# **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**



#### STABAT MATER

At the cross her vigil keeping, Mary stood in sorrow weeping. When her Son was crucified.

# I STATION JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION**

Consider how Jesus, after having been scourged and crowned with thorns, was unjustly condemned by Pilate to die on the Cross.

#### PRAYER:

ALL: O Jesus! so meek and uncomplaining, teach me resignation in trials.

#### Our Father...

#### STABAT MATER

While she waited in her anguish Seeing Christ in torment languish bitter sorrow pierced her heart

# **II STATION**

#### JESUS IS MADE TO BEAR HIS CROSS

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION:**

Consider how Jesus, in making this journey with the Cross on His shoulders thought of us, and for us offered to His Father the death that He was about to undergo.

#### PRAYER:

*ALL:* My Jesus, this Cross should be mine, not Thine; my sins crucified Thee. Hail Mary...

#### STABAT MATER

With what pain and desolation with what noble resignation Mary watched her dying Son

# III STATION JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

**R**./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION:**

Consider this first fall of Jesus under His Cross. His flesh was torn by the scourges, His head crowned with thorns, and He had lost a great quantity of blood.

He was so weakened that He could scarcely walk, and yet He had to carry this great load upon His shoulders. The soldiers struck Him rudely, and thus He fell several times in His journey.

PRAYER:

ALL: O Jesus! by this first fall, never let me fall into mortal sin.

Our Father...

#### STABAT MATER

Ever patient in her yearning Though her tear-filled eyes were burning Mary gazed upon her Son

# IV STATION JESUS MEETS HIS SORROWFUL MOTHER

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION**

Consider the meeting of the Son and the Mother, which took place on this journey. Jesus and Mary looked at each other, and their looks became as so many arrows to wound those hearts which loved each other so tenderly.

#### PRAYER:

*ALL:* Jesus! may no human tie, however dear, keep me from following the road of the Cross. Hail Mary...

#### STABAT MATER

Who, that sorrow contemplating? On that passion meditating Would not share the Virgin's grief.

# *V STATION THE CROSS IS LAID ON SIMON OF CYRENE*

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION**

Consider how the soldiers, seeing that at each step Jesus, from weakness, was on the point of expiring, and fearing that He would die on the way, when they wished Him to die the ignominious death of the Cross, constrained Simon of Cyrene to carry the Cross behind our Lord.

#### PRAYER:

ALL: Simon unwillingly assisted Thee; may I with patience, suffer all for Thee.

Our Father...

#### STABAT MATER

Christ, she saw, for our salvation. Scourged with cruel acclamation. Bruised and beaten by the rod.

# VI STATION *VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS*

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. **R**./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION**

Consider how the holy woman named Veronica, seeing Jesus so afflicted, and His face bathed in sweat and blood, presented Him with a towel, with which He wiped His adorable face, leaving on it the impression of His holy countenance.

# PRAYER:

*ALL*: O Jesus! Thou didst imprint Thy sacred features upon Veronica's veil; stamp them also indelibly upon my heart. Hail Mary...

#### STABAT MATER

Christ, she saw with lifeblood failing. All her anguish unavailing, saw him breathe his very last

# VII STATION

# JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION**

Consider the second fall of Jesus under the Cross, a fall which renews the pain of all the wounds of the head and members of our afflicted Lord.

#### PRAYER:

*ALL*: By Thy second fall, preserve me, dear Lord, from relapse into sin. Our Father...

#### STABAT MATER

Mary, fount of love's devotion Let me share with true emotion All the sorrow you endured.

#### VIII STATION JESUS SPEAKS TO *THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM*

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION**

Consider how these women wept with compassion at seeing Jesus in such a pitiable state, streaming with blood, as he walked along. But Jesus said to them: "Weep not for Me, but for yourselves and for your children."

#### PRAYER:

*ALL:* My greatest consolation would be to hear Thee say: "Many sins are forgiven thee, because thou hast loved much."

Hail Mary...

#### STABAT MATER

Virgin, ever interceding. Hear me in my fervent pleading. Fire me with your love of Christ

# IX STATION JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. **R**./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

# MEDITATION

Consider the third fall of Jesus Christ. His weakness was extreme, and the cruelty of His executioners excessive, who tried to hasten His steps when He had scarcely the strength to move.

# PRAYER:

*ALL*: O Jesus! when weary upon life's long journey, be Thou my strength and my perseverance Our Father...

# STABAT MATER

Mother may this prayer be granted. That Christ's love may be implanted in the depths of my poor soul.

## X STATION JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

# **MEDITATION**

Consider the violence with which the executioners stripped Jesus. His inner garments adhered to His torn flesh, and they dragged them off so roughly that the skin came with them. Have compassion on your Saviour thus cruelly treated.

#### PRAYER:

*All*: My soul has been robbed of its robe of innocence; clothe me, dear Jesus, with the garb of penance and contrition.

Hail Mary...

#### STABAT MATER

At the cross, your sorrow sharing. All your grief and torment bearing. Let me stand and mourn with you

# XI STATION JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

#### **MEDITATION**

Consider how Jesus, after being thrown on the Cross, extended His hands, and offered to His Father the sacrifice of His death for our salvation.

These barbarians fastened Him with nails, and then, raising the Cross, allowed Him to die with anguish on this infamous gibbet.

#### PRAYER:

*ALL*: Thou didst forgive Thy enemies; my God, teach me to forgive injuries and FORGET them.

Our Father...

#### STABAT MATER

Fairest maid of all creation. Queen of hope and consolation. Let me feel your grief sublime

# XII STATION JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. **R**./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

## **MEDITATION**

Consider how your Jesus, after three hours Agony on the Cross, consumed at length with anguish, abandoned Himself to the weight of His body, bowed His head, and died.

# .....KEEP A MOMENT OF SILENCE.....

# PRAYER:

*ALL*: Thou art dying, my Jesus, but Thy Sacred Heart still throbs with love for Thy sinful children.

Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory Be...

#### STABAT MATER

Virgin, in your love befriend me. At the Judgment Day defend me. Help me by your constant prayer

# XIII STATION JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. R./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

# **MEDITATION**

Consider how, after the death of our Lord, two of His disciples, Joseph and Nicodemus, took Him down from the Cross, and placed Him in the arms of His afflicted Mother, who received him with unutterable tenderness, and pressed Him to her heart.

# PRAYER:

All: Receive me into thy arms, O Sorrowful Mother; and obtain for me perfect contrition for my sins.

Hail Mary...

#### STABAT MATER

Saviour, when my life shall leave me. Through your mother's prayer receive me with the fruits of victory.

# XIV STATION JESUS IS LAID IN THE SEPULCHRE

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. **R**./ Because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

# **MEDITATION**

Consider how the disciples carried the body of Jesus to bury it, accompanied by His Holy Mother, who arranged it in the tomb with her own hands. They then closed the tomb, and all drew sorrowfully away.

# PRAYER:

*All:* When I receive Thee into my heart in Holy Communion, O Jesus, make it an abiding place for thy adorable Body. Amen.

Our Father...

# PRAYER FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

*ALL*: O, my Lord Jesus, I offer the following prayers as my petition for this month's intentions of our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory Be...

# **CLOSING PRAYER TO JESUS CHRIST CRUCIFIED**

*ALL:* Behold, O kind and most sweet Jesus, I cast myself on my knees in Your sight, and with the most fervent desire of my soul, I pray and beg You to impress upon my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity, with true repentance for my sins, and a firm desire of amendment, while with deep affection and grief of soul I contemplate Your five most precious Wounds, having before my eyes that which David spoke in prophecy:

"They pierced My hands and My feet; they have numbered all My bones." God has loved us from all eternity. So, He says: "Remember I first loved you. You had not come to be, nor did the world yet exist, but I loved you already. From all eternity I have loved you." Amen