

April 8, 2020

Holy Week – The Passion and Death of our Lord

During this holiest of weeks in our liturgical year, we unite ourselves to Jesus as we follow the steps He walked to the place of His crucifixion. We journey with Jesus in sorrow and sadness, but also with great hope. For we know that His death is not the end, but only the beginning of our salvation and the life eternal which Jesus promises each of us who believe in Him. Over these next days please try to follow the Way of the Cross by praying the Stations, which follow.

First Station: Jesus is condemned to death

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, innocent though you were, you took upon yourself the sins of all the world, even mine, and for this I give you thanks.

Second Station: Jesus takes up his cross

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, you carried a heavy cross to the place of your death, for my salvation. Help me to never complain about the hard tasks I face and the burdens I carry.

Third Station: Jesus falls the first time

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, I was not there to help you when you fell under the weight of the cross. Thank you for always being there for me when I stumble and fall.

Fourth Station: Jesus meets his mother

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, you must have grieved for your mother who loved you and saw you in such pain. Teach me to always honor, respect and obey my parents who show their love for me in so many ways.

Fifth Station: Simon helps Jesus carry the cross

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, a complete stranger helped you carry your cross. Open my eyes to recognize my neighbor in the ordinary people I meet and to reach out with compassion to those who need my help.

Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, a brave and gentle lady showed you a simple kindness. May I look for everyday opportunities to show kindness to others.

Seventh Station: Jesus falls the second time

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, why do I behave in ways over and over that are not pleasing to you or helpful to others? Help me to conquer my own selfishness and to grow in holiness. When I fall short of what you expect, lift me up to higher ground.

Eighth Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, the women who stayed close to you on your painful journey to the Cross recognized you as their Lord. As I journey through this life, may I always stay close to you, my Lord and Savior.

Ninth Station: Jesus falls the third time

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, when I am weary or discouraged, let me think of how you carried on despite the difficulty and the unfairness of what you suffered for me. With your help, I will rise each time I fall.

Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped of his garments

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, everything was taken from you, even the clothes you wore. Teach me what is truly important in this life and give me the wisdom not to cling to things that are only temporary and can never bring me true happiness.

Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, when you were at your weakest, with your arms outstretched for the whole world, you were most powerful. Your loving sacrifice brings salvation to all who believe in you. Please count me among those you have chosen.

Twelfth Station: Jesus dies on the cross

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, this was not the end, but only the beginning of a new life, a life that is eternal. As I journey through the life that is temporary here on earth, let me be ever mindful of the never-ending life that awaits me in heaven.

Thirteenth Station: Jesus is taken down from the cross

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, you lay in your mother's arms at the foot of the cross. She is our mother, too, with her arms always open to hold and comfort us, as she did for you.

Fourteenth Station: Jesus is laid in the tomb

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus, the sorrow and sadness of Good Friday yield to the joy and triumph of Easter when all tears are wiped away and your glory overcomes all the trials and troubles of this life. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the new life that awaits us.

Homework : A blessed and happy Easter to all ! Alleluia ! He is risen !

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