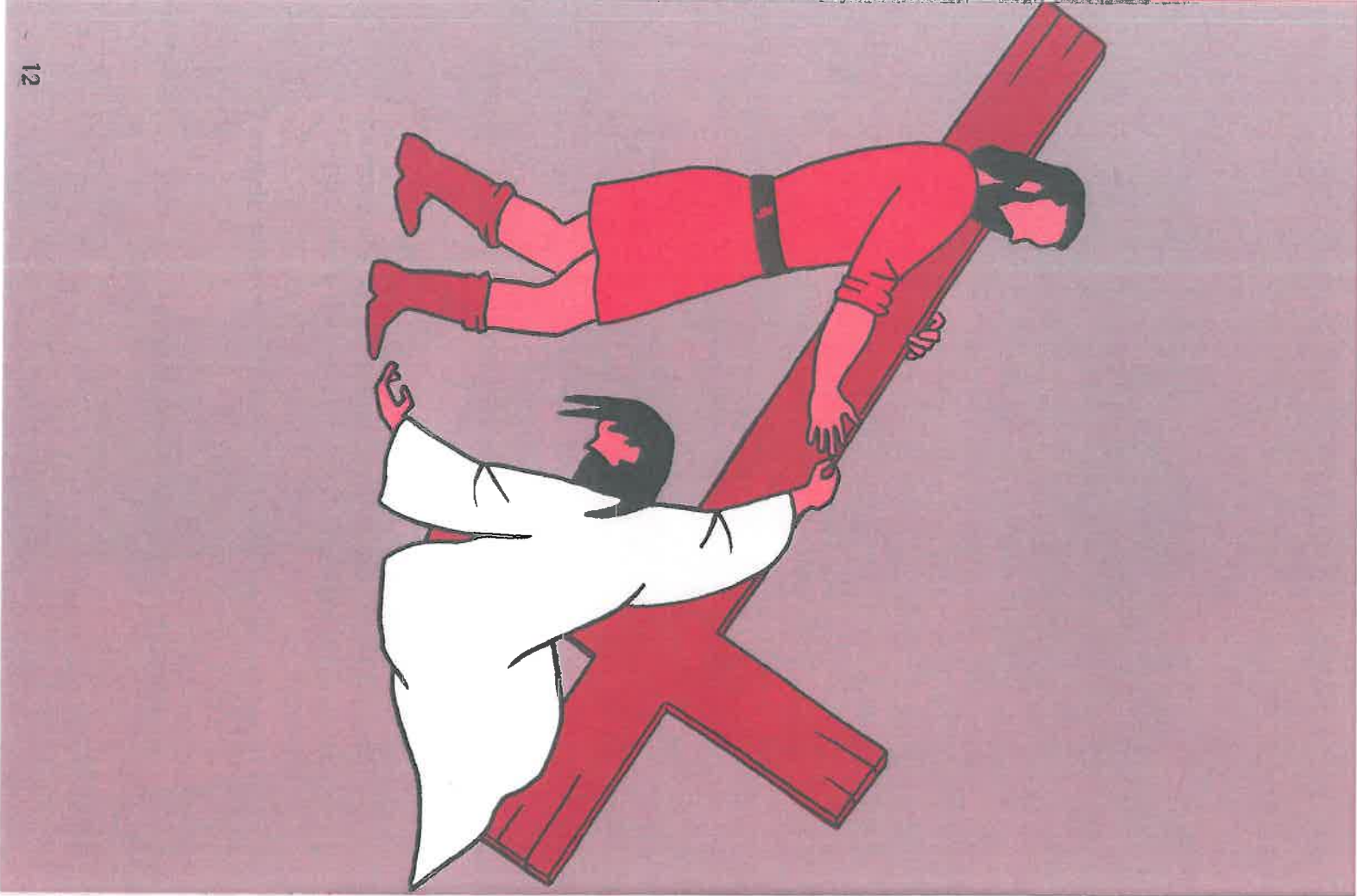


Station 5 - Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his cross - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com



Fifth Station

Simon Helps Jesus Carry the Cross

Simon was an African who had come to Palestine to work in the fields. He had settled there but people still called him a stranger. Yet, it was Simon who was called upon to help with the cross. The soldiers grabbed him and pushed him toward Jesus. He must have thought, "Why me? Is it because I'm different that they're making me do this?" When he saw how much Jesus needed his help, however, he quickly lifted up the cross (Luke 23:26).

(Recite the following with both hands on the right shoulder.)

If we had been there, Jesus, we would have taken turns carrying the cross so that you wouldn't have had to carry it at all. And we would have let Simon go on by.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

TIME TO THINK AND PRAY

Maybe the others would have taken turns carrying the cross, but would I? What if I had hurt myself?

Here and now, do I respond eagerly when my parents or teachers ask me to help with difficult chores?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.