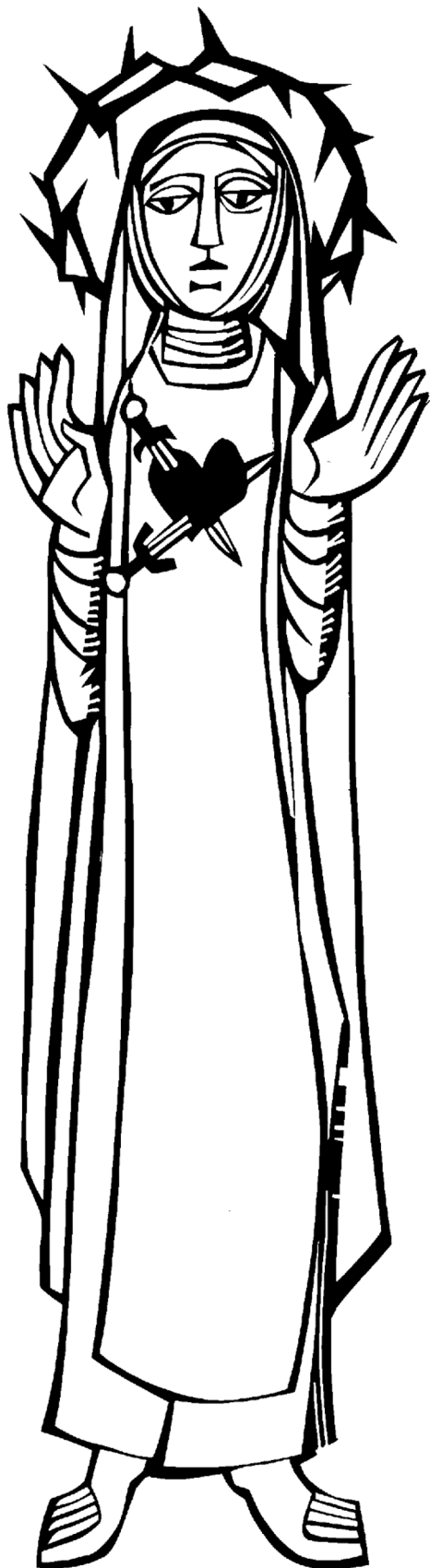


## The Seven Sorrows of Our Lady



*The devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows shows the role she played in standing by Jesus, her Son. The art depicts the prophecy of Simeon when he told Mary that her soul will be pierced at the sufferings of Jesus.*

*This prayer has as its focus the seven sorrows or dolours of Our Lady. It is similar to the rosary, but instead of 10 Hail Marys, 7 Hail Marys are said each time. It is a devotion which is used by the Servite Friars.*

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

### The first sorrow of Our Lady: The prophecy of Simeon

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (Lk 2:33-35)

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.

Our Father ...

7 x Hail Mary ...

Glory be ...

### The second sorrow of Our Lady: The flight to Egypt

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (Mt 2:13-15)

The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead.

Our Father ...

7 x Hail Mary ...

Glory be ...

### The third sorrow of Our Lady: Jesus among the doctors of the Law

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (Lk 2:41- 50)

Every year his parents used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how

worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me? He replied, 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

Our Father ...  
7 x Hail Mary ...  
Glory be ...

#### The fourth sorrow of Our Lady: Jesus meets Mary as he carries the Cross

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (Luke 23:26 –28)

As they were leading him away they seized on a man, Simon from Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and made him shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed him, and of women too, who mourned and lamented for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children.'

Our Father ...  
7 x Hail Mary ...  
Glory be ...

#### The fifth sorrow of Our Lady: Jesus dies on the Cross

A reading from the holy gospel according to John (John 19: 25-27)

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this is your son'. Then to the disciple he said, 'This is your mother'. And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

Our Father ...  
7 x Hail Mary ...  
Glory be ...

#### The sixth sorrow of Our Lady: Jesus is taken down from the cross

A reading from the holy gospel according to John (John 19: 38)

Joseph of Arimathea, 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.

Our Father ...  
7 x Hail Mary ...  
Glory be ...

#### The seventh sorrow of Our Lady: Jesus is buried in the tomb

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 27: 59 – 61)

Joseph of Arimathea took the body, wrapped it in a clean shroud and put it in his own new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a large stone across the entrance of the tomb and went away. Now Mary of Magdala and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Our Father ...  
7 x Hail Mary ...  
Glory be ...

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen