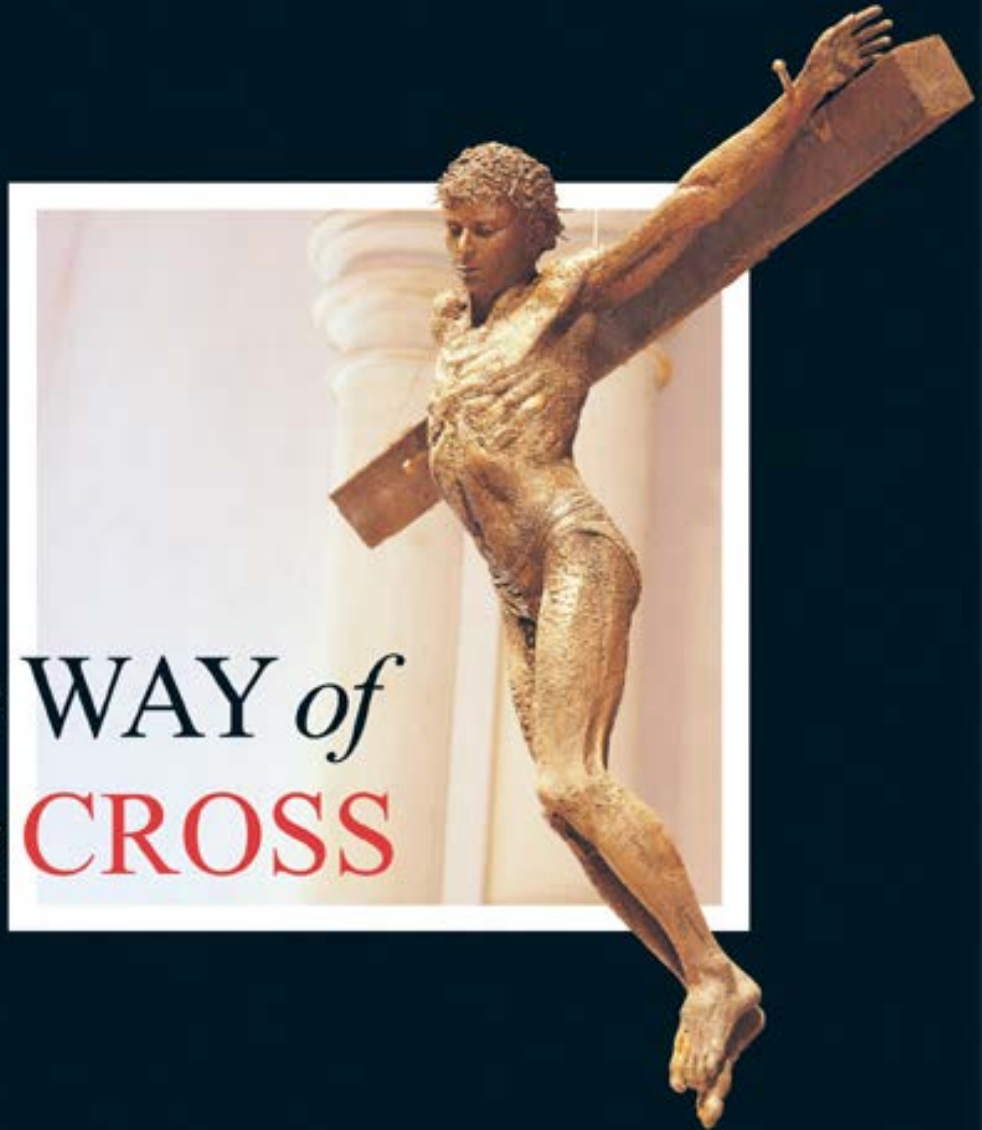


*the* **WAY** *of*  
*the* **CROSS**



## INTRODUCTION

**Presider** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All** **Amen.**

**Presider** The grace of God,  
so rich in mercy and boundless in compassion,  
be with you all.

**All** **And with your spirit.**

*A brief introduction may be offered*

*Reading from Isaiah 52:13-15*

**Reader** See, my servant will prosper, he shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights. As the crowds were appalled on seeing him - so disfigured did he look that he seemed no longer human - so will the crowds be astonished at him and kings stand speechless before him; for they shall see something never told and witness something never heard before.

## STABAT MATER

*Stabat Mater dolorosa  
juxta crucem  
lacrimosa  
dum pendebat Filius.*

At the cross her station keeping,  
Mary stood in sorrow weeping  
when her Son was crucified.

## THE FIRST STATION: THE LAST SUPPER

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Mark 14:12-13, 17, 22-25*

**Reader** On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, Jesus' disciples said to him, *where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?* So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, *Go into the city... Make preparations for us there.*

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, *take; this is my body.* Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.

He said to them, *this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it in the kingdom of God.*

### Silence

**Presider** Behold the Lamb of God,  
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
**All** ***Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, may we too be the saving sacrifice,  
the body broken and the blood poured out  
for the life of the world.  
We ask this of you, Lord of the world for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Mother, may this prayer be granted:  
that Christ's love may be implanted  
in the depths of my poor soul.

## THE SECOND STATION: THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

### *Reading from Matthew 26:36-39*

**Reader** Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, Sit here while I go over there and pray.

He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

And going a little further, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, My Father, if it is possible; let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

### **Silence**

**Presider** Jesus said, I seek not to do my own will.  
**All** ***I seek to do the will of the one who sent me.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, may our will and all our desire  
be one with yours,  
just as you are one with the Father,  
so that in our struggles  
we may know the peace which is your gift.  
We ask this of you, Lord of peace for ever and ever.

**All** ***Amen.***

### **STABAT MATER**

While she waited in her anguish,  
seeing Christ in torment languish,  
bitter sorrow pierced her heart.

## THE THIRD STATION: THE TRIAL BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Mark 14:55-56, 58-64*

**Reader** Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree.

We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.' But even on this point their testimony did not agree.

Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you? But he was silent and did not answer.

Again the high priest asked him, Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One? Jesus said, I am; and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision? All of them condemned him as deserving death.

### Silence

**Presider** The Lord God comes to my help; therefore I shall not be disgraced.

**All** ***I have set my face like flint; I know I shall not be put to shame.***

### Prayer

**Presider** Lord Jesus, give us eyes to see you coming on the clouds of heaven; give us lips to speak your word of truth and a heart to enter your silence.

We ask this of you, Lord of truth for ever and ever.

**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Virgin, in your love befriend me,  
at the Judgement Day defend me.  
Help me by your constant prayer.

## THE FOURTH STATION:

## JESUS BEFORE PONTIUS PILATE

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from John 18:28, 33, 36-40.*

**Reader** They took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. Pilate asked him, Are you the King of the Jews? Jesus answered; My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.

Pilate asked him, so you are a king? Jesus answered; You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice. Pilate asked him, what is truth?

After he had said this, he went outside to the Jews again and told them, I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews? They shouted in reply, not this man but Barabbas!

### Silence

**Presider** Rulers shall fall silent before him.  
**All** ***They shall see something never heard before.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, you are the truth which sets us free.  
May we always listen to your voice  
and love with all our heart the truth that we hear.  
We ask this of you who live and reign for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Mary, fount of love's devotion,  
let me share with true emotion  
all the sorrow you endured.

## THE FIFTH STATION: JESUS IS SCOURGED

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Matthew 27:24-30*

**Reader** When Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves. Then the people as a whole answered, His blood be on us and on our children!

So he released Barabbas for them, and after scourging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head.

They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head.

### Silence

**Presider** He was wounded for our sins, crushed for our iniquity.  
**All** ***On him lies the punishment that brings us peace, and by his wounds we are healed.***

*Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, shamed and humiliated on the way to death, may our own humiliations teach us humility, that the power of your wounds may work in us.  
We ask this of you, Lord of all healing for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Christ she saw, for our salvation,  
scourged with cruel acclamation,  
bruised and beaten by the rod.

## THE SIXTH STATION: JESUS CARRIES HIS CROSS TO CALVARY

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** *For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.*

*Reading from Luke 9:20-26.*

**Reader** Jesus said to his disciples, who do you say that I am? Peter answered, The Messiah of God. He sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, saying, The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

Then he said to them all, If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.

What does it profit them if they gain the whole world but lose or forfeit themselves? Those who are ashamed of me and my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

### **Silence**

**Presider** Those who do not carry their cross and follow me  
**All** *They cannot be my disciples*

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, weighed down by the burden of suffering,  
give us strength to carry the cross  
and to rise with you each time we fall beneath its weight.  
We ask this of you whose burden is light for ever and ever.

**All** *Amen.*

### **STABAT MATER**

Ever patient in her yearning  
though her tear-filled eyes were burning,  
Mary gazed upon her Son.



## THE SEVENTH STATION:      **SIMON HELPS JESUS CARRY THE CROSS**

**Presider**    We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All**            ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Mark 15:21-22.*

**Reader**      After they led him out to crucify him, they compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull).

### **Silence**

**Presider**    Come to me, all who are weary and bearing heavy burdens  
**All**            ***And I will give you rest.***

**Presider**    Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
**All**            ***For I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your soul.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider**    Lord Jesus, may we always walk with you,  
even when you go where we would rather not go,  
for you alone can lead us home.  
We ask this of you, Lord of the journey for ever and ever.  
**All**            ***Amen.***

### **STABAT MATER**

With what pain and desolation,  
with what noble resignation,  
Mary watched her dying Son.

## THE EIGHTH STATION:

## JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Luke 23:27-31.*

**Reader** A great number of the people followed Jesus, and among them were women beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' 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?

### Silence

**Presider** They will mourn for him as for an only child.  
**All** ***It is the innocent one of the Lord who has been slain.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, innocent though condemned,  
teach us to weep for ourselves and for our sins;  
teach us to weep with all those who weep  
and turn the tears of this world into songs of joy.  
We ask this of you, Lord of our joy for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Who – that sorrow contemplating,  
on that passion meditating –  
would not share the Virgin's grief?

## THE NINTH STATION:

## JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Luke 23:33-38*

**Reader** When they reached the place called The Skull, there they crucified him and the two criminals, one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.' Then they cast lots to share out his clothing.

The people stayed there watching. As for the leaders, they jeered at him with the words, 'He saved others, let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, coming up to him, offering him vinegar, and saying, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews'.

### Silence

**Presider** They shall look on the one whom they have pierced.  
**All** ***They shall weep for him as for a firstborn child.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, who forgave those who nailed you to the Cross, give us the grace to forgive even our enemies; let us not be among those who scoff, but with you and all who are merciful. We ask this of you, Lord of mercy for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

At the cross, your sorrow sharing,  
all your grief and torment bearing,  
let me stand and mourn with you.

## THE TENTH STATION:

## JESUS AND THE REPENTANT THIEF

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Luke 23: 39-43*

**Reader** One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us! But the other rebuked him, saying; Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. He replied, Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

### Silence

**Presider** Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
**All** ***Do not cast me away from your presence.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, give us eyes to see  
the truth of our life, to confess our sins,  
that we may enter your Kingdom  
and share with you the joys of Paradise.  
We ask this of you, Lord of compassion for ever and ever.

**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Saviour, when my life shall leave me,  
through your mother's prayers receive me  
with the fruits of victory.

## THE ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS SPEAKS TO HIS MOTHER AND JOHN

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from John 19: 25-27.*

**Reader** Meanwhile, standing near 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 beside her, he said to his mother, Woman, here is your son.

Then he said to the disciple, Here is your mother. And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

### Silence

**Presider** Does a woman forget the child of her womb?  
**All** ***Even if these forget, I will not forget you.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, who gave Mary to be our mother too, let us be like her as we stand beneath the Cross, loving you to the end, trusting that life will conquer death. We ask this of you, Lord of all faithfulness for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Mother, ever interceding,  
hear me in my fervent pleading:  
fire me with your love of Christ

## THE TWELFTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from Mark 15: 33-39*

**Reader** When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani? Which means, My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, listen, he is calling for Elijah. And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, truly this man was God's Son.

### Silence

**Presider** All of us have been baptized into Christ Jesus.  
**All** ***We were baptized into his death.***

**Presider** If we have died with Christ  
**All** ***We believe that we will also live with him.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, you breathe your last on the Cross so that you may breathe into us the Spirit of life. May the Spirit bring to life the grace of Baptism in us, that we may truly live your death and resurrection. We ask this of you, Lord of life for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Christ she saw with life-blood failing,  
all her anguish unavailing,  
saw him breathe his very last.

## THE THIRTEENTH STATION:

## JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from John 19:38-42*

**Reader** After this, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a disciple of Jesus -- though a secret one because he was afraid of the Jews -- asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission, so they came and took it away.

Nicodemus came as well -- the same one who had first come to Jesus at night-time -- and he brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, following the Jewish burial custom.

At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in this garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. Since it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

### Silence

**Presider** My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.  
**All** ***My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.***

### *Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, we wait by your tomb in the darkness, trusting in the promise we have heard:  
that life not death will triumph.  
May all the darkness turn to light.  
We ask this of you, Lord of light for ever and ever.  
**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Fairest maid of all creation,  
queen of hope and consolation,  
let me feel your grief sublime.

## THE FOURTEENTH STATION:

*{To be omitted on Good Friday}*

## JESUS RISES FROM THE DEAD

**Presider** We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
**All** ***For by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.***

*Reading from John 20:1-9*

**Reader** Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene, came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, they have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

### Silence

**Presider** The Lord has risen as he said.  
**All** ***He is risen indeed.***

*Prayer*

**Presider** Lord Jesus, who have vanquished the power of death, open all the tombs of this world, we pray, so that peace may come beyond conflict, joy beyond sorrow and light beyond all darkness. We ask this of you, Lord of life and death for ever and ever.

**All** ***Amen.***

### STABAT MATER

Let me to your love be taken,  
let my soul in death awaken  
to the joys of Paradise.



## CONCLUSION

*A brief reflection may be offered*

**Presider** Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God,  
who sent your Son into the world  
to show the way of humble obedience,  
even dying on the Cross,  
grant in your mercy  
that we may learn from his Passion  
and so share the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All** **Amen.**

**OR**

**Presider** Let us pray  
God of all glory, who sent Jesus your Son  
to bear our sins and raise up the fallen,  
keep before us always the truth of his Paschal Mystery,  
that we may follow where he has gone,  
through the darkness of death into light eternal.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All** **Amen.**

## THE ANGELUS

**Presider** The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.  
**All** ***And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.***

**Presider** Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**All** ***Holy Mary, mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.***

**Presider** Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
**All** ***Be it done unto me according to thy word.***

**Presider** Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**All** ***Holy Mary, mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.***

**Presider** And the Word was made flesh.  
**All** ***And dwelt amongst us.***

**Presider** Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**All** ***Holy Mary, mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.***

**Presider** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
**All** ***That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.***

**Presider** Let us pray.  
Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may, by his passion ✠ and cross, be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord,

**All**           **Amen.**

## **BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**



**THIS BOOKLET IS TO REMAIN  
AT THE  
CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN**