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Will You Suffer With Christ?

In 10 days Christ will die a bloody death on a Cross for you.

II.

But before He dies there will be an agony, a bloody sweat, and exhaustion from dragging a wooden cross to the hill of execution. Christ with outstretched arms begs you to accompany Him on this Passion. He wants you to see what he will suffer for you.

III.

Already you foresee what will happen. You know Judas. You have heard that the chief priests have planned to ensnare the Master. Criminals have been scourged, and you wonder if the mob or any one will dare to strike the one who has healed their sick, raised their dead to life and cured their leper friends.

IV.

Events take place rapidly. The weak Pilate has just given in to the Jews. Somehow or other you find yourself in the Roman execution chamber. There is a pillar in the center of the room. Strong armed executioners have just torn the garment from the back of Christ. And now they are pushing Him toward the pillar of flagellation. The pillar is six feet high. Christ is forced to embrace it. His hands are hung high in the air from a ring in the top of the pillar, and His body is stretched so that His feet scarcely touch the ground.

V.

The soldiers strike. Blood flows. Christ does not complain. But He turns His head and looks at you to see if He can catch on your face some sign of a desire to suffer with Him.

VI.

You enter the Passion with Christ, you are scourged with Him if you accept the inconveniences of the coming week of moving patiently. Sweat, studies, aches and pains are the lashes of the Scourging Christ asks you to undergo cheerfully with Him. When the lashes cut, look to Christ. He bled without complaint.

VII.

The three apostles slept when Christ went through His agony. Are you going to sleep for these 10 days before the death of

Christ and stay away from Christ at Mass and in Holy Communion? One apostle gave up — Judas. Don't be like him.

PRAYERS: (Deceased) brother of Father Fanelli, C.S.C.; two friends of Ted Toole (Morr) uncle of Jack Wahl (How); brother of Mrs. E. Maurus; father of Bartley McCullion (O-C); uncle of Phil Lucier (Al). (Ill) brother of Father Ed Keller, C.S.C.; father of Bill Crotty; mother of Miss Esther Sullivan; mother of Neil Greene (Dil). Nine special intentions.

