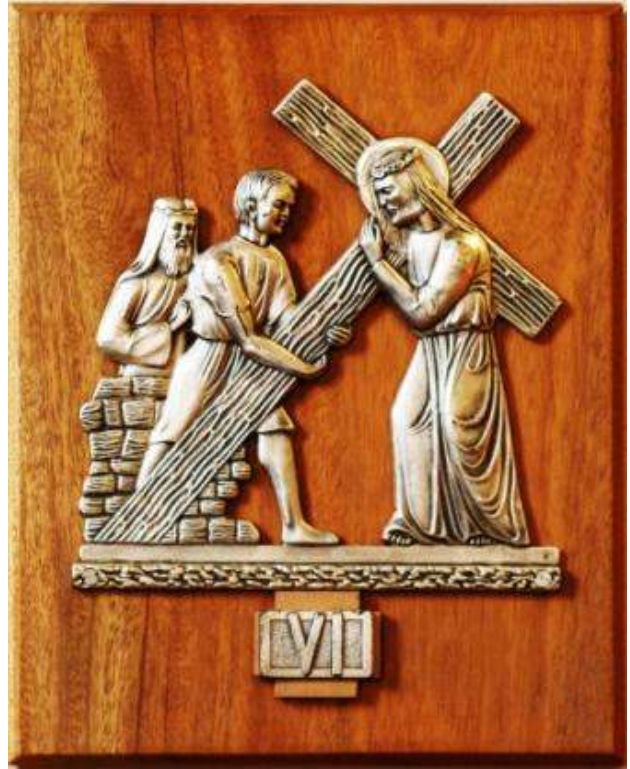


## THE SIXTH STATION

### JESUS TAKES HIS THE CROSS

A cross was loaded on the shoulders of Jesus. Taking it He began his painful journey to the place of execution. Extremely weak and enfeebled by His inhuman treatment, His shuffling steps barely moved Him forward. He could hardly see – blinded by sweat and blood running into His eyes. The pushing and jostling from



the leering crowd pressing round them was too much and He fell several times. The Lord of the Universe - reduced to this for you and me.

*We have seen people struggling against the odds, fighting illness, debt and crumbling relationships; knowing they cannot refuse the burden – but not knowing how long they can cope. We recall our parents' struggles, and our own. The load we carry is often heavy; yet we continue on as best we can.*

Jesus said His yoke was easy, His burden light. Let us pray that God will give us strength for the burdens we carry and that we will find strength in solidarity, with Christ and each other. We pray for those who find their burden too heavy to bear.