

Welcome to Week 5!

5th Sunday of Lent Gospel - John 11:1-45

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead

Jesus' friend Lazarus died. At the sight of the tears of Lazarus' sisters Martha and Mary and their friends, Jesus wept too. Jesus is showing us that when something very sad happens to us, our tears are precious to Him and He suffers with us. Martha and Mary both had deep faith in Jesus. Because of this faith and Jesus' love for them and Lazarus, and to show the power of God to everyone, Jesus did something that they could not imagine possible - He raised Lazarus from the dead.

Dear Jesus, please wipe away my tears when I am sad, and help me to believe, like Mary and Martha, that you will bring me to eternal happiness, even if I cannot imagine the details of how this will come about.

Saint Margaret Clitherow (1556-1586) 26th March

Saint Margaret Clitherow lived at a difficult period of English history called the Reformation, when the government made it illegal to attend Mass, and when being a priest could be punished by death. Despite this, Margaret, who was brought up as a Protestant, converted to Catholicism at the age of 18. She was very devout and allowed secret Masses to be said in her home. She also sheltered missionary Jesuit priests, but she was discovered and brought before a court. She refused to answer the charges in order to prevent there being a trial; this was to protect her children. For this she was condemned to death.

Lord, I thank you for parents, grandparents and guardians who are prepared to make sacrifices, both small and great, to love and protect their children.

Saint Margaret Clitherow, pray for us.

Belong and Believe!

Activity

- ❖ Cover up (veil) any crucifixes of Jesus for the last two weeks of Lent with a purple cloth.
- ❖ Make a simple Easter Garden towards the end of the week. You could use a large plant pot or tray, sticks and twine for the crosses, a small plant pot or cup for the tomb, pebbles, and a large rock to cover the entrance. Add anything else you would like. On Easter Sunday, the children will roll the rock away, and they can place flowers there too!



(See <https://www.sunhatsandwellieboots.com/2013/03/grow-easter-resurrection-garden.html> for other ideas on what you could use instead.)

- ❖ 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

- ❖ Consider going to the beautiful Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) to receive God's love, mercy and forgiveness, and to free us from the burden of sin.
- ❖ An Examination of Conscience - There will be the parish Lenten Reconciliation Service on Tuesday April 4th at 7pm with an extended Penitential Rite, inviting us to examine our conscience. Extra priests will be supporting to hear individual confessions.
- ❖ For our younger children who haven't made their First Reconciliation, there is a lovely Ignatian examen for children to be prayed at the end of the day from 'Pray As You Go'. You may like to listen and pray through with them; it's about 6 minutes long.
<https://pray-as-you-go.org/player/special/2798-a-special-examen-for-children>
- ❖ 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)

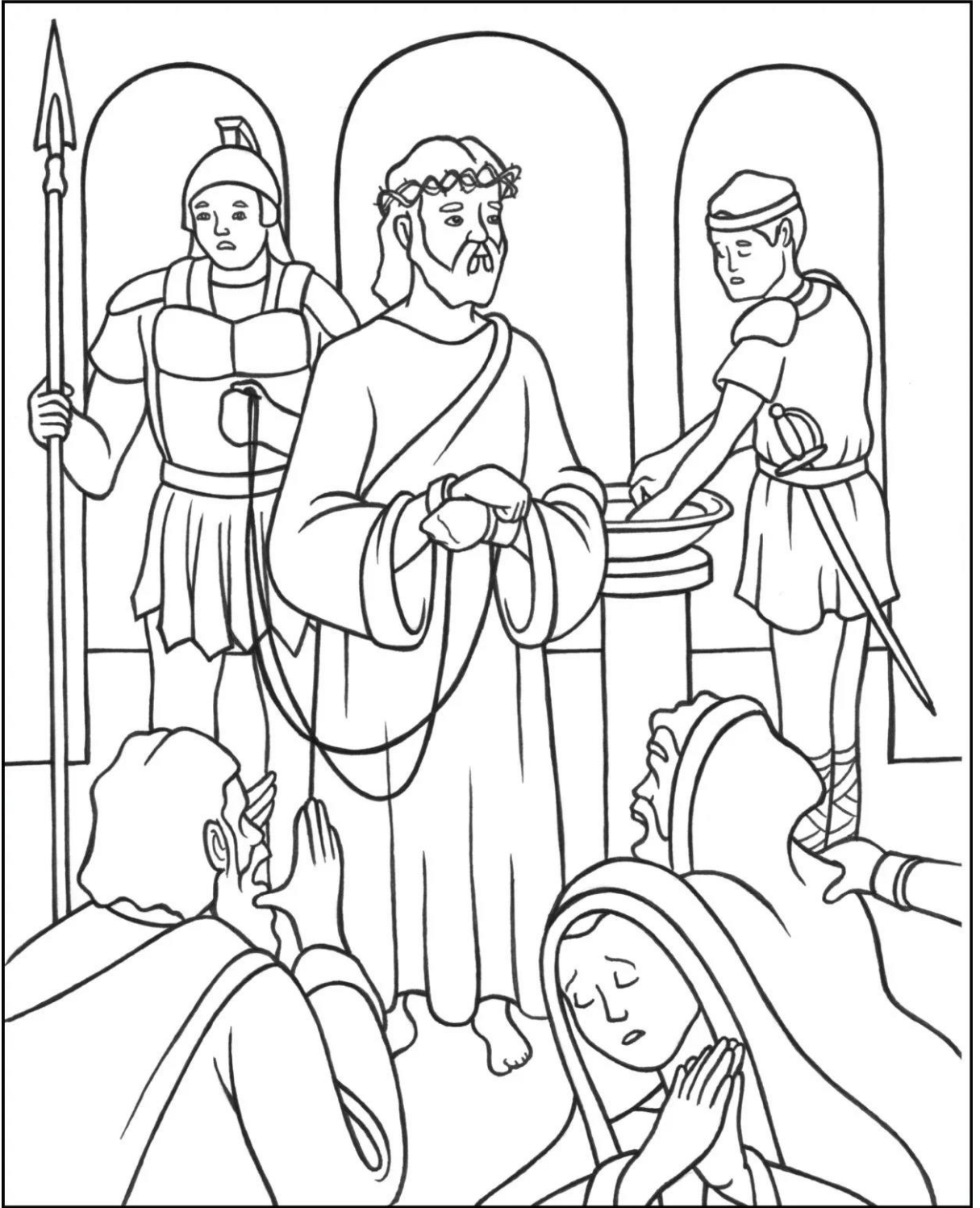
The traditional 14 stations are as follows:

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

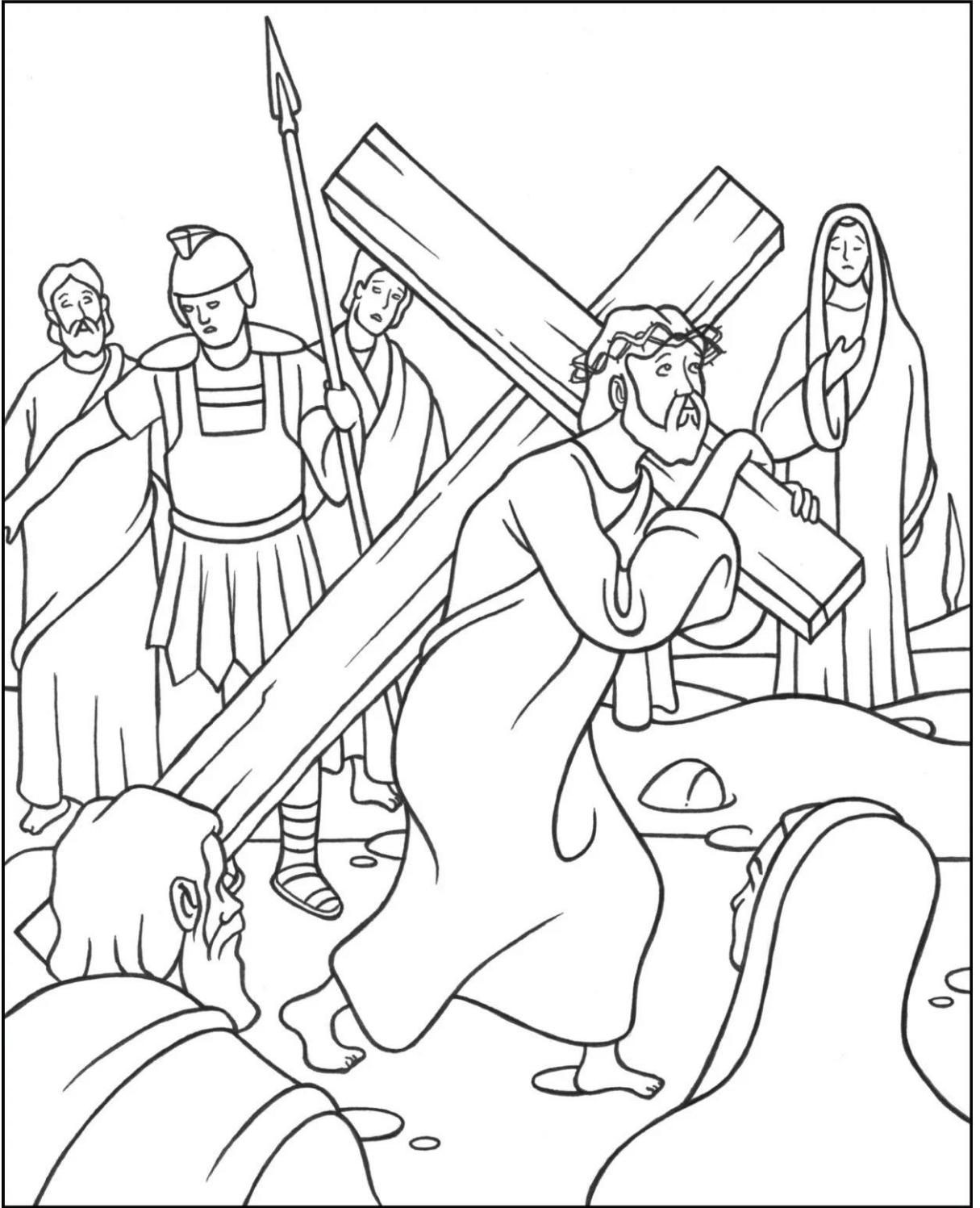
At each station we pray the following and then announce and meditate on the station:

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

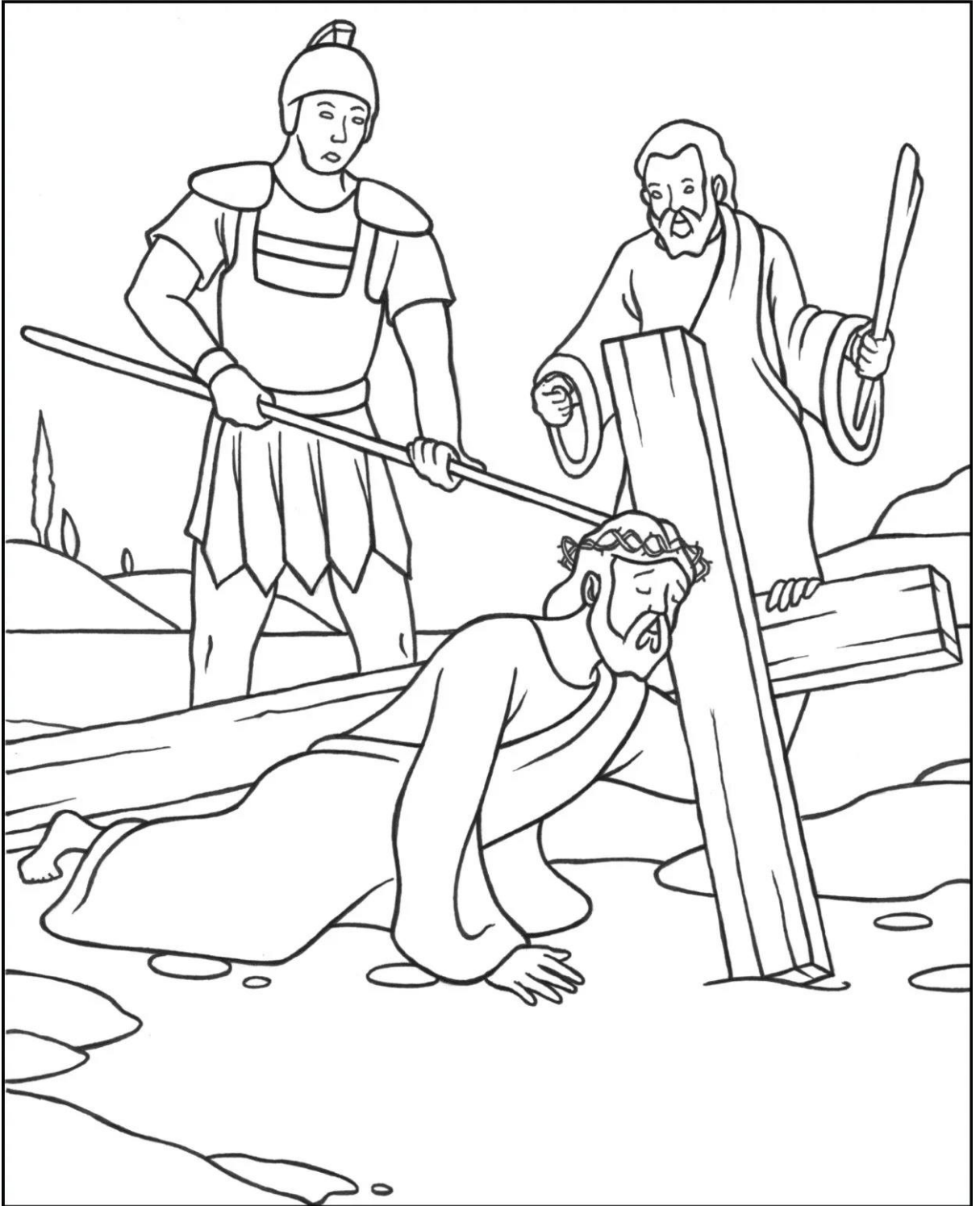
All: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.



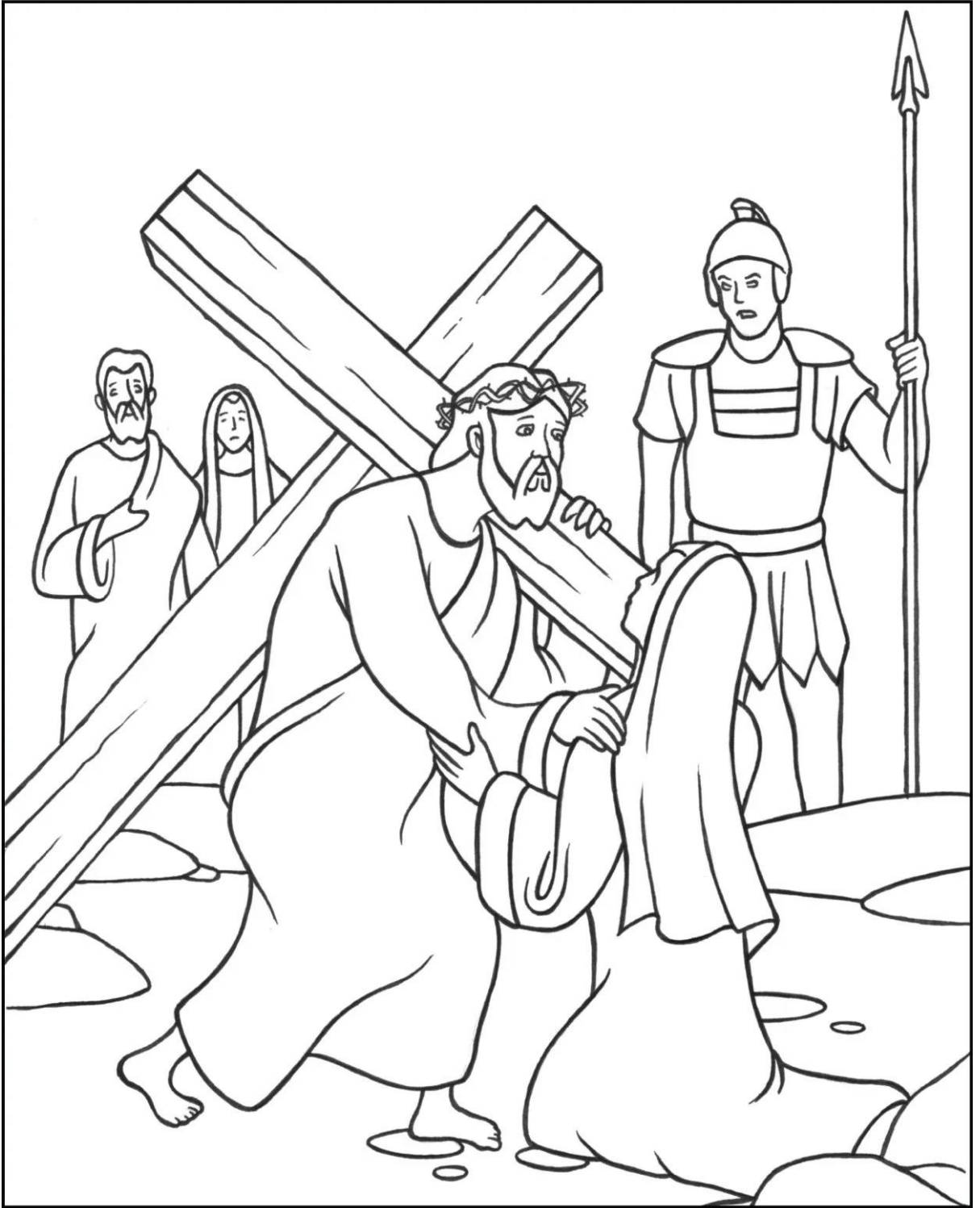
Station 1 - Jesus is condemned to death - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



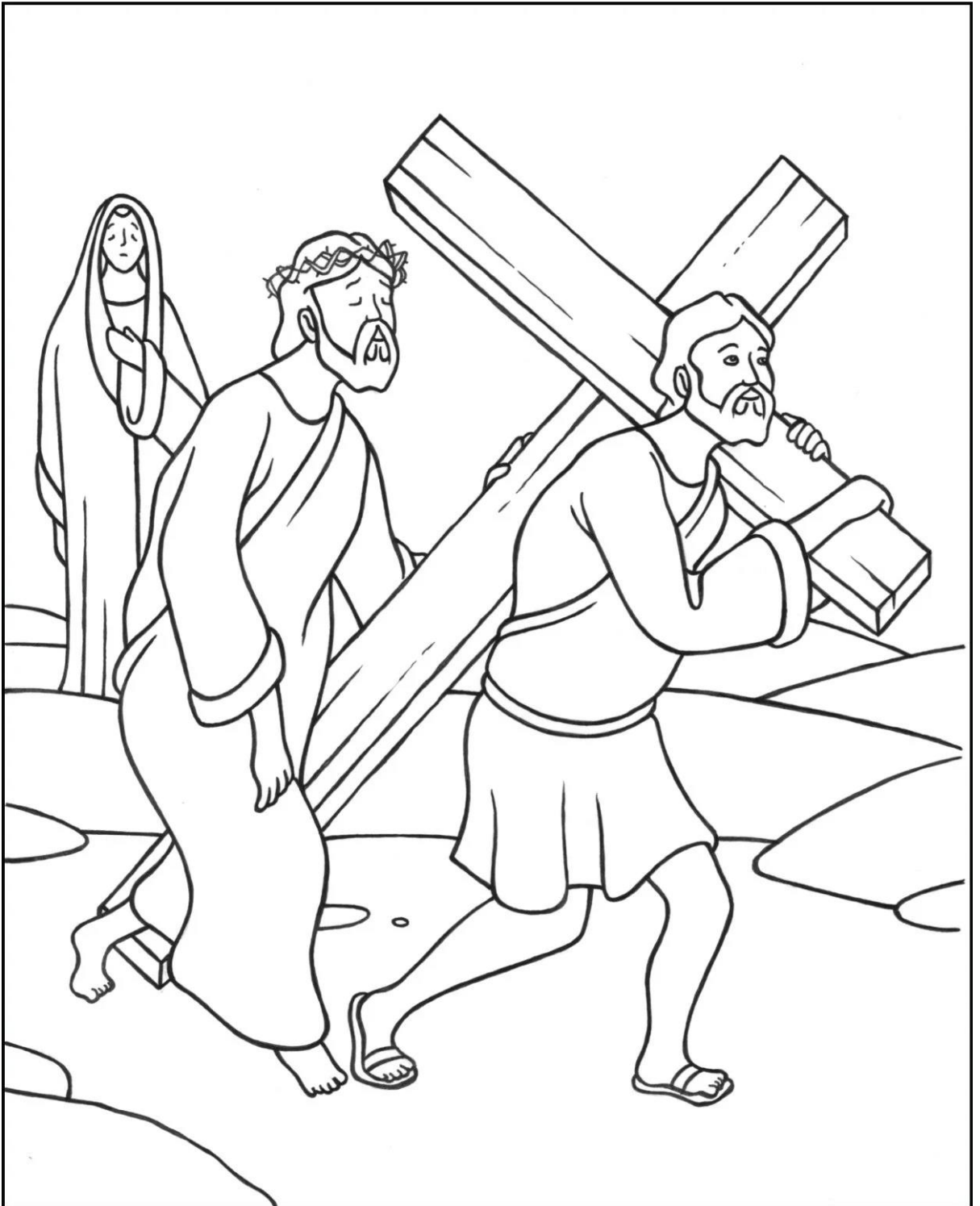
Station 2 - Jesus carries His cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



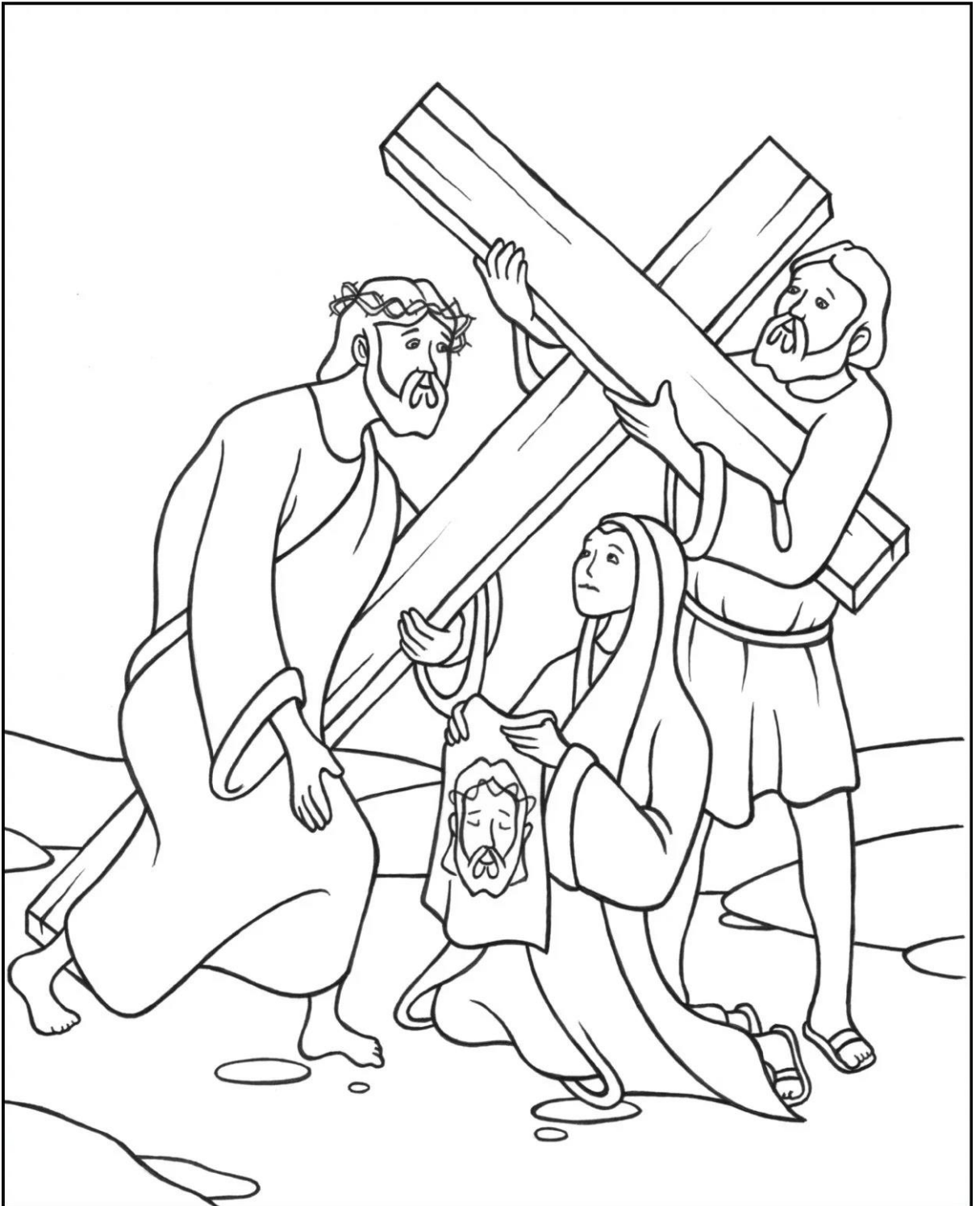
Station 3 - Jesus falls the first time - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



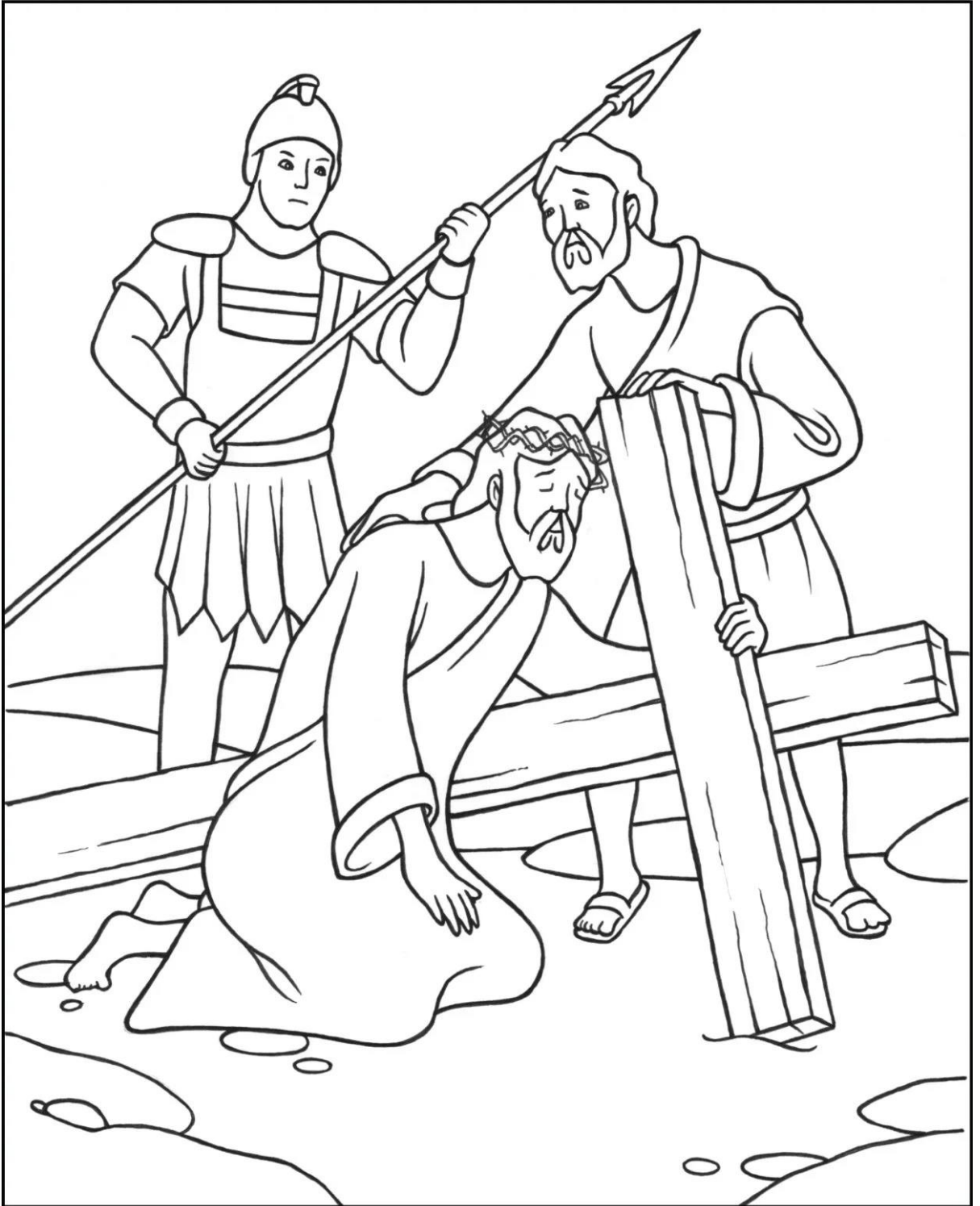
Station 4 - Jesus meets His mother - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



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



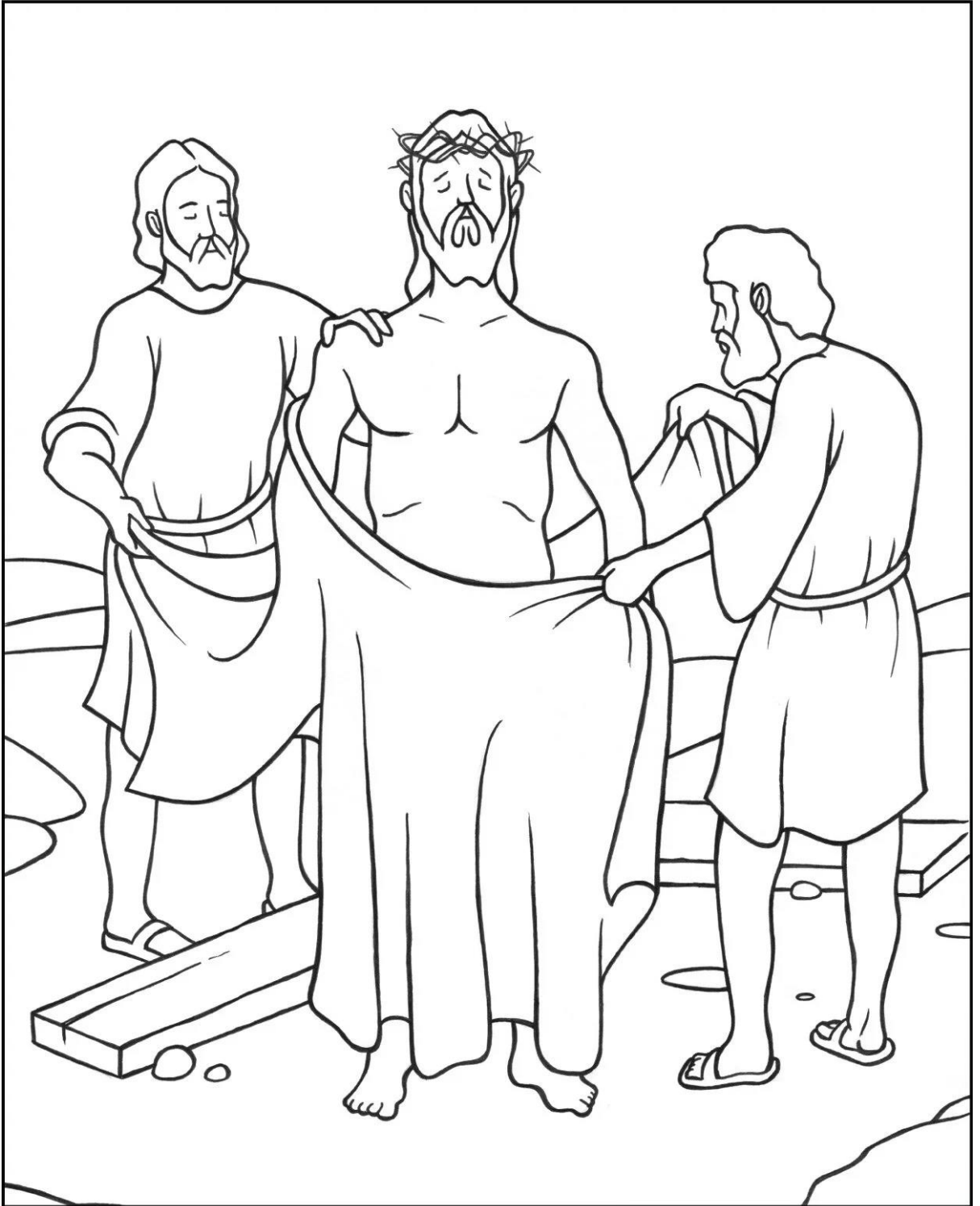
Station 7 - Jesus falls the second time - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



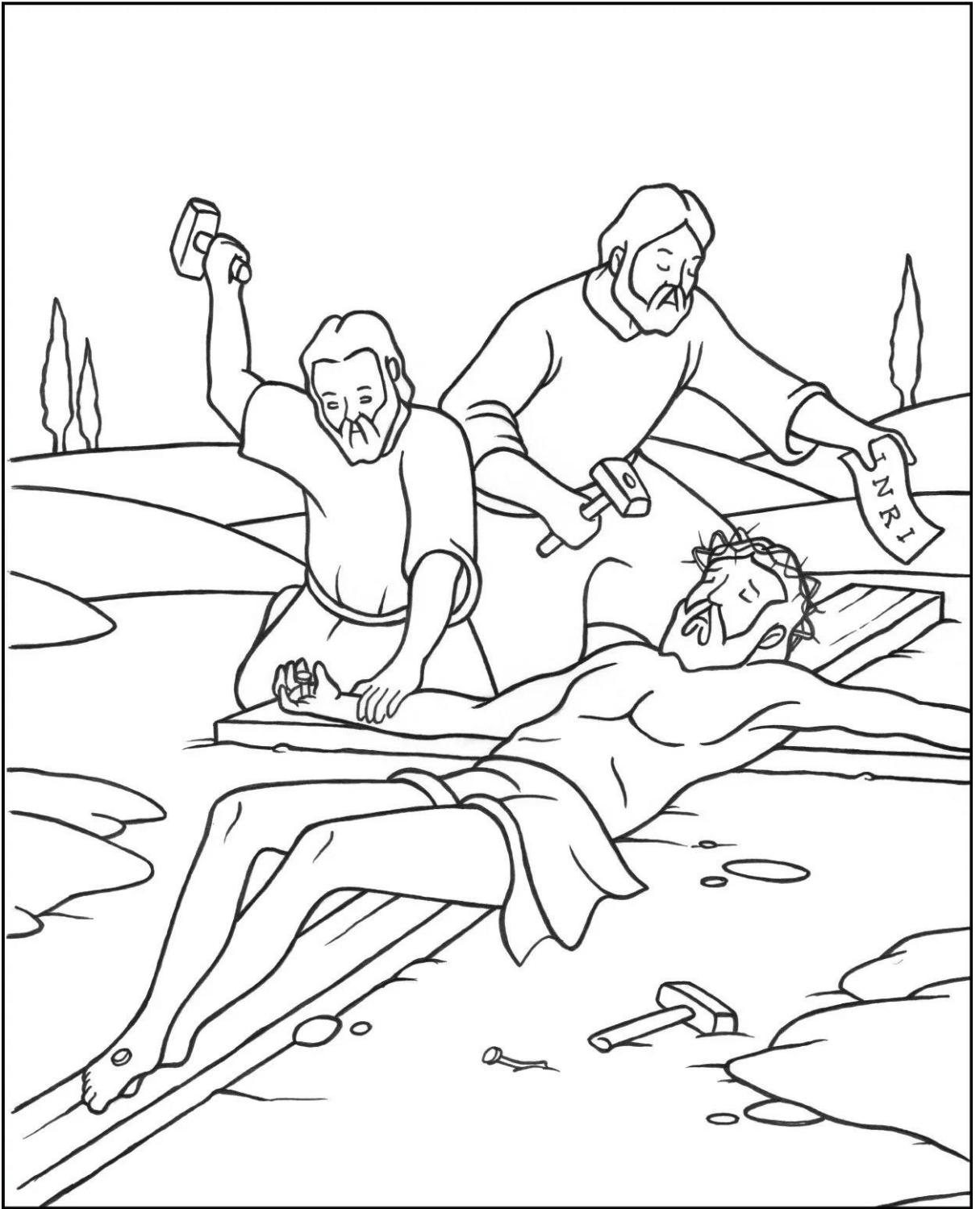
Station 8 - Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



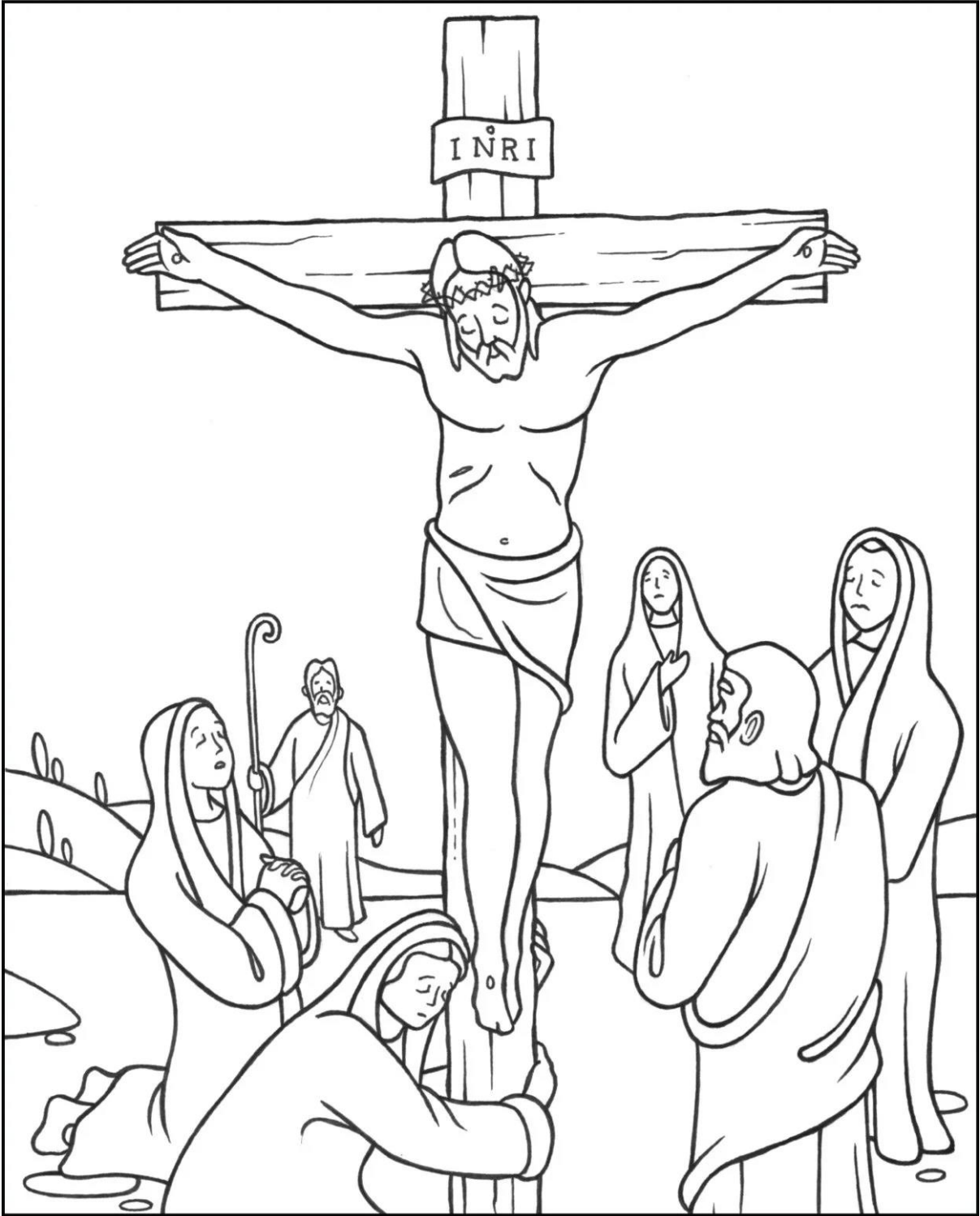
Station 9 - Jesus falls a third time - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



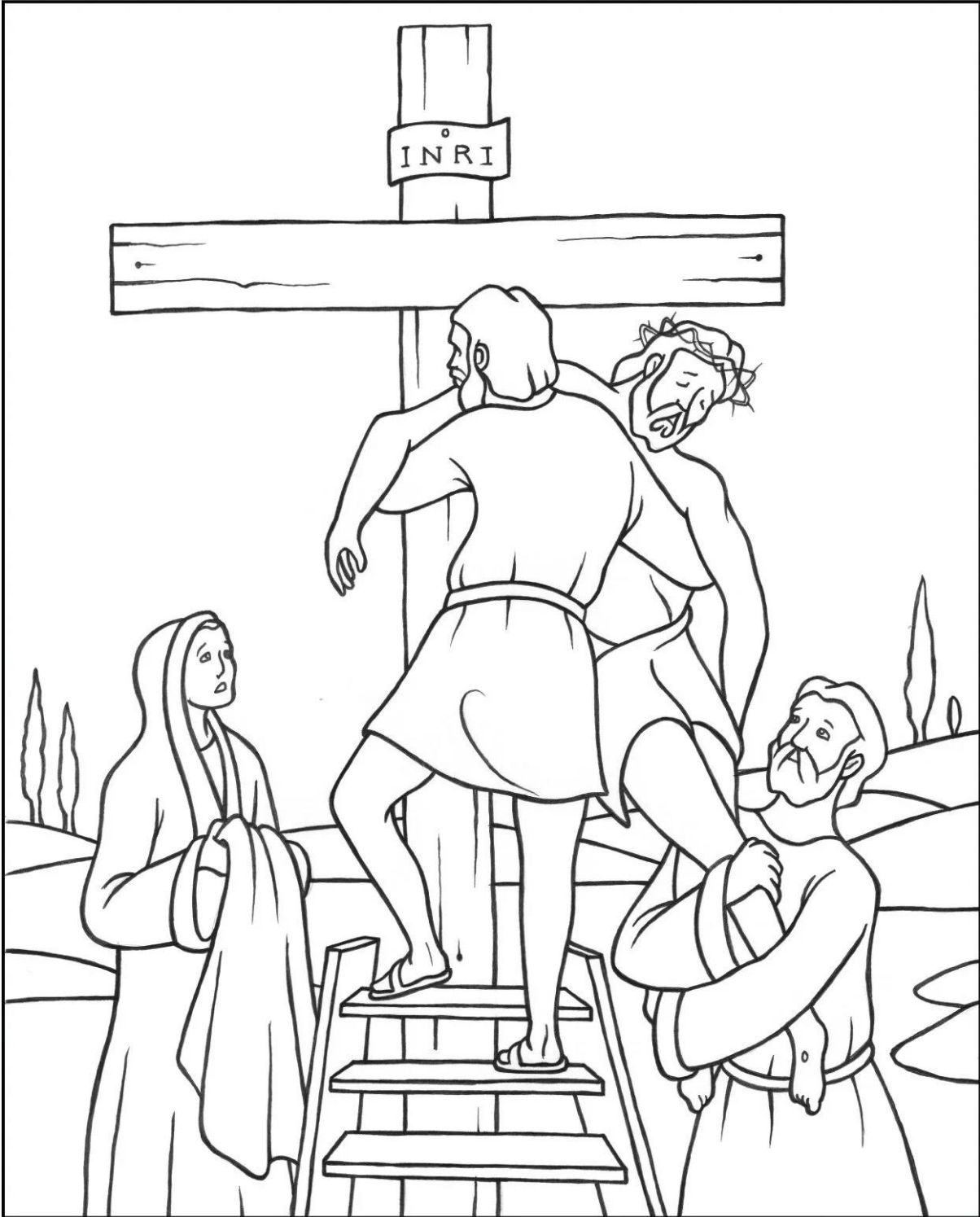
Station 10 - Jesus clothes are taken away - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



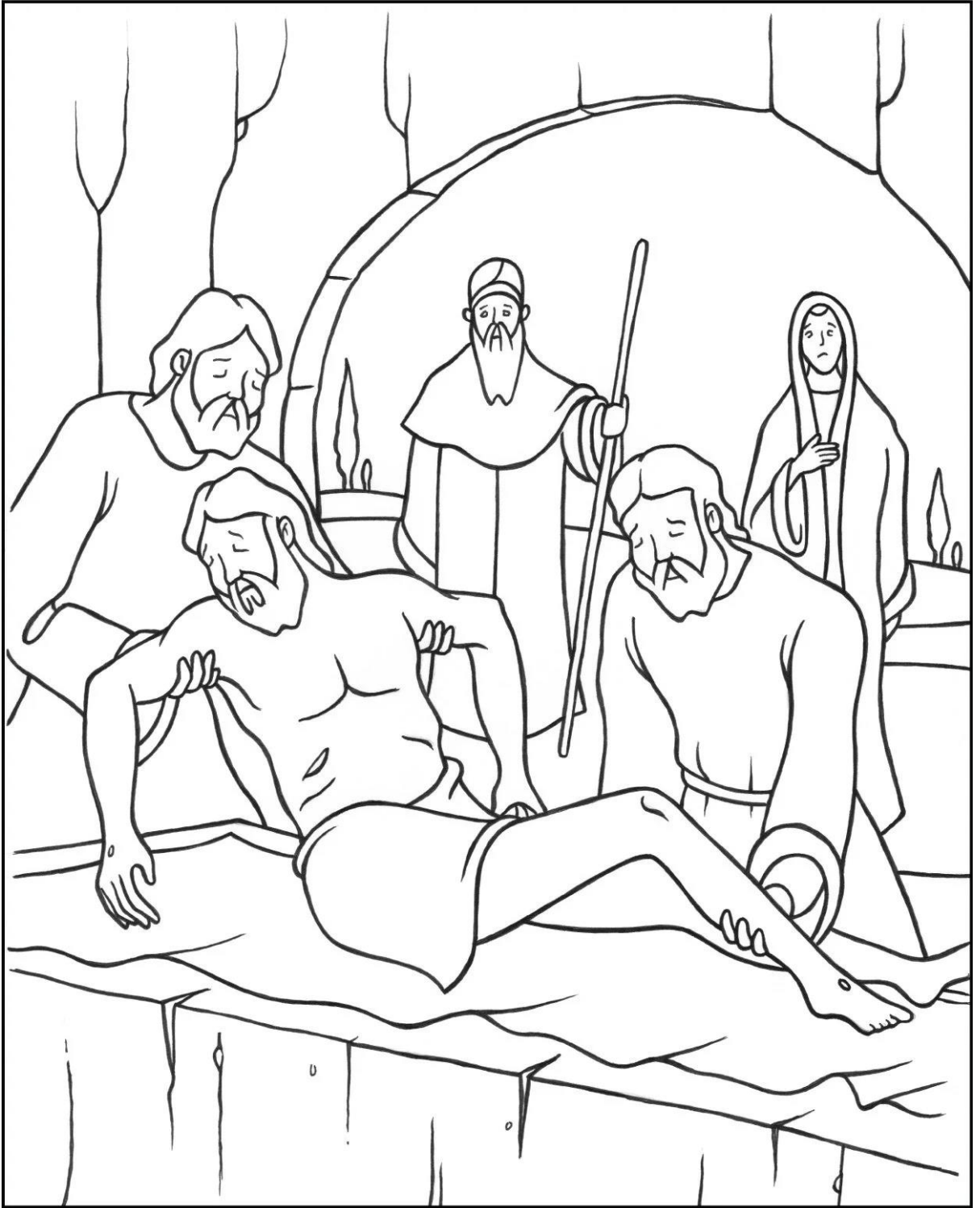
Station 11 - Jesus is nailed to the cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



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