GOOD FRIDAY VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS AT HOME

LEADER: Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death for sinners.

CROSS BEARER: Raises the cross for all to see, and sings or says these words:

_Behold the wood of the cross on which hung the salvation of the world._

All genuflect or show reverence and adore the cross, and say or sing:

_Come, let us adore._ (Cross Bearer lowers the Cross)

LEADER: This first exposition, represents the first preaching of the cross, that, which the Apostles made, when at the beginning, they dared not to speak of the great mystery except to a few faithful disciples of Jesus. The homage here paid to it is intended as a reparation for the insults and injuries offered to our Redeemer in the house of Caiphas.

CROSS BEARER: Raises the cross a second time for all to see, and sings or says these words: _Behold the wood of the cross on which hung the salvation of the world._

All genuflect or show reverence and adore the cross, and say or sing:

_Come, let us adore._ (Cross Bearer lowers the Cross)

LEADER: This second elevation of the Holy Cross signifies the Apostles' extending their preaching of the mystery of our redemption to the Jews, after the descent of the Holy Spirit; by which preaching they made many thousand converts, and planted the Church in the very midst of the Synagogue. It is intended as a reparation to our Savior, for the treatment He received in the court of Pilate.

CROSS BEARER: Raises the cross a third time for all to see, and sings or says these words: _Behold the wood of the cross on which hung the salvation of the world._

All genuflect or show reverence and adore the cross, and say or sing:

_Come, let us adore._ (Cross Bearer lowers the Cross)

LEADER: This third and unreserved manifestation represents the mystery of the Holy Cross being preached to the whole earth, when the apostles, after being rejected by the majority of their own people, turned towards the Gentiles, and
preached Jesus crucified even far beyond the limits of the Roman Empire. It is intended as a reparation to our Lord for the outrages offered to Him on Calvary.

But the Church is not satisfied with showing her children the Cross that has saved them; she would have them approach, and venerate.

CROSS BEARER places the Cross where all may take time to meditate and venerate this great symbol of the Love of our God.