

## The 13<sup>th</sup> Station: Jesus Is Taken Down From The Cross



**All:** We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

**Reading:** *When the soldiers came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out.*

**Reflection:** Jesus is dead. His body hangs on the cross, limp and lifeless, until at last it is taken down and placed in the lap of his mother. Mary can do absolutely nothing to change the events of this day, but in her helplessness, she does not withdraw in defeat. She clings to her son. By her example, may we learn to do the same.

**Pause For Thought:** How must Mary have felt to have held the body of her son in her arms? Have you lost anyone dear to you? How did this (or would it) make you feel? What do we do in these times of helplessness? Who can you turn to when you need support and comfort?

**Prayer:** Jesus, we sometimes face challenges that leave us at a loss. We worry that it's beyond our power to make a difference for those around us. Show us the example of your Blessed Mother, and teach us that when we can think of nothing else to do, we can hold fast to you, and you will always lead us forward.