

Divine Mercy Way of the Cross

Preparatory Prayer

My Lord Jesus Christ, You have made this journey to die for me with love unutterable, and I have so many times unworthily abandoned You; but now I love You with my whole **heart**, and because I love You, I repent sincerely for ever having offended You. Pardon me, my God, and permit me to accompany You on this journey. You go to die for love of me; I wish also, my beloved Redeemer, to die for love of You. My Jesus, I will live and die always united to You.

*At the cross her station keeping
Stood the mournful Mother weeping
Close to Jesus to the last*



The First Station
Jesus is Condemned to Death

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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

My adorable Jesus, it was not Pilate, no, it was my sins that condemned You to die. I beseech You, by the merits of this sorrowful journey, to assist my soul in its journey towards eternity. I love You, my beloved Jesus; I repent with my whole heart for having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me what You will.

For the sake of His being condemned to death, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Through her heart, His sorrow sharing
All His bitter anguish bearing
Now at length the sword has passed*



The Second Station
Jesus Carries His Cross

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

Leader: 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 He was about to undergo.

My most beloved Jesus, I embrace all the tribulations You have destined for me until death. I beg You, by all You suffered in carrying Your Cross, to help me carry mine with Your perfect peace and resignation. I love You, Jesus my love; I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His carrying the Cross, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*O, how sad and sore distressed
Was that Mother highly blessed
Of the sole Begotten One*



The Third Station
Jesus Falls the First Time

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

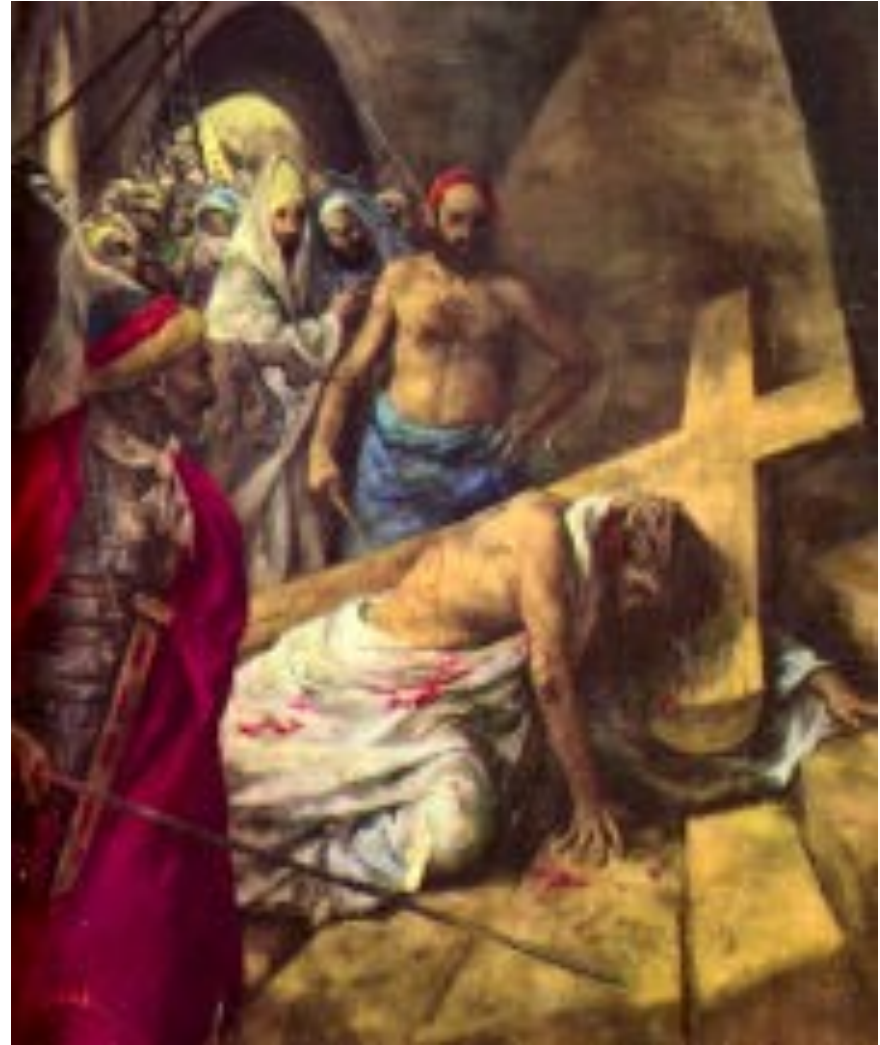
All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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.

My beloved Jesus, it is not the weight of the Cross, but my sins, which have made You suffer so much pain. By the merits of this first fall, deliver me from the misfortune of falling into mortal sin. I love You, O my Jesus, with my whole heart; I am sorry for having offended You. May I never offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His first fall under the weight of the Cross, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Christ above in torment hangs
She beneath beholds the pangs
Of her dying, glorious Son.*



The Fourth Station
Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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.

My most loving Jesus, by the sorrow You suffered in this meeting, grant me the grace of a truly devoted love for Your most holy Mother. And you, my Queen, who was overwhelmed with sorrow, obtain for me by your intercession a continual and tender remembrance of the Passion of your Son. I love You, Jesus my love; I repent of ever having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His meeting His afflicted Mother, have mercy on us and on the whole world

*Is there one who would not weep,
'whelmed in miseries so deep
Christ's dear Mother to behold.*



The Fifth Station
Simon Helps Jesus to Carry the Cross

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

Consider how the Jews, 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 the Cyrenian to carry the Cross behind our Lord.

My most sweet Jesus, I will not refuse the Cross, as the Cyrenian did; I accept it; I embrace it. I accept in particular the death You have destined for me; with all the pains that may accompany it; I unite it to Your death, I offer it to You. You have died for love of me; I will die for love of You, and to please You. Help me by Your grace. I love You, Jesus my love; I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His accepting help in carrying the Cross, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Can the human heart refrain
'From partaking in her pain
In that Mother's pain untold?*



The Sixth Station
Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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.

My most beloved Jesus, Your face was beautiful before, but in this journey it has lost all its beauty, and wounds and blood have disfigured it. Alas, my soul also was once beautiful, when it received Your grace in Baptism; but I have disfigured it since by my sins; You alone, my Redeemer, can restore it to its former beauty. Do this by Your Passion, O Jesus. I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His receiving mercy from Veronica, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Bruised, derided, cursed, difiled
'She beheld her tender Child,
All with bloody scourges rent*



The Seventh Station
Jesus Falls the Second Time

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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.

My most gentle Jesus, how many times You have pardoned me, and how many times have I fallen again, and begun again to offend You! Oh, by the merits of this new fall, give me the necessary help to persevere in Your grace until death. Grant that in all temptations which assail me I may always commend myself to You. I love You, Jesus my love; I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His second fall under the weight of the Cross, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*For the sins of His own nation
Saw Him hang in desolation
Till His spirit forth He sent*



The Eighth Station
The Women of Jerusalem Weep over Jesus

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

Consider how those 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 your children.

My Jesus, laden with sorrows, I weep for the offences I have committed against You, because of the pains they have deserved, and still more because of the displeasure they have caused You, who has loved me so much. It is Your love, more than the fear of hell, which causes me to weep for my sins. My Jesus, I love You more than myself; I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His consoling the women, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*O sweet Mother! Fount of Love,
Touch my spirit from above
Make my heart with yours accord.*



The Ninth Station
Jesus Falls the Third Time

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

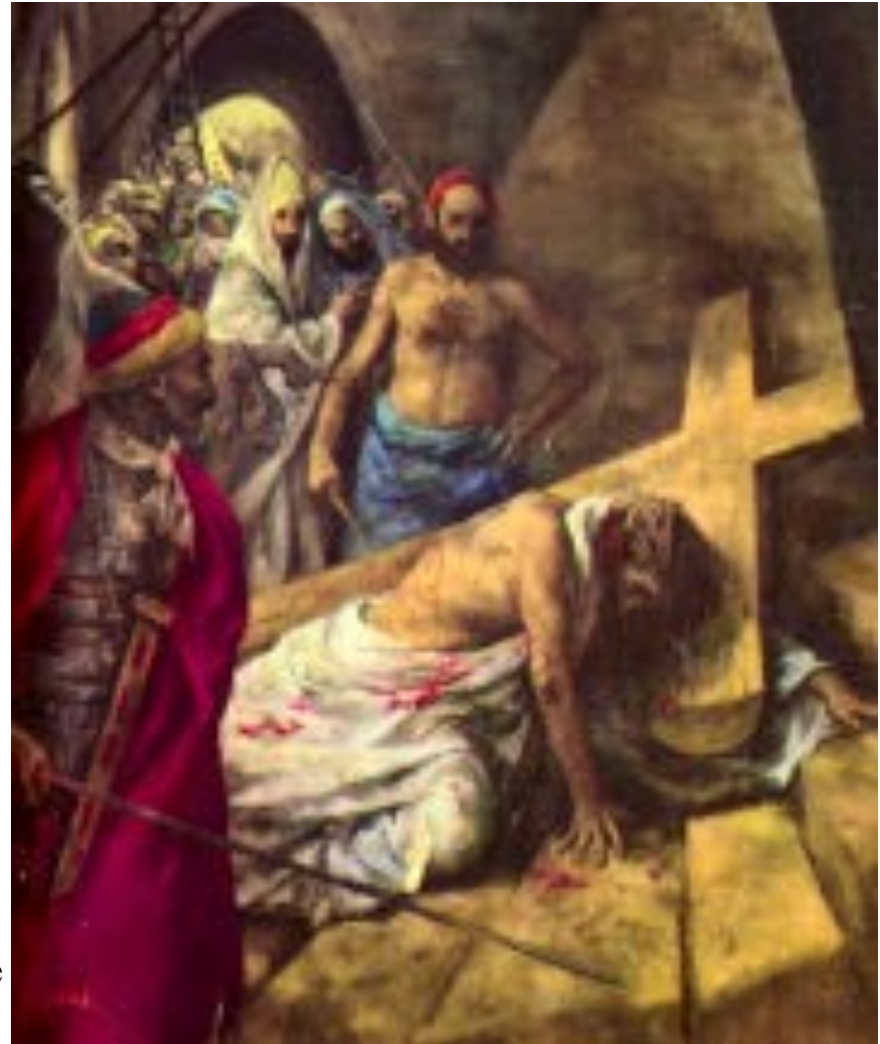
All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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

My outraged Jesus, by the merits of the weakness You suffered in going to Calvary, give me strength sufficient to conquer all human respect, and all my wicked passions, which have led me to despise Your friendship. I love You, Jesus my love, with my whole heart; I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will

For the sake of His third fall under the weight of the Cross, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Make me feel as You have felt
Make my soul to low and melt
With the love of Christ, my Lord*



The Tenth Station
Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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. Compassionate your Savior thus cruelly treated, and say to Him:

My innocent Jesus, by the merits of the torment You have felt, help me to strip myself of all affection to things of earth, in order that I may place all my love in You, who art so worthy of my love. I love You, O Jesus, with my whole heart; I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His being stripped, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Holy Mother, pierce me through
In my heart each wound renew
Of my Savior crucified.*



The Eleventh Station
Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

Consider how Jesus, after being thrown on the Cross extended His hands, and offered to His Eternal 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.

My Jesus! loaded with contempt, nail my heart to Your feet, that it may ever remain there, to love You, and never quit You again. I love You more than myself; I repent of having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His being crucified, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Let me share with you His pain,
Who for all our sins was slain,
Who for me in torments died.*



The Twelfth Station
Jesus is Raised upon the Cross, and Dies

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

Consider how thy Jesus, after three hours' Agony on the Cross, consumed at length with anguish, abandons Himself to the weight of His body, bows His head, and dies.

O my dying Jesus, I kiss devoutly the Cross on which You died for love of me. I have merited by my sins to die a miserable death; but Your death is my hope. By the merits of Your death, give me grace to die, embracing Your feet, and burning with love for You. I yield my soul into Your hands. I love You with my whole heart; I repent of ever having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His death on the Cross, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Let me mingle tears with thee
Mourning Him who mourned for me,
All the days that I may live.*



The Thirteenth Station
Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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 bosom.

O Mother of sorrow, for the love of this Son, accept me for your servant, and pray to Him for me. And You, my Redeemer, since You have died for me, permit me to love You; for I wish but You, and nothing more. I love You, my Jesus, and I repent of ever having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.

For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*By the cross with you to stay
There with you to weep and pray
Is all I ask of you to give.*



The Fourteenth Station
Jesus is Laid in the Sepulchre

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (**Genuflect**)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. (**Rise**)

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

Oh, my buried Jesus, I kiss the stone that encloses Thee. But Thou didst rise again the third day. I beseech Thee, by Thy resurrection, make me rise glorious with Thee at the last day, to be always united with Thee in heaven, to praise Thee and love Thee forever. I love Thee, and I repent of ever having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always; and then do with me what Thou wilt.

For the sake of His being laid in the tomb, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Virgin of all virgins blest!
Listen to my fond request:
Let me share your grief divine.*



The Fifteenth Station
The Resurrection

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (GENUFLECT)

All: In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

Consider how, after Jesus had lain dead in the tomb for three days, he arose in glory on the third day.

Oh, my risen Lord Jesus, I come humbly before you and ask forgiveness for all of those things I have done to offend you. I acknowledge my weaknesses and pray to be strengthened through the power of your passion and resurrection.

For the sake of His being raised from the dead, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*Hear thee now my sincere prayer
Guide me to Your own sweet care
Allow your light in me to shine.*

My good and dear Jesus, I kneel before you, asking you most earnestly to engrave upon my heart a deep and lively faith, hope, and charity, with true repentance for my sins, and a firm resolve to make amends. As I reflect upon ;your five wounds, and dwell upon them with deep compassion and grief, I recall, good Jesus, the words the Prophet David spoke long ago concerning yourself: "They pierced My hands and My feet: they have numbered all My bones."

