My dear friends,

I am offering for your meditation this Good Friday a poem that my father wrote when I was very young. The message of this poem inspires the reader on a very personal level. The more that I reread this poem, the more that I see not only a message of comfort that inspires but also a message of companionship: a message that God walks with us daily.

You will notice that there is the imprint of footsteps that begin in Bethlehem and end on Calvary. God always walks with us to lead and direct us as our Shepherd. I imagine the joy that He must feel when we open our hearts to the will of God, Our and His Father. It is probably the same joy and excitement that parents feel when their infant leaves the crawling stage and takes those first few steps on their own.

Be inspired to seek God's Will in all your daily endeavors.

-Fr. Tim

 THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

     When the day is long and weary

     When all inner calm is lost

     I search for inspiration

     At a Station of the Cross

     Perhaps it's at the nailing,

     In the binding to the tree,

     Or the moment of redemption,

     Life relinquished, just for me.

     At other times I follow

     in His footsteps on the road

     and pray for opportunity

     to share His heavy load.

     While caught up in the passion,

     like a Simon of Cyrene,

     All the day's rebuffs are banished,

     Faith again commands the scene.

     And each tableau, as in tempo,

     Marches onward toward crescendo

     To the summit,

     Where submission conquers all.

     And the motion is inspired,

     It sets the soul afire

     From the harmony

     that moves along the wall.

     But finally, I must leave Him

     to resume my own journey,

     and wonder of all wonders,

     I find Jesus walks with me.

     He guides my foot along the way,

     He supports me when I fall,

     And the Cross, which I could scarcely bear,

     Isn't heavy after all.

                     John F. Lyons Jr.