



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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INTRODUCTION

Father, all I ask, my one desire, is “to have within me the sentiments of Christ Jesus,” your Son and my God.

May your Spirit assist me in this moment, to adhere to all the movements of his holy soul during his sorrowful Passion, so that I, his Spouse, your child, may share his “sorrow for sin,” seeking out the slightest traces of it in my life. And may I enter at last, with full generosity, into that spirit of reparation to which your grace is calling me.

Mary, Mother of Sorrows, Virgo Reparatrix, receive, enlighten, guide the soul of your child, you who “know” Jesus.

1ST STATION

JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Jesus is condemned to death.

Jesus, silent before the High Priest – the crowd full of hatred – He makes no reply; He accepts – His condemnation is merited: “He was made for my sake.”

In him, I am condemned: enter into his Silence, into the Truth and the Love of his Silence – apply to myself the grace of this loving and silent acceptance – allow myself to be judged; allow myself to be bared; keep silent.

2ND STATION

JESUS BEARS HIS CROSS

The Body of Jesus, exhausted, aching, the flesh torn by the scourging... The heavy Cross makes him quiver with intense pain, the features of his divine Face are drawn with agony.

It is the weight of the Cross – I should not be astonished to feel it, at times to be crushed by it.

Jesus trembles; He accepts.

The Cross is the nourishment and the means of Love.

3RD STATION

JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

Contemplate the powerlessness of Jesus who weakens, stumbles, falls.

Adore this powerlessness willed by the Almighty Divinity.

Abase myself before this weakness of the “Divine Strength.” Be astonished at so much love, at a love so truly “real.”

My God, Jesus, I no longer complain about my limitations of all kinds: I want them; I love them.

O powerless God!

4TH STATION

JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

Mary, your sorrow—I am the cause of it. Help your child to understand this.

You understand the Divine Heart! Your sorrow is immense, calm—nothing of yourself. You are suffering for him, you are sharing, accepting. Teach me.

5TH STATION

JESUS IS HELPED BY SIMON

Jesus, God, helped, sustained by His creature. Jesus, You seem to be “incapable” by yourself.

Be the Divine Remedy which heals my pride, my need to be and to do.





Would that I could help you, carry part of your Cross by discreetly helping others to carry theirs, by accepting your offer when you pass.

6TH STATION

VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

Face of Jesus – “He is without splendor, without beauty. There is nothing to attract attention. We saw him and did not recognize him.”

Face of Jesus, Face veiled and as though disfigured by my sin—Hide me in the “secret of your Face”: there may I at last learn this difficult thing: to love to be hidden, unknown, forgotten, to count for nothing.

7TH STATION

JESUS FALLS A SECOND TIME

Jesus falls a second time: He is weakening, exhausted, faltering—reality of a love that is true, of that Unique Love who has given all of himself, even the joy of feeling that He is giving.

The grace to love, within the feeling of my own wretchedness and of my powerlessness, together with that very feeling, when I have nothing else to offer.

8TH STATION

JESUS SPEAKS TO THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

Jesus overburdened, consoles others. Jesus-God, You alone could be so kind, so unselfish.

Jesus, teach me how to forget myself, to keep silent, to hide my own suffering, to console You in consoling others.

Jesus, as for myself, let me be consoled by You alone.

9TH STATION
JESUS FALLS A THIRD TIME

The summit of Calvary.

The excessive pain, the overwhelming distress... the poor Body sags, and Jesus falls once more.

“It was not for fun that He loved me.” Jesus, powerless, I adore You in your very powerlessness.

I love my own: powerlessness in prayer, powerlessness to be virtuous, powerlessness to love.

10TH STATION
JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

Jesus is stripped.

Stripping that is painful, humiliating.

Contemplate Him in silence, ask Him to apply this stripping to my soul: the grace of “nakedness,” condition of intimate union with Him.

“Follow in nakedness, Jesus Christ naked” (*Imitation of Christ*).

Jesus, take everything from me, but be Jesus for me.

11TH STATION
JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Jesus, nailed to the Cross—fastened, immobile—immobile in the Will of the Father.

Jesus: the grace of this “immobility” in times of trial, which is not disturbed by any desire, any regret, any turning back.

Fastened in love.





12TH STATION
JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Mysterious abandonment.

Isolation of the Holy Soul of my Master. “My God, why have you abandoned me?”

Isolation: Jesus alone in face of anguish and of death, nothing from earth, nothing from the Father.

To expect nothing; to ask for nothing from this earth during my hours of anguish, so as to console your isolation. To accept the Silence of the Father, and Your own, O Jesus.

My God, I accept the death you have prepared for me, uniting it with yours. May it be the supreme homage of my adoration and my love.

I love, I accept in advance this separation as the last gift of my free and voluntary love.

13TH STATION
JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

On my knees, near my Sorrowful Mother.

With her, to contemplate the Divine Countenance, the lifeless Body, seeing there the wounds, the marks of his Infinite Love, the assurance of my pardon.

With Mary, enter respectfully into the wound of the pierced Heart; probe the depth of this Love, respond to it.

14TH STATION
JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB,
AWAITING THE RESURRECTION

The new Sepulcher...

That is how my poor soul would like to be tomorrow morning: empty, silent, closed to creatures, all

prepared and open for Jesus Alone.

Then, by the Holy Species, beneath their Veil, you Mary will place the Body of your Divine Son in this soul which wants to be poor, detached, uniquely ambitious for its God.

Passion of Jesus, strengthen me.



