

Week 24



THE ROSARY IN A YEAR

WITH FR. MARK-MARY AMES, CFR

PHASE 3: MEDITATING ON THE MYSTERIES

The Sorrowful Mysteries

CARRYING OF THE CROSS:

A Heart Willing to Wait



After somehow living through the brutal beatings by Pilate's Roman soldiers—an experience that the fully human Jesus of Nazareth had never endured in his three decades of life—our fully Divine Lord literally takes his heavy Cross in hand as he trudges toward Calvary and his awaited death. In so doing, Christ demonstrates his commitment to doing the Father's will as he suffers additional pain and humiliation during the rest of these Stations of the Cross.

Along the way, the weight of the Cross is too great for the weakened victim, so the Romans order Simon of Cyrene to haul the load. While not noted in the Gospels, tradition holds that a compassionate woman named Veronica wipes Jesus' face, a moment included in our Stations of the Cross.

At the site of the execution, "they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it" (Matthew 27:34). Perhaps its bitterness was simply too much for him. Jesus' hands and feet were nailed to that tree, next to two criminals. The events that followed, which lead to the moment Our Lord breathes his last, will be discussed in the next edition of this bulletin.

Fruit of this mystery: We pray for a patient heart.

Scripture: Matthew 27:32

As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross.

