

The Stations Of The Cross



For Roman Catholics throughout the world, the Stations of the Cross are synonymous with Lent, Holy Week and, especially, Good Friday. This devotion is also known as the "Way of the Cross", the "Via Crucis", and the "Via Dolorosa." It commemorates 14 key events on the day of Christ's crucifixion. The majority concern His final walk through the streets of Jerusalem, carrying the Cross.

The Stations originated in medieval Europe when wars prevented Christian pilgrims from visiting the Holy Land. European artists created works depicting scenes of Christ's journey to Calvary. The faithful installed these sculptures or paintings at intervals along a procession route, inside the parish church or outdoors. Performing the devotion meant walking the entire route, stopping to pray at each "station."

Today, images of the Stations (or simple crosses representing them) are on display in almost all Catholic churches. They serve mainly as a focus for Lenten worship services. But the Stations can also be performed privately, at any time of the year, even at home.

I



Jesus Is Condemned To Death

II



Jesus Carries His Cross

III



Jesus Falls The First Time

IV



Jesus Meets His Mother

V



Jesus Is Helped By Simon

VI



Veronica Wipes The Face Of Jesus

VII



Jesus Falls The Second Time

VIII



Jesus Meets The Women Of Jerusalem

IX



Jesus Falls The Third Time

X



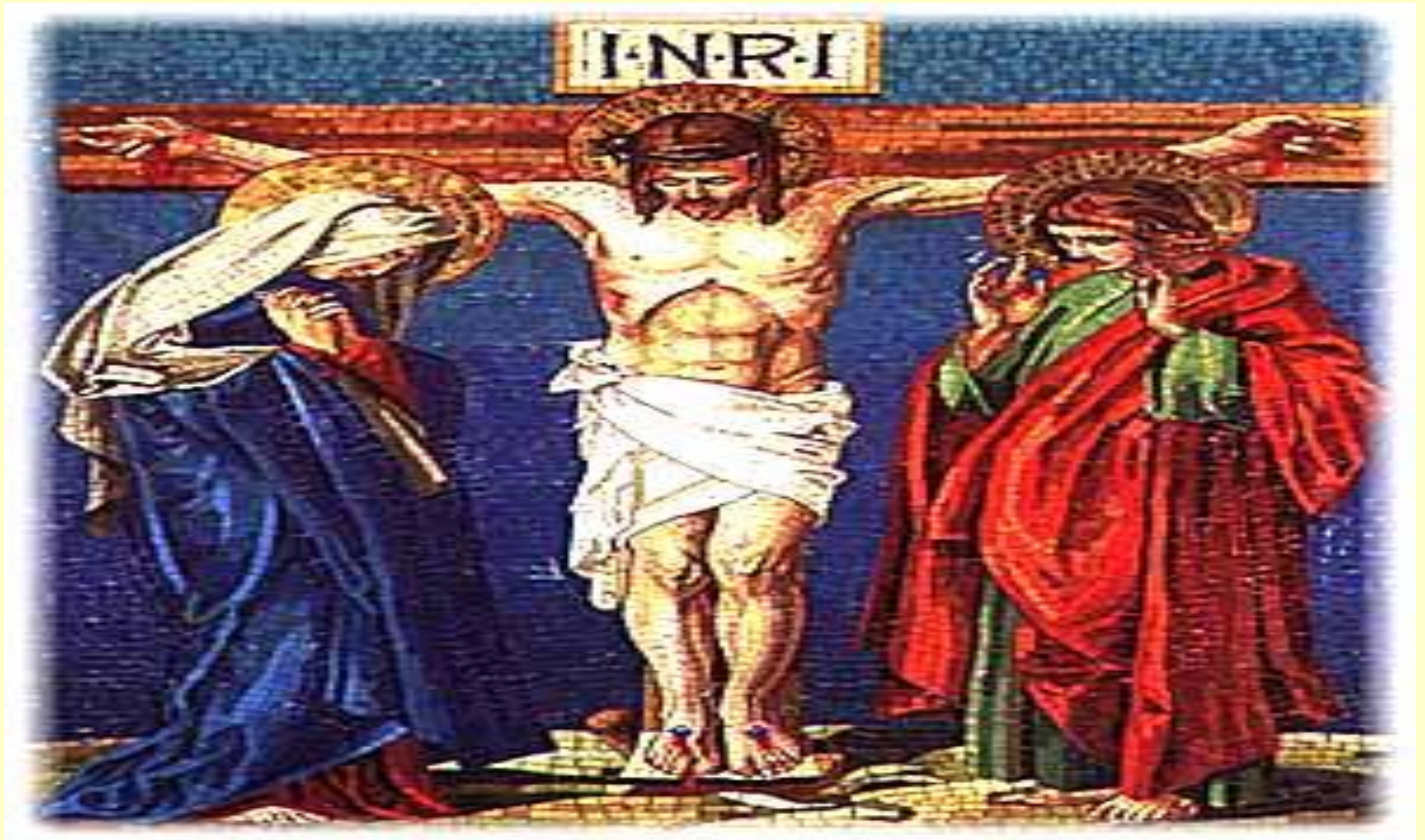
Jesus Is Stripped Of His Garments

XI



Jesus Is Nailed To The Cross

XII



Jesus Dies On The Cross

XIII



Jesus Is Taken Down From The Cross

XIV



Jesus Is Laid In The Tomb