

Third Sorrowful Mystery

The Crowning with Thorns

The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him (Mt 27,27-31).

Meditation from the Byzantine liturgy

He who set the earth upon the waters hangs upon a cross. The King of the Angels is crowned with a crown of thorns. He who clothed the sky with clouds is mocked in a purple cloak. The Bridegroom of the Church is pierced with nails, the Son of the Virgin run through with a lance. O Christ, we adore Your Passion; show us your glorious Resurrection.

Intention

Lord Jesus, Man of Sorrows, You are the thorn-crowned Head of the Creation, in whom it has pleased the Father to unite all things in Heaven and upon earth. Have mercy on all those who have been crushed by the pride and ambition of tyrants and grant to a tortured humanity leaders who will combine power and authority with goodness and humility.



Behold, your King