

others to the eyes. Hence one of the greatest tortures suffered by the Lord was that of the Crown of Thorns. Instead of a scepter they placed into His hands a contemptible reed. ... In this array of a mock-king the perfidious [faithless and disloyal] Jews decked out Him, who by His nature and by every right was the King of kings and the Lord of lords (Apocalypse 17:14) ... all the soldiers ... heaped upon Him their blasphemous mockery and derision. Some of them bent their knees and mockingly said to Him, God save Thee, King of the Jews. Others buffeted [spit upon] Him; others snatched the cane from His hands and struck Him on His crowned head; others ejected their disgusting spittle upon Him; all of them, instigated by furious demons, insulted and affronted Him in different manners...They then seized the reed, and struck his head so violently that His eyes were filled with blood...



The Carrying of the Cross

...Jesus knelt down by its side, encircled it with his sacred arms, and kissed it [The Most Holy Cross] three times...and almost without any assistance [from the executioners] place the heavy cross on His right shoulder, supporting its great weight with His right hand...His hands were cut by the cords with which they had been bound; his face bloody and disfigured; his hair and beard saturated with blood...His bare feet swollen and bleeding, his

back bent as though he were about to sink under the heavy weight of the cross, and His whole Body covered with wounds and blood. ...in order to torment Him more they drew two loops around His throat. The cross was fifteen feet long, of thick and heavy timbers. She [Mary] recognized the Infinite Value of the Wood of the Cross after once it had come in contact with the Deified [made God] humanity of Jesus Our Redeemer. Immediately she venerated and adored it in a manner befitting it. ... Some of them [the executioners] jerked Him forward by the ropes in order to accelerate His passage, while others pulled from behind in order to retard it. On account of this jerking and the weight of the Cross they caused Him to sway to and fro and often to fall to the

