

the true and living God, and his only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us pray. Let us kneel down.

Stand up again.

O almighty and eternal God, who seekest not the death of sinners, but that they should live; mercifully hear our prayers, and deliver them from their idolatry; and, to the praise and glory of thy name, admit them into thy holy church. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest. R. *Amen.*

Here the Priest takes down the cross, and uncovering the top of it says:

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| Ecce lignum Crucis | Behold the wood of |
| in quo salus mundi pe- | the Cross, on which |
| pendit. | hung the salvation of |
| | the world. |

Then the Clergy, and all the people, on their bended knees, answer:

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| Venite adoremus. | Come, let us adore.* |
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This Anth. and R. being repeated twice more, till the whole cross is uncovered, the Priest lays it down in a proper place, and all kneeling thrice on both knees, reverently approach to and devoutly kiss the feet of the crucifix. During this cere-

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gratitude for the manifold blessings and favours he had conferred on them.

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| V. Popule meus quid | O my people, what |
| feci tibi? aut in quo | have I done to thee? in |
| contristavi te? respon- | what have I grieved |
| de mihi. | thee? Answer thou me. |

* The intention of the Church, in exposing the cross to our veneration on this day is, that we might the more effectually raise up our hearts to him who expired thereon for our redemption. Whenever, therefore, we kneel or prostrate ourselves before a crucifix, it is Jesus Christ only whom we adore, and it is in him alone that our respects terminate.