

788 A rose unpetalled

Translation: Mgr. Ronald Knox
 Music: Mgr. John Moloney

St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

♩ = 88

Fa Do7 Fa Do7 Fa Rem Fa7 Sib

1. Je- sus, to aid thy fee- ble powers, I see thy

Fa Rem Do Mib Fa7

Mo- ther's arms out- spread, As thou on

Sib Do Fa Sib Fa Do Sib Do7 Fa Sib Fa

this sad earth of ours Dost set thy first, thy falte- ring tread;

Fa Do Rem Lam Rem Sib Do Fa7 Sib Fa Rem Solm Fa Do

See, in thy path I cast a- way A rose in all its beau- ty dressed,

Sib Fa Rem Do Fa7 Sib Fa Do Sib Do7 Fa

That on its pet- als dis- ar- ray Thy feet, so light may sof- tly rest.

2

Dear infant Christ, this fallen rose
 An image of that heart should be
 Which makes, as every instant flows,
 Its whole burnt sacrifice to thee.
 Upon thy altars, Lord, there gleams
 Full many a flower whose grand display
 Charms thee; but I have other dreams-
 Bloomless, to cast myself away.

3

Dear Lord, the flowers that blossom yet
 Thy feast-day with their perfume fill;
 The rose that's fallen, men forget,
 And winds may scatter where they will:
 The rose that's fallen questions not,
 Content, as for thy sake, to die,
 Abandonment its welcome lot-
 Dear infant Christ, that rose be I!

4

Yes those same petals, trampled down-
 I read the message in my heart-
 In patterns here and there are blown
 That seem too beautiful for art:
 Living to mortal eyes no more,
 Rose of a bloom forever past,
 See to thy love a life made o'er,
 A future on thy mercy cast!

5

For love of Loveliness supreme,
 Dying, to cast myself away
 Were bright fulfillment of my dream;
 I'd prove my love no easier way:
 Life, here below, forgotten still,
 A rose before thy path outspread
 At Nazareth, or on Calvary's hill
 Relieve thy last, thy labouring tread.