

# PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF KATYN

by

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*Our Lady of Sorrows and Victories,  
You stood under Christ's cross at Golgotha,  
You were surely in Katyn Wood as well...  
Taking each of them in turn,  
You bore them directly to Your Son.  
He gathered them to His pierced Heart.  
Their mouths were gagged but You heard their mute cry.  
Their hands were tied, like Your Son's, and you repeated: "Ecce Homo."  
You wrapped their pierced skulls with prayer.  
You gathered every drop of blood with the most delicate care.  
You watched over the souvenirs they had with them,  
You recognized the crosses, medallions, photographs,  
And the letters-kisses from their loved ones.  
They wouldn't part from them.  
You saw how they fell into the ground in layers,  
Like grains of corn for the nation's bread of strength.  
You wrapped them in the silence of the wood  
And to this day it stands speechless.  
You watched over everyone who, loving them,  
Searched for and awaited them.  
And could meet them in no other way than before Your Heart.  
You waited patiently with everyone not permitted  
To even ask out loud about Katyn.  
But what about the men of Ostaszków and Starobielsk?  
Were You with them to the end?  
Where did You part from them?  
In woods, in fields, on the sea?  
You know the secret concealed so well before the world.  
And did You also see the men who pulled the trigger,  
Carrying out the barbaric order?  
Did You see them?  
And did You forgive them all?  
You had to.  
For You remembered the words of Your Son:  
"Father, forgive them, for they know not  
What they do."  
And help us to forgive. Amen.*