

LITURGY OF THE KINGDOM

SEPTEMBER 15

Our Lady of Sorrows

FIRST READING

Reader: *A reading taken from the spiritual heritage of humanity.*

Assembly: *From all time, Heaven has prepared the coming of the Kingdom.*

Reader: *Today, the main verses of the “Stabat Mater” composed by an Italian monk in the 13th century. It is written:*

At the cross her station keeping,
Stood the mournful Mother weeping,
Close to Jesus to the last.

Through her heart, his sorrow sharing,
All his bitter anguish bearing,
Now at length the sword had passed.

Oh, how sad and sore distressed
Was that Mother highly blessed
Of the sole begotten One! ...

Is there one who would not weep,
Overwhelmed in miseries so deep,
Christ’s dear Mother to behold?

Can the human heart refrain
From partaking in her pain,
In that Mother’s pain untold? ...

O sweet Mother! Font of love,
Touch my spirit from above,
Make my heart with yours accord.

Make me feel as you have felt;
Make my soul to glow and melt
With the love of Christ, my Lord.

Holy Mother, pierce me through,
In my heart each wound renew
Of my Savior crucified.

Let me share with you his pain,
Who for all our sins was slain,
Who for me in torments died. ...

By the cross with you to stay,
There with you to weep and pray,
Is all I ask of you to give. ...

Let me to my latest breath,
In my body bear the death
Of that dying Son of yours.

Wounded with his every wound,
Steep my soul till it has swooned
In his very Blood away. ...

Christ, when you shall call me hence,
Be your Mother my defense,
Be your cross my victory.

While my body here decays,
May my soul your goodness praise,
Safe in heaven eternally. Amen!

Reader: *This was a reading from the main verses of the “Stabat Mater”.*

Assembly: *Thanks be to God.*