



PROVINCE OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY  
**WAY OF THE CROSS**

LENTEN SEASON 2018



**First Station**

**JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH**

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to Luke, 23:20-24**

*"In his desire to set Jesus free, Pilate addressed them again, but they shouted back, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' And for the third time he spoke to them, 'But what harm has this man done? I have found no case against him that deserves death, so I shall have him flogged and then let him go.' But they kept on shouting at the top of their voices, demanding that he should be crucified. And their shouts kept growing louder. Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was to be granted."*

**Reflection:**

Jesus was convicted and sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate although Pilate had earlier declared "I find no crime deserving of death in him" (Luke 23:22). Pilate, out of fear of men, and out of fear of losing his worldly position, gave a verdict which he knew to be unjust. The sinless was condemned by a sinful man.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for the virtue of fortitude to uphold justice.

**Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, you suffered violence and injustice under Pontius Pilate because he failed in his duty for fear of human opinion. I am also like Pilate whenever I am afraid to do the right thing, fearful of public opinion if I do not go along with the crowd. Grant me the virtue of fortitude to conquer my fear of human respect, fear of public disgrace and even fear of death. Help me not to hesitate to speak up in defence of a just cause.

Our Father...



## Second Station

### JESUS CARRIES THE CROSS

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to John, 19: 16-17.**

*“So at that Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. They then took charge of Jesus, and carrying his own cross he went out to the Place of the Skull or, as it is called in Hebrew, Golgotha.”*

**Reflection:**

This piece of wood is a sign of humiliation and death, but through the journey with you, it has become the most powerful symbol of glory and life. It was given to you unjustly, but you accepted it willingly, not for your own faults, but for our sins.

How many times have I complained to you of why my cross is so heavy? And yet, you have taken most of it upon you. By concerning myself about worldly things and secular worries, I lost your vision about the cross, for you did not consider it a burden, but an instrument of salvation.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for the new baptized Christians.

**Prayer:**

Lord, grant me your strength that I may be courageous to carry my cross, give me your love that I may carry it with peacefulness, fill me with wisdom that I may follow in your footsteps and lighten the crosses of others.

Our Father...



## Third Station

### JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to Matthew, 11: 28-30.**

*“Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will refresh you. Take up my yoke upon you, and learn of me, because I am meek, and humble of heart: and you shall find rest to your souls.”*

**Reflection:**

The fatigue of Jesus and the weight of the cross make Him fall for the first time; but He also gets up off the ground. Jesus invited us not to let ourselves be crushed by the weight of our sin and of our errors. We must transform the weight of our cross into the reason for us to keep going on and not to faint.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for those who lose hope and strength.

**Prayer:**

Lord Jesus Christ, give us the strength to lift us from our sin in the most difficult moments. Give us the ability to carry the cross of our errors and transform it into an opportunity to follow you.

Our father...



## Fourth Station

### JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you*

**R.** *Because by your cross you have redeemed the world.*

**From the Gospel according to John, 19:25.**

*“Near the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, and Mary of Magdala.”*

**Reflection:**

On the road to Golgotha, Jesus meets his Mother. Both of them share the same heart full of complete surrender to God's salvation project. Despite the painful moment, nothing can change their desires to complete God's will has entrusted them.

**Petition:**

We pray for those who have lost their faith.

**Prayer:**

Lord, give us the ability to discern the path we must follow among the many ideas that the world claims as truth.

Hail Mary...



## **Fifth Station**

### **SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS**

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to Mark, 15:21.**

*“They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross”.*

**Reflection:**

Carrying the cross demands to be helped and to help others in turn. Jesus highlights the human capacity to walk the way of the cross with his help. He calls us to persevere in the way of our conversion. We have been given the capacity to build the Kingdom of God.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for those who are underestimated in our society.

**Prayer:**

Lord, give us the ability to detach ourselves from our selfish purposes and not to surrender to them. Help us to collaborate in the construction of your Kingdom as our reason for living.

Our Father...



## Sixth Station

### VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

#### **Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

#### **From the Gospel according to Luke, 8:1-3**

*“Now it happened that after this He made his way through towns and villages preaching and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God. With Him went the Twelve, as well as certain women who had been cured of evil spirits and ailments: Mary surnamed the Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, Joanna the wife of Herod’s steward Chuza, Susanna, and many others who provided for them out of their own resources.*

#### **Reflection**

A large multitude, among which there were women beating their breast and wailing, followed Jesus along the way to Golgotha. These women, among whom was the devoted Veronica, had witnessed the marvels and miracles performed by Jesus; they had enjoyed some of his glorious moments and, in a way, partaken in his agony. Am I willing to be present in Jesus’ affliction in his Passion as a follower, not only in good times? Jesus called his disciples friends; Am I a good friend to Him?

#### **Petition**

Let us pray for the grace to be faithful and to persevere in Jesus’ footsteps.

#### **Prayer**

Lord Jesus, our Redeemer, the proclamation of your Kingdom on earth was much supported by women. We beseech you: keep us faithful witnesses and generous collaborators in the construction of your Kingdom.

Our Father...



## Seventh Station

### JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

**Antiphon:**

**V.** We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You

**R.** Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.

**From the Gospel according to Isaiah, 63:29**

“In all their troubles, it was not messenger or angel but his presence that saved them. In his love and pity he himself redeemed them, lifted them up and carried them throughout the days of old.”

**Reflection:**

Jesus shows us that falling again and again is something that human beings experience frequently. With so much physical pain, torture and vexation, Jesus cannot stand any more: He falls a second time, because the cross weighs too much.

Jesus' cross is the one I voluntarily promised to take to follow Him. I fall much more often than I would like. My cross and my attitudes lead me to one misstep after another. Lord, help me to walk with you, with your cross; help me to be happy, patient and brave when I walk in your way.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for courage to carry our daily cross with cheerfulness

**Prayer:**

Lord, you know how weak we are, give us the grace to persevere always in the love of your Cross. Help us to always walk in paths of new life.

Our Father...



## **Eight Station**

### **JESUS CONSOLES THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM**

#### **Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

#### **From the Gospel according to Luke, 23:28-31.** (Lc 23, 27-32)

*“Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For look, the day are surely coming when people will say: “Blessed are those who are barren, the wombs that have never borne children, the breast that have never suckled!” then they will begin to say to the mountains, “Fall on us!”; to the hills, “Cover us!” For if this is what is done to green wood, what will be done when the wood is dry?”*

#### **Reflection:**

We may feel the need to cry for the suffering of Jesus in the Way of the Cross. Nonetheless, Jesus consoled the women of Jerusalem on the way to Calvary by saying: *“Do not weep for me, weep for you and for your children.”* He invites us to review our life and to discover the suffering that we inflict to us and to others with our attitudes; it is a useless suffering that God does not want. He also said: *“I want mercy and not sacrifices.”*

#### **Petition:**

Let us pray for those who suffer because of illness, loneliness, troubles, and persecution for the sake of justice and peace.

#### **Prayer:**

Father, who wanted your Son to give his life for the salvation of all men and women. May we discover the need for this salvation and be grateful for it. Enlighten those who have not yet discovered Jesus as their Saviour. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father...





## Ninth Station

### JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to Luke 22: 28-30**

*“You are the men who have stood by me faithfully in my trials; and now I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father conferred one on me: you will eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel.”*

**Reflection:**

Torn and bleeding, exhausted and in extreme pain, Jesus became too weak to tread steadily on the agonizing march forced by the soldiers. He stumbled and fell again on the rocky ground. His wounds aggravated; his pains renewed.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for deliverance from falling into sin, the weight of which had crushed our Lord onto the ground.

**Prayer:**

Lord, the way to Calvary was for you an extremely painful long march. Every inch of the way to move forward had to be overcome with strength and will power. You tottered and stumbled. You fell three times, being weighted down beneath the burden of our sins. You suffered intensely in body and soul, because you were also fully human. You endured all this for love of us. We now humbly confess our sins and ask for pardon of them; give us grace to amend our life.

Our Father...



## Tenth Station

### JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS CLOTHES

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to John 19:23.**

*“When the soldiers had finished crucifying Jesus they took his clothing and divided it into four shares, one for each soldier.”*

**Reflection:**

Being naked is to stay exposed and weak. Nakedness takes away intimacy from our being. However, by being stripped of his clothes, Jesus clothes us with dignity and brings us closer to the Father.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for the missionaries, the immigrants, and the persecuted.

**Prayer:**

Lord, give us the virtue of being tolerant and take away from our eyes the veil that prevents us from seeing the face of the Father in our brothers and sisters.

Our father...



## Eleventh Station

### JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to Luke, 23:33-34.**

*“When they reached the place called The Skull, there they crucified him and the two criminals, one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said: Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing, then they cast lots to share out his clothing.”*

**Reflection:**

Many people still wonder how the Son of God could have been crucified! Love is the answer. God so much loved humanity that He gave us His only Son. And His Son, Jesus, took the cross, embraced it and shed His blood for our salvation. Because Love transcends human logic, it goes beyond our understanding. Love gives life and liberates us.

**Petition:**

Let us pray to be able to love God and our neighbour.

**Prayer:**

Lord, we thank you for your plan of salvation revealed to us. Help us to appreciate your gift and not to abandon your saving plan. We abandon your plan because of fear and weakness.

Our father...



## **Twelve Station**

### **JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS**

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**From the Gospel according to Matthew, 27:50.**

*“But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit”*

**Reflection:**

The Christ who is on the wood is our Saviour, the Son of God who came to save humanity. Jesus has taken on our pain and sins to give us new life and take us out of oppression. His pain and total surrender to His Father gave us new life.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for our spiritual healing, forgiveness and freedom.

**Prayer:**

Lord Jesus Christ, grant us the gift to forgive our enemies and to those who sin against us, as you do forgive our sins.

Our Father...



## Thirteenth Station

### THE BODY OF JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

#### Antiphon:

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

#### From the Gospel according to Matthew 27:54-56

*“The centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, ‘In truth this man was son of God.’ And many women were there, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and looked after him. Among them were Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee’s sons.”*

#### Reflection

Many followers accompanied Jesus along his Passion and stood with him until the last moment of his Death. Seemingly, death on a cross was the end of all, the end of a total failure of his mission. But there remained a fact proclaimed by the centurion ‘In truth this man was son of God.’ Indeed, this is the conclusion of Jesus’ whole life: the Son of God, our redeemer. Under the Cross, hearing the crying of Jesus, what will be our reaction? Saddened? Moved? Indifferent?

#### Petition

Let us pray that today we hear the voice of the Lord and we do not harden our heart.

#### Prayer

Lord, you have warned us not to harden our hearts as we hear your voice. Purify our hearts and ears so that we can hear your voice and be truly converted. Sanctify us in every moment of our life, through Christ our Lord.

Our Father...



## Fourteenth Station

### JESUS IS LAID INTO THE TOMB

**Antiphon:**

**V.** *We Adore You, O Christ, and We Bless You*

**R.** *Because by Your Cross You Have Redeemed the World.*

**Luke 24, 52-53:**

“Joseph of Arimathea presented himself to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus and, after taking him down, wrapped him in a sheet and put him in a tomb carved into the rock where no one had been placed still”.

**Reflection:**

The end of suffering came with death and burial. After all there was still someone who had enough love for Jesus as to give him the tomb he had prepared for himself. For a few days it seems that Life is in suspense, what remains is suffering and uncertainty, not knowing what the future will bring. The hope of the resurrection is certain.

**Petition:**

Let us pray for faith in the Resurrection.

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, your Son has turned death into life, and the grave into a mere transition to Life eternal. Grant us that in spite of the many times we fail to see, to believe and to hope, we always be consoled with your promise to be resurrected, since faith in the resurrection is the strongest and most profound consolation we can have to others.

Our father...



**V.** Save us, O Christ our Saviour.  
**R.** through the power of your cross.

**Let us Pray**

O God, you sanctified the standard of the life-bestowing cross with the precious blood of your only begotten Son. Grant that those who joyfully honour the holy cross may everywhere rejoice in your protection. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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*Collaborators for this Via Crucis:*

1<sup>st</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Stations: Bro. Deacon Francis Cheung, OP  
2<sup>nd</sup> Station: Bro. Jordan Zhang, OP.  
6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Stations: Bro. Joachim Li, OP.  
7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Stations: Bro. José Ignacio Moronta Calles, OP.  
8<sup>th</sup> Station: Bro. Jesús María Hernández, OP.  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Bro. Modesto A. Fontela, OP.