

Welcome to Week 4!

4th Sunday of Lent Gospel - Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

The prodigal son

Perhaps we recognise something of ourselves in the prodigal son: foolishly preferring pleasure and ease to love; confidently striking out in life with his own plans; wondering what to do when it all goes wrong; and even then, rehearsing an apology motivated more by self-interest than pure love. But amazingly, through all this, his father lovingly waits, looking out for his son's return.

Lord, I thank and praise you for your patient love even when I take wrong paths; I long to return to your open arms.

Laetare Sunday (Sun March 27th)

The 4th (middle) Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday or 'rejoicing' Sunday (named after the words of the Entrance Antiphon at Mass 'Laetare Jerusalem ...' or 'Rejoice O Jerusalem...'). On Laetare Sunday the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances, with Easter in sight. The colour rose is used to represent this.

It is also called 'Mothering Sunday' - nowadays we remember our mothers and give them thankful cards and gifts, though in times past people used celebrate their baptism by visiting their 'mother' church, i.e. where they were baptised.

Am I joyful in my fasting and almsgiving? Do I have true hope in Jesus and Heaven which He has won for us? Do I love God with all my heart?

Activity

- ❖ Use the colour rose in your prayer corner this Sunday!
- ❖ Make a card or gift for your mother

- ❖ Print and colour the Stations of the Cross (see below) or draw your own! You can simply put them up in your home, or even make frames with Lolly sticks and place them in your garden.



Prayer

- ❖ Pray the Stations of the cross at home with your homemade stations
OR
- ❖ Visit church to pray the stations of the cross:
(St Peter's -Fridays at 11:30am and 7pm; St. Stephen's - Mondays at 7pm;
St Gregory's - Sundays at 5.30pm; St Thomas More's - Fridays at 5.30pm)

The traditional 14 stations are as follows:

1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus takes up his cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets his mother
5. Simon of Cyrene carries the cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus meets the daughters of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of his garments
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus is crucified
13. Jesus is taken down from the cross
14. Jesus' body is laid in the tomb

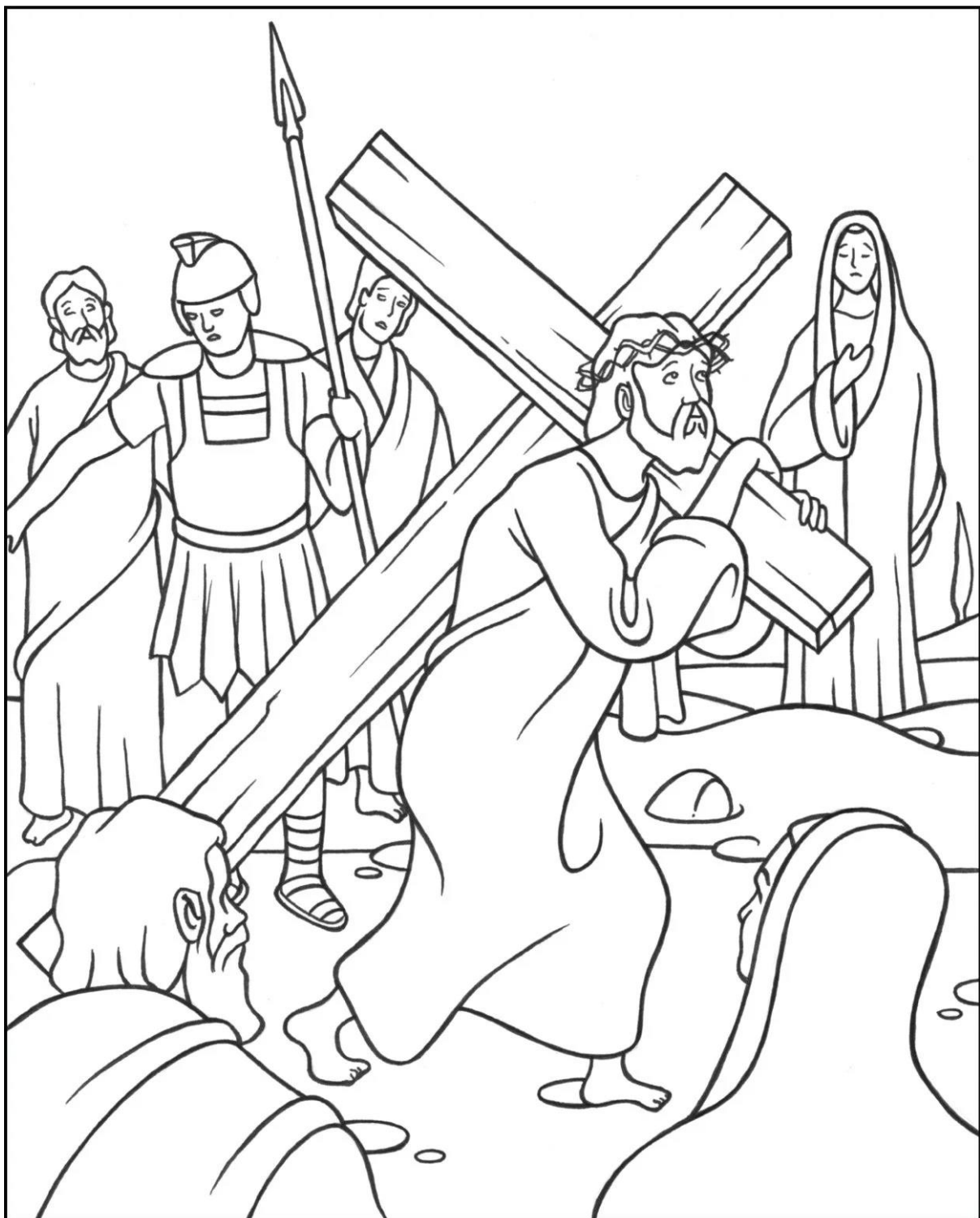
At each station we pray the following and then announce and meditate on the station:

Leader: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You

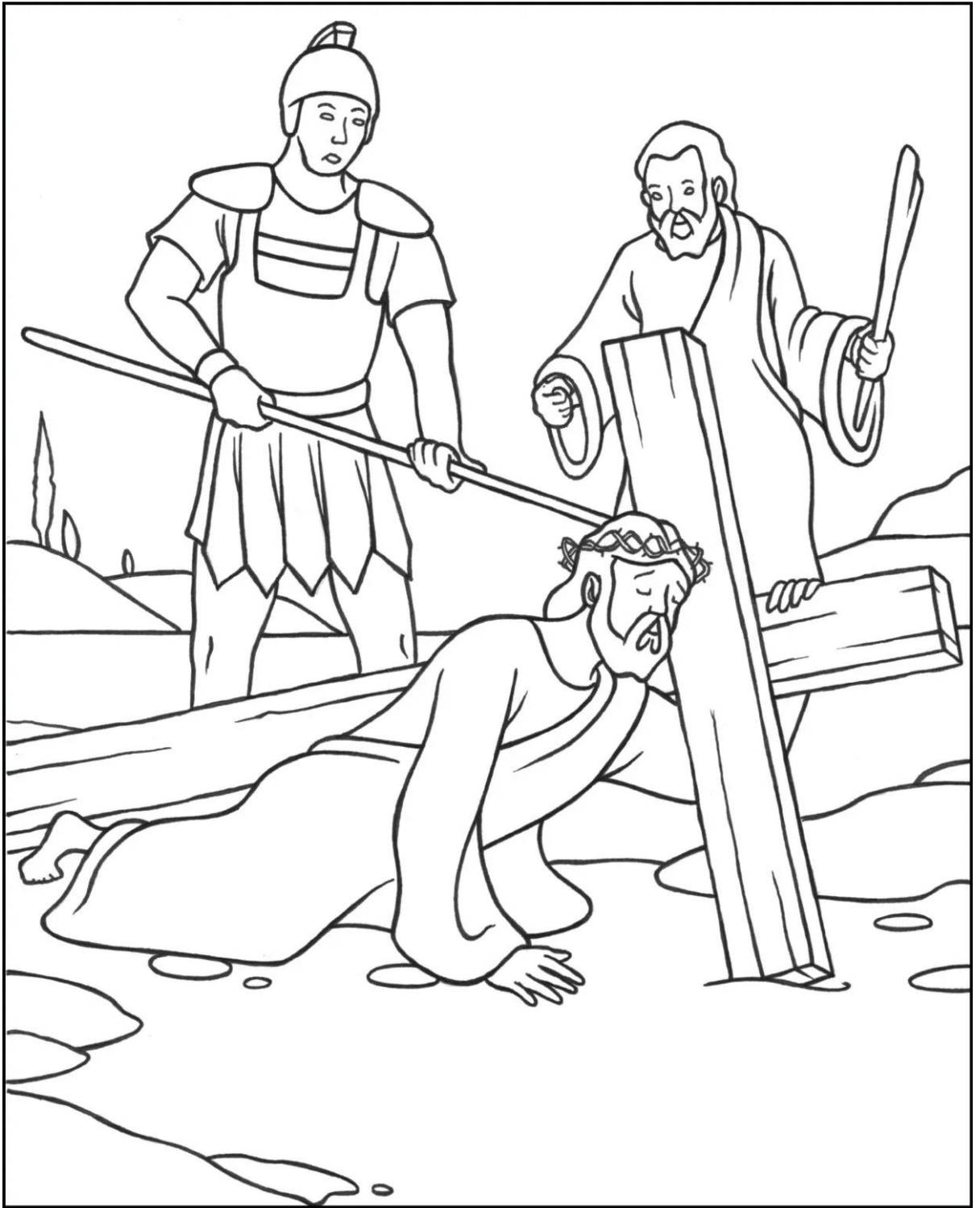
All: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.



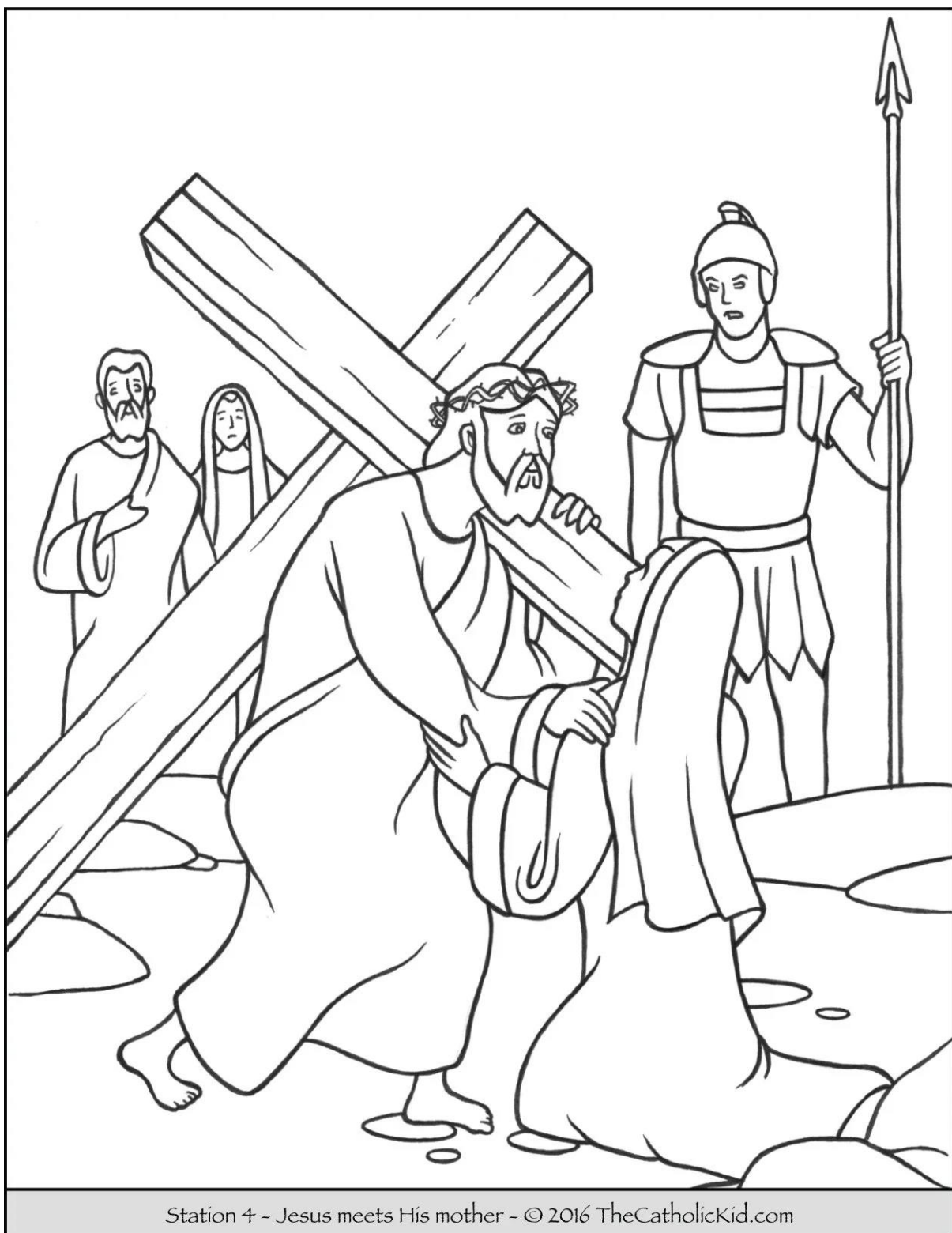
Station 1 - Jesus is condemned to death - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



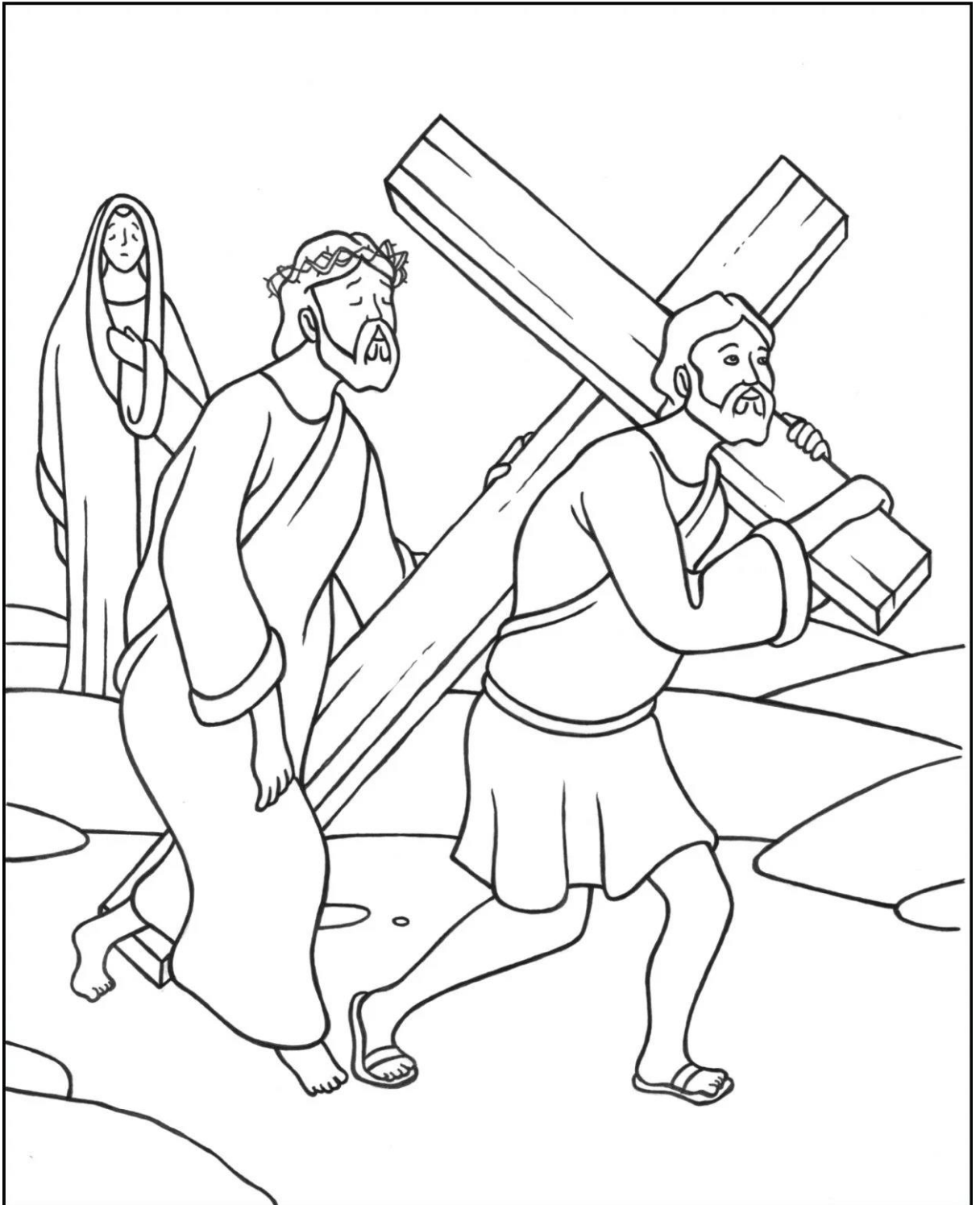
Station 2 - Jesus carries His cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



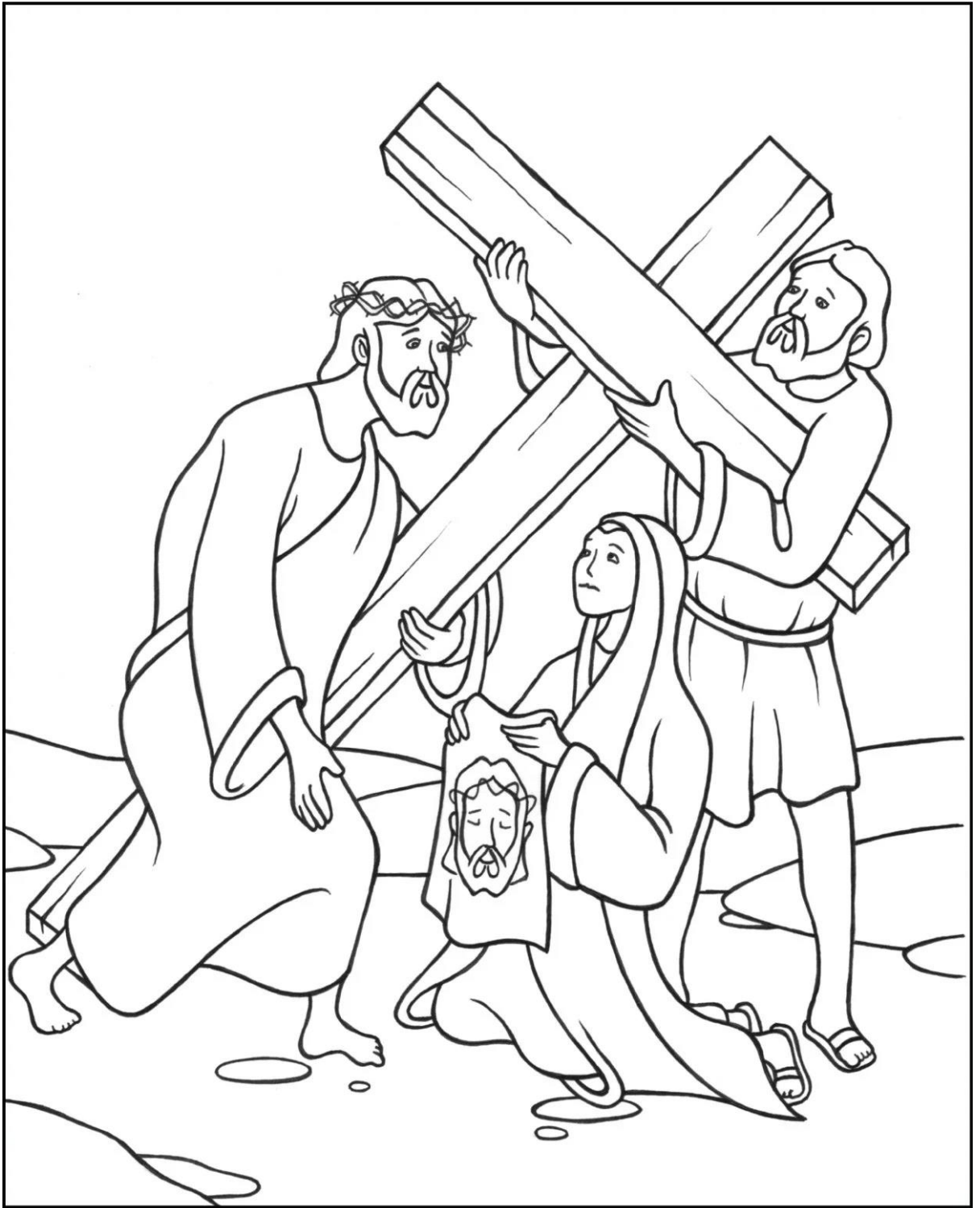
Station 3 - Jesus falls the first time - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



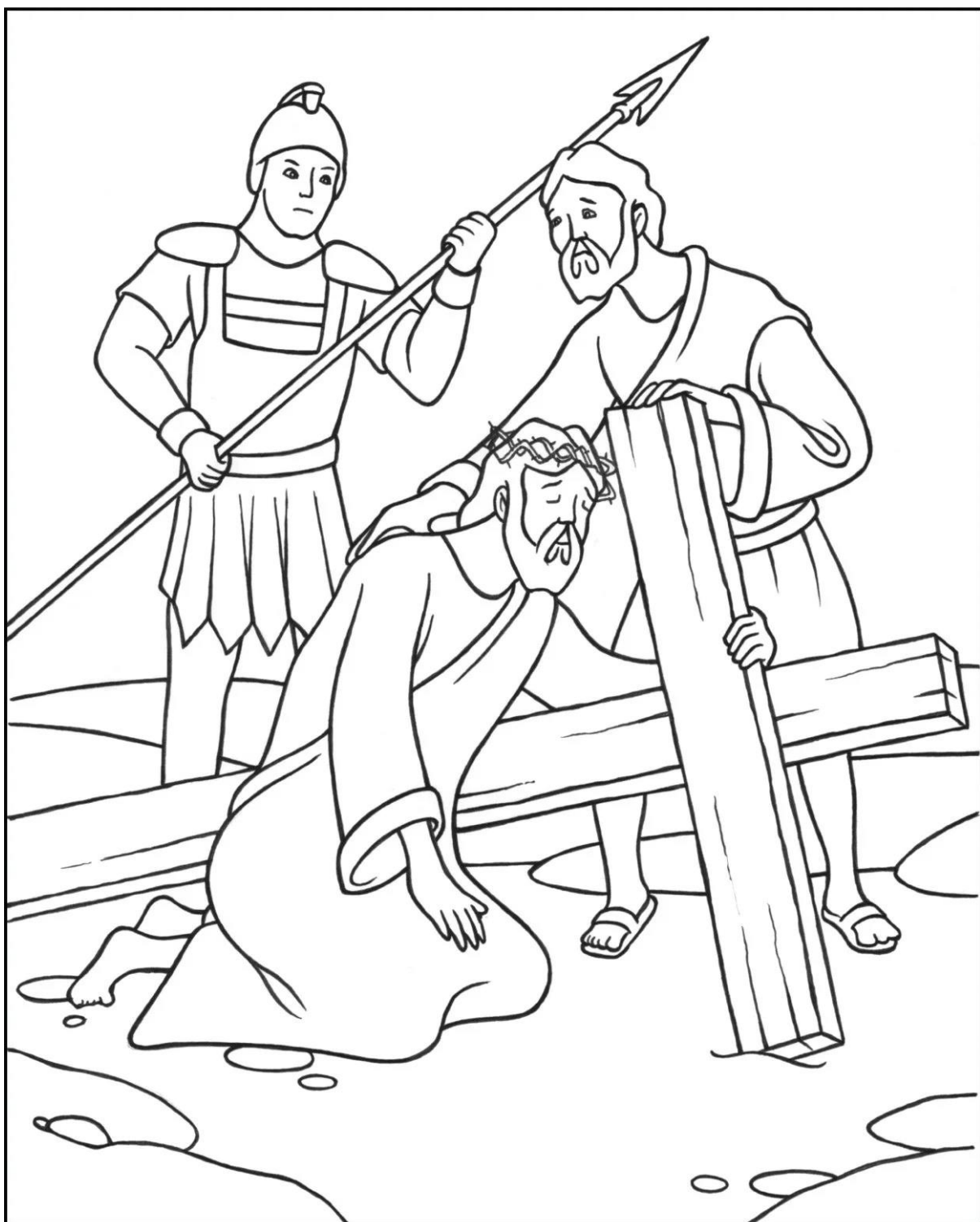
Station 4 - Jesus meets His mother - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



Station 5 - Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



Station 6 - Veronica wipes the face of Jesus - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



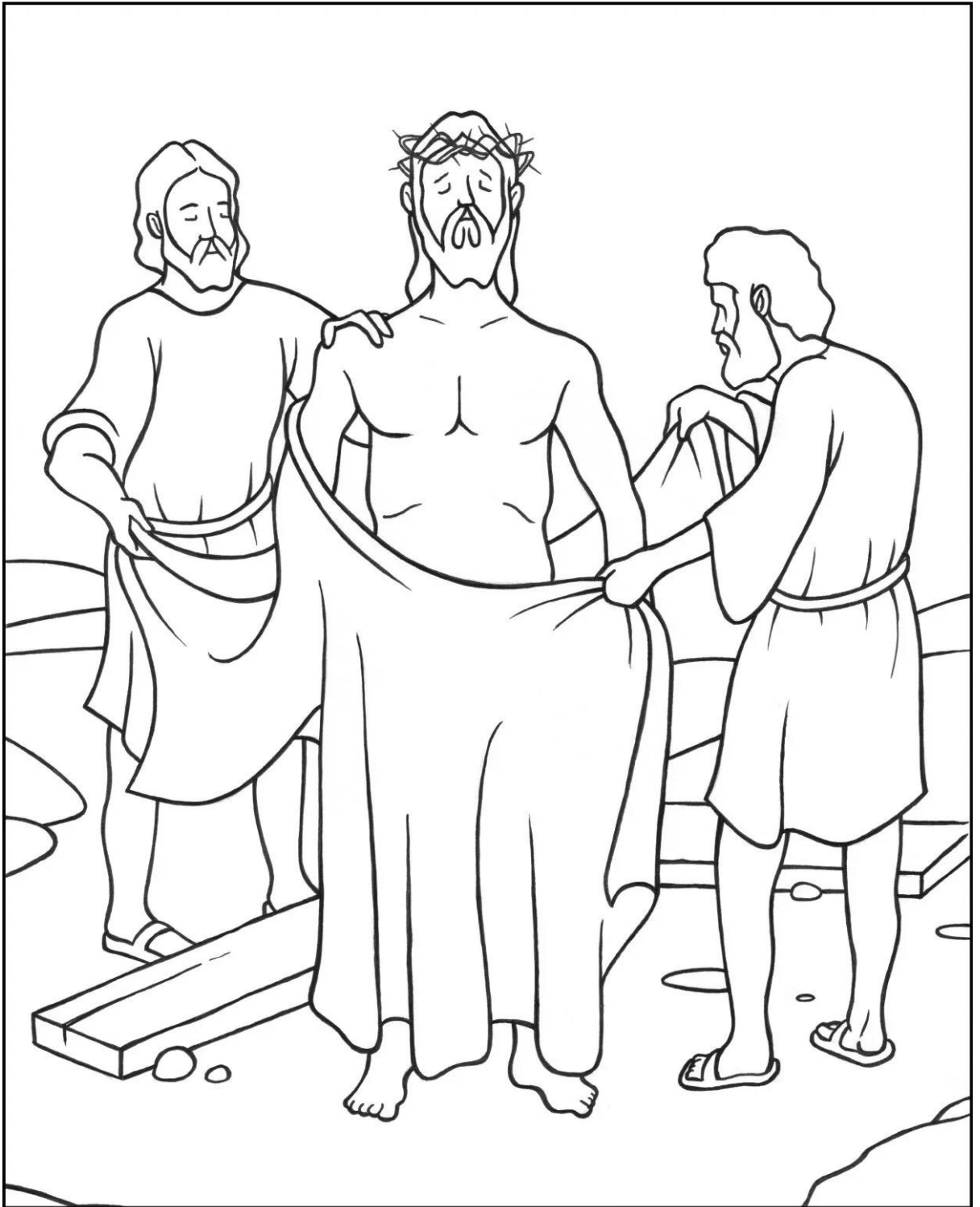
Station 7 - Jesus falls the second time - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



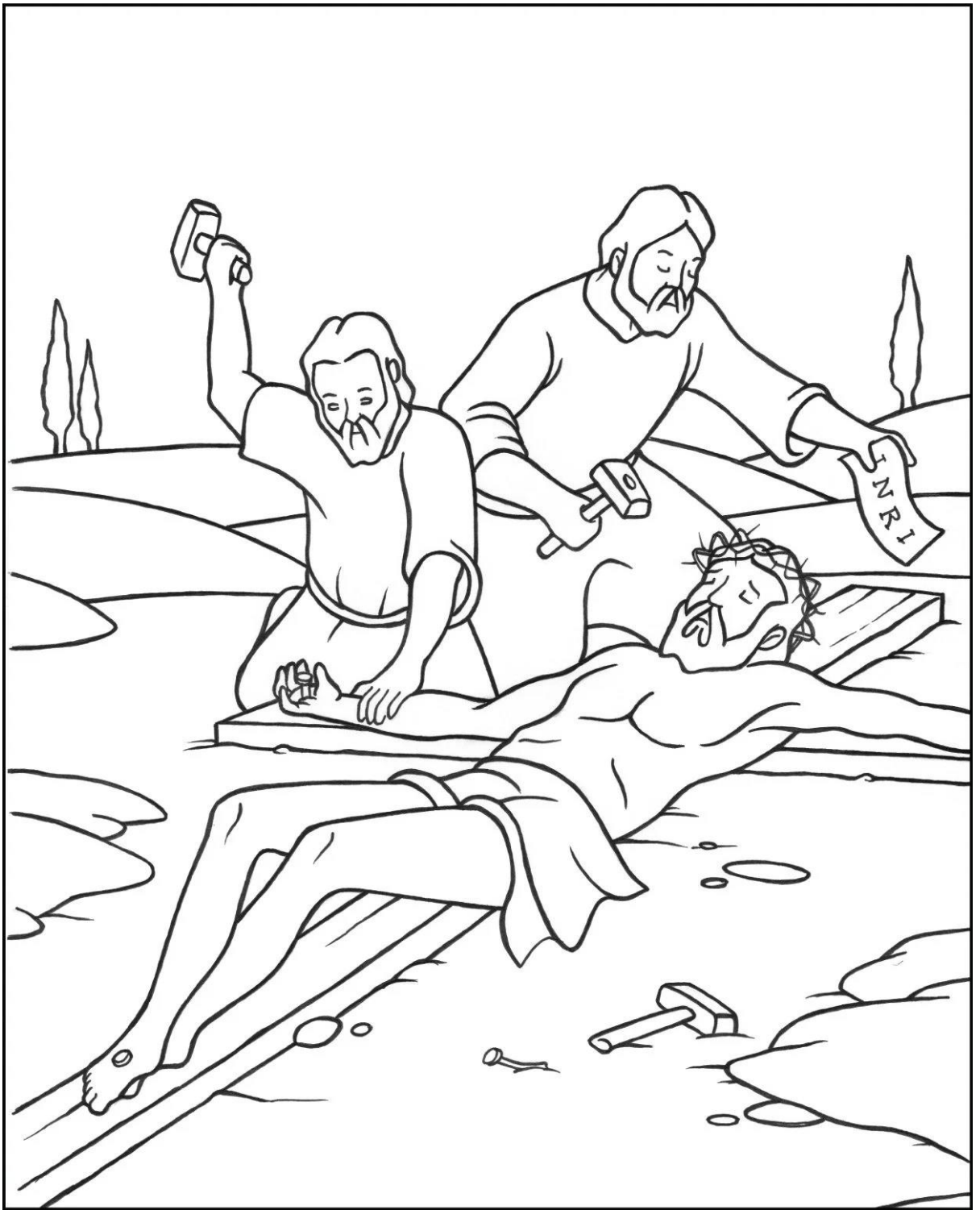
Station 8 - Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



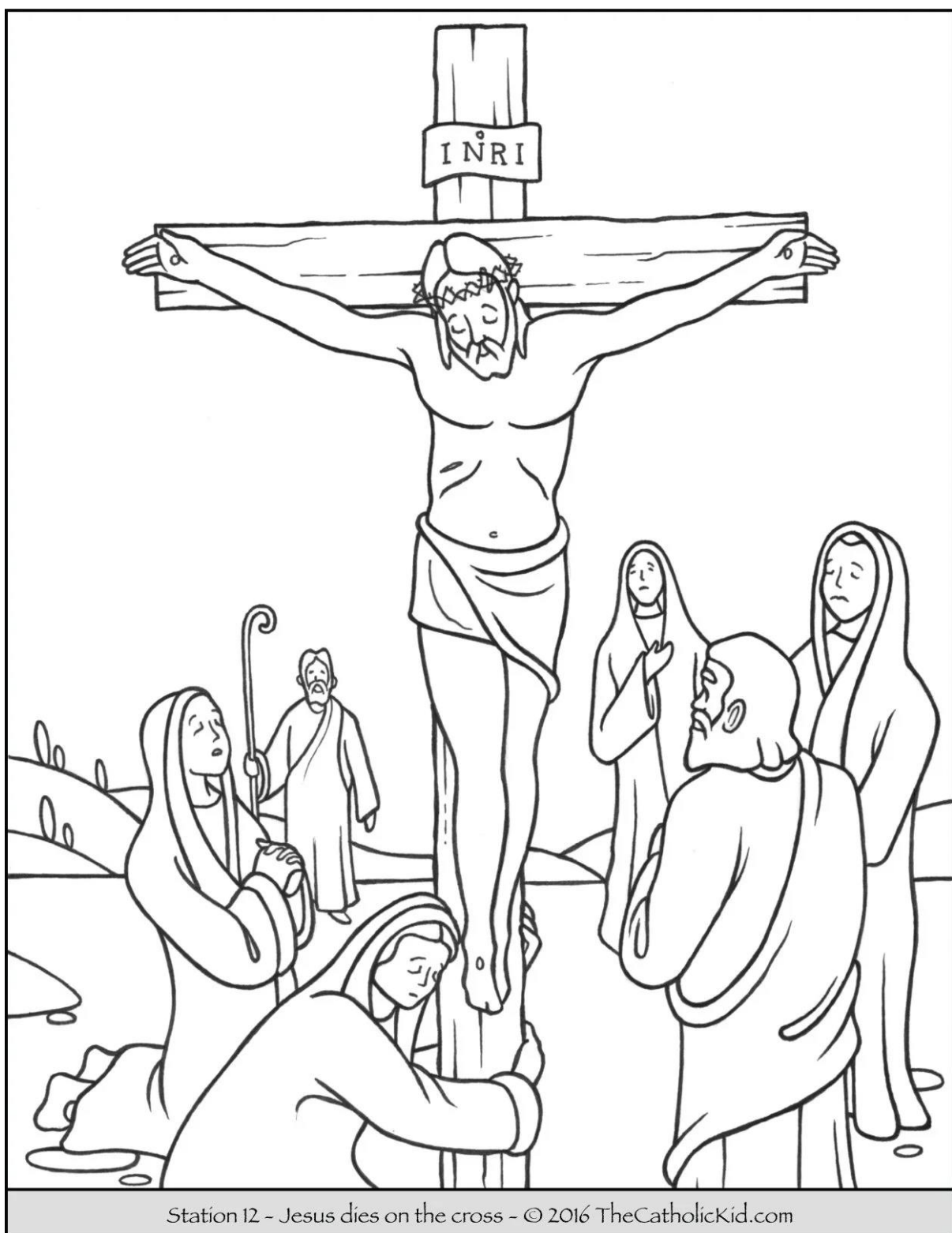
Station 9 - Jesus falls a third time - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



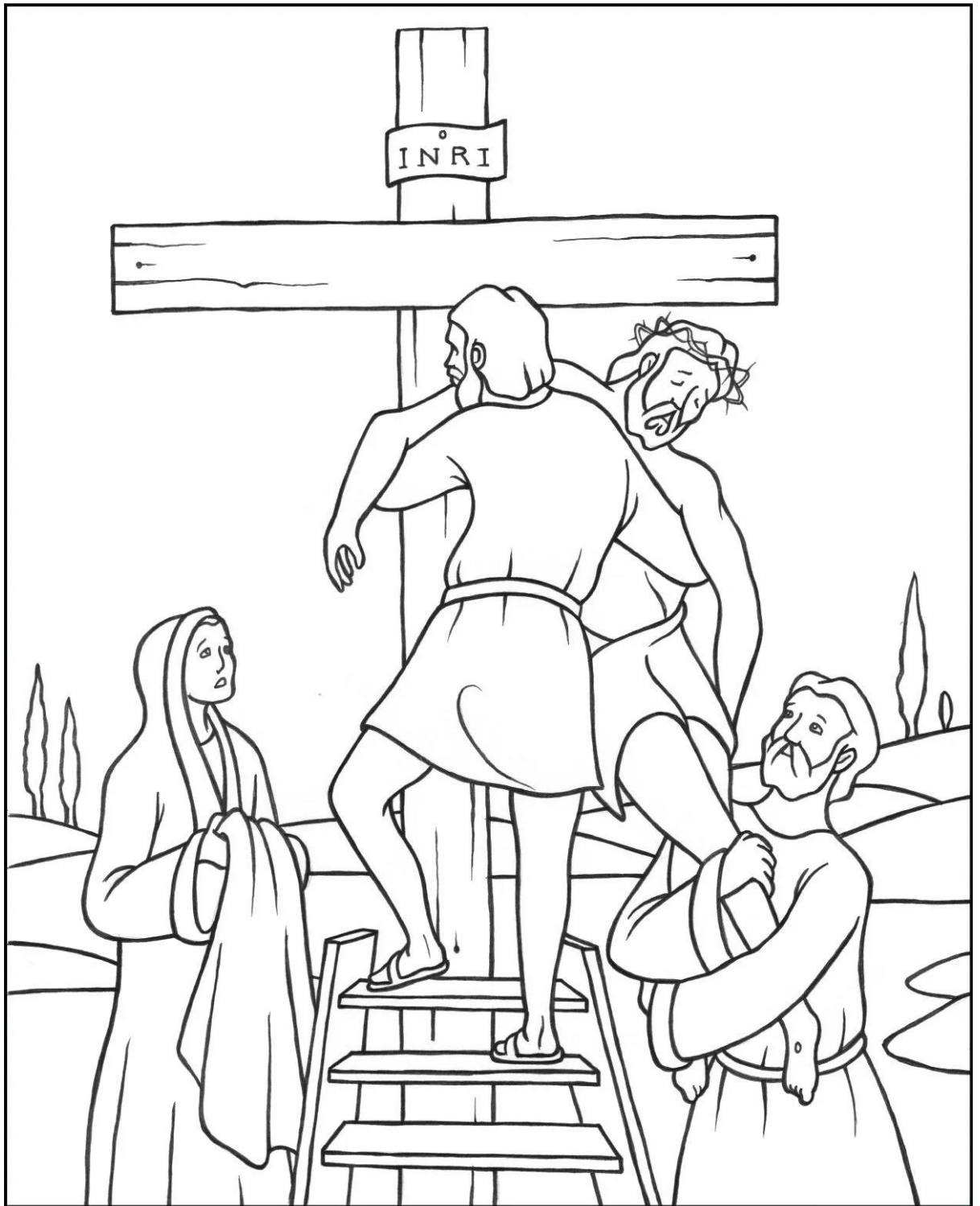
Station 10 - Jesus clothes are taken away - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



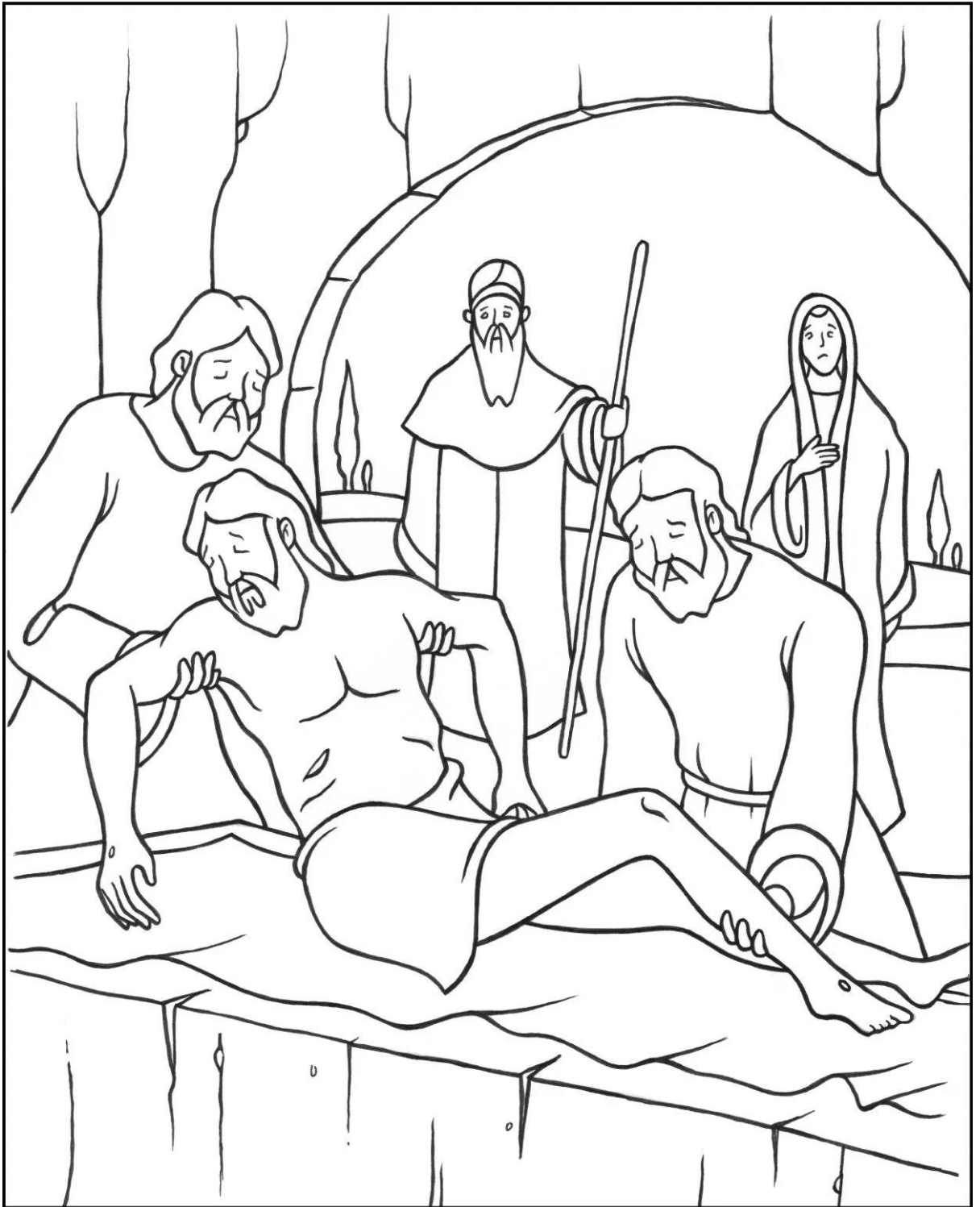
Station 11 - Jesus is nailed to the cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



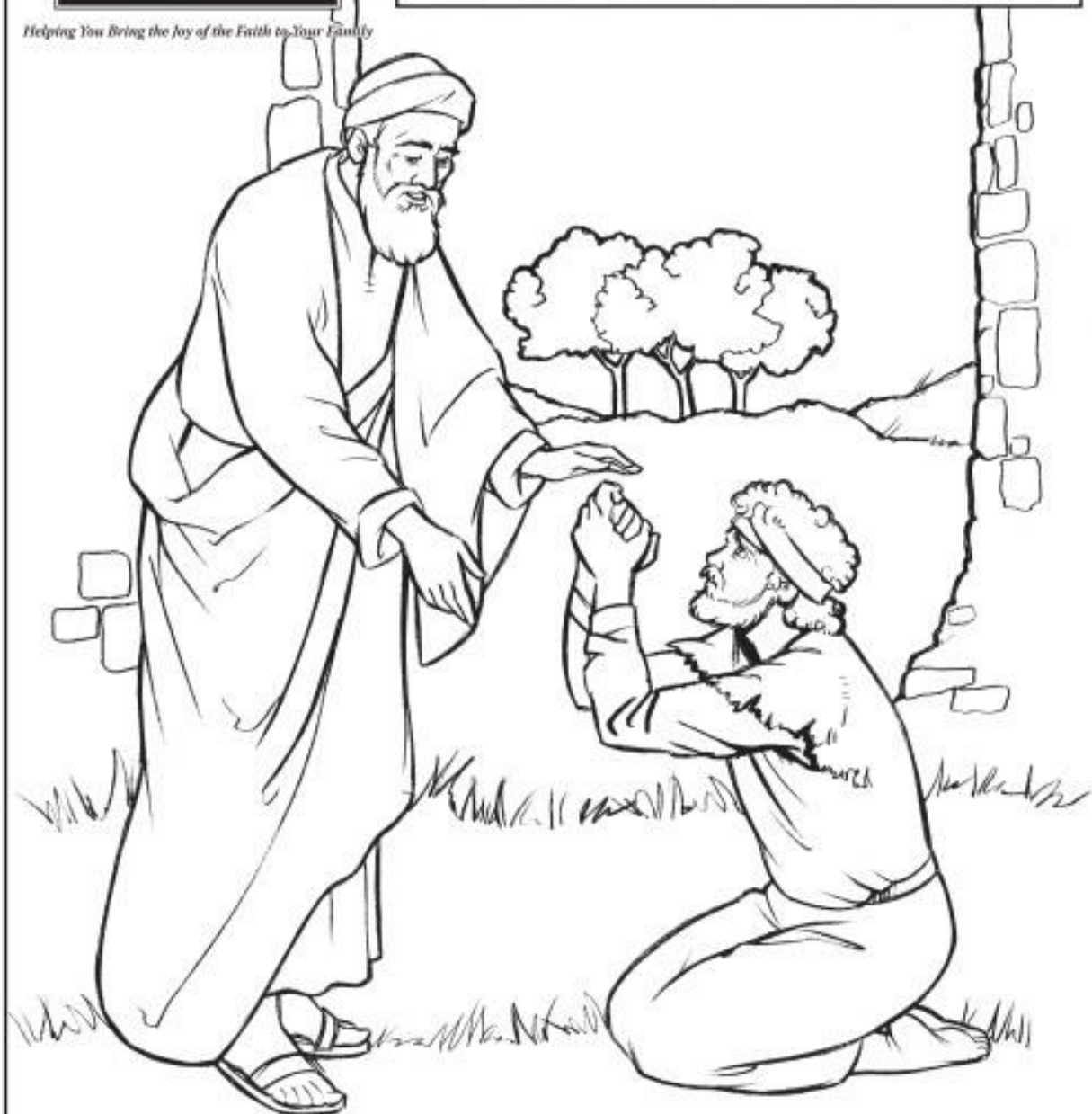
Station 12 - Jesus dies on the cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



Station 13 - The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



Station 14 - Jesus is laid in the tomb - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



"[The prodigal son said] 'I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers." So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him... [The father said,] "Let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found."' (Luke 15:18-19,20,23b-24a)

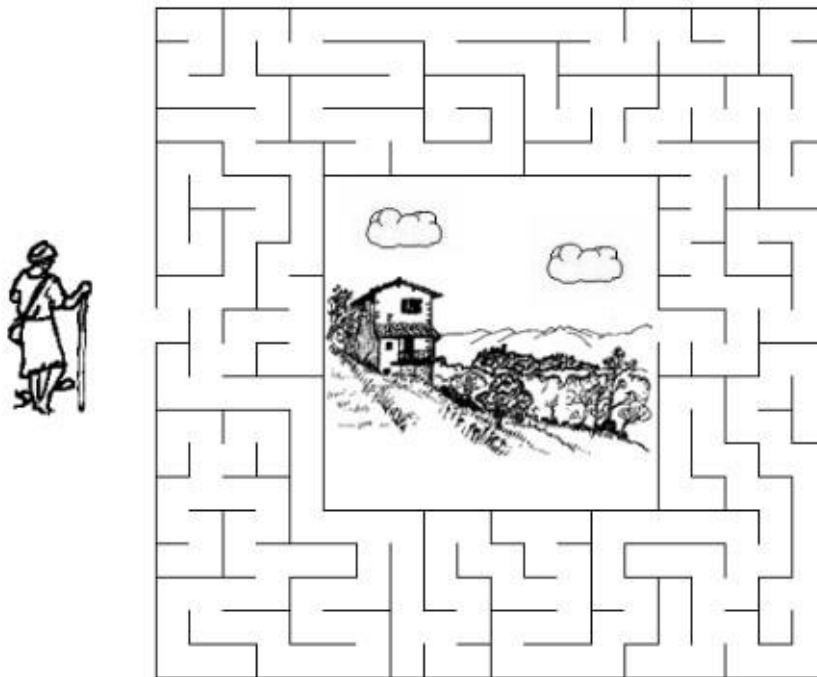
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The Lost Son Maze

Help the Prodigal Son find his way home.



The Parable of the Lost Son
Luke 15:11-32

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Prodigal Returns Coloring Page



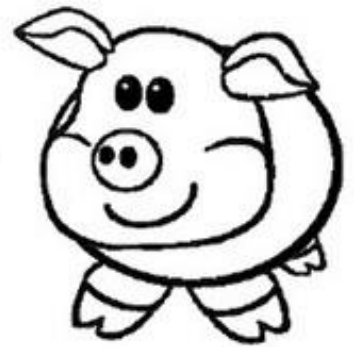
The Lost Son Returns

Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.
Luke 15:23b-24 (NIV)

The Parable of the Lost Son

Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. Luke 15:23-24 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 15:11-32 (NIV).



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| F | T | M | J | N | N | P | M | P | Q | T | A | B | A | F |
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| WEALTH | ESTATE | COUNTRY | PIGS | FOOD |
| COMPASSION | HIRED | FOUND | FEED | RING |
| CELEBRATE | STARVING | PROPERTY | FEAST | SONS |
| KISSED | FATHER | STOMACH | SPENT | LOST |