we come before you as those who pierced the side of your Son and have been washed in his blood. We pray have mercy on us for in faith in our Lord Jesus Christ we accept that in his death is also our death to sin. Gracious Lord receive our prayer. *Amen.*

Seventh Sorrow: *The Burial in the Tomb (Matthew 27:57-61)*

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb, and departed. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the sepulchre.

Response Prayer

Blessed Lord by your death you took away the sting of death. We pray give us the heart of Joseph of Arimathea to be humble servants of all those who are rejected by the faithless of world in which we live. We pray to your greater glory. *Amen*