Stations of the Cross

Our Lady of Sorrows Church
February 19, 2021
Brothers and Sisters,
As we begin this Way of the Cross, let us prepare our hearts to reflect upon the paschal mystery of Christ who died, was buried, and rose again.
The death of Christ reveals to us how much God loves us.

It also shows us the seriousness of our sins.

But Christ, our hope, is risen from the dead to the glory of the Father.

Let the joy of salvation united with sorrow for our sins remind us of our duty to live a life of love.
THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Pilate entered the Praetorium again and said to Jesus: Where are you from? “But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him: "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have the power to release you and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him: "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore, he who delivered me to you has the greater sin."

Upon this, Pilate sought to release him, but they cried out: If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend; everyone who makes himself king sets himself against Caesar."
THE FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Leader: For my disobedience to God.
All: O Lord, forgive me.
Leader: For my sin against pride.
All: O Lord, forgive me.
Leader: For my ingratitude.
All: O Lord, forgive me.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, We believe in you; we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world
And the soldiers led him away inside the palace; and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak and plaifying a crown of thorns they put it on him. And they began to salute him: "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck his head with a reed, and spat upon him, and they knelt down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, and put his own clothes on him. They then led him out to crucify him.
THE SECOND STATION: JESUS IS SCOURGED AND CROWNED WITH THORNS

Leader: To accept and carry my cross.
All: God, give me strength
Leader: To suffer in union with you.
All: God, give me strength
Leader: To accept your will.
All: God, give me strength

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, We believe in you; we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

Jesus prayed: "Father, if thou art willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done." And there appeared to him an angel from heaven strengthening him. And being in an agony, he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling upon the ground. And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow.
THE THIRD STATION: JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

Leader: To admit my weakness.
All: Help me, O God
Leader: To accept myself as I am.
All: Help me, O God
Leader: To realize my sin.
All: Help me, O God

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

The crowd said: "Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? Are not his brethren James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? Are not all his sisters with us?" And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them: "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house."
THE FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

Leader: From lack of affection for members of our own family.
All: Deliver us, O God

Leader: From envy, jealousy, resentment and discord in our household.
All: Deliver us, O God

Leader: From selfishness and self-seeking within our home.
All: Deliver us, O God

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
As they were marching out, they came upon a man, of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross. And they came to a place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull...
THE FIFTH STATION: SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY THE CROSS

Leader: For ignoring the victims of discrimination.
All: Grant us pardon

Leader: For judging people whose lifestyle and choices are different than our own.
All: Grant us pardon

Leader: For being indifferent to those in need
All: Grant us pardon

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
He had no form or comeliness that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by all; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom all hid their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes, we are healed.
THE SIXTH STATION: VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

Leader: To have the courage to do what is right.
All: Empower us, O Lord

Leader: To have the courage to denounce immorality.
All: Empower us, O Lord

Leader: To have the courage to live by the gospel.
All: Empower us, O Lord

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
And going a little farther, he fell on his face and prayed: "My father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." And again, for a second time, he went away and prayed: "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, thy will be done."
THE SEVENTH STATION:  JESUS FALLS A SECOND TIME

Leader:    For my lack of forgiveness toward another.
All:       Forgive us, O Lord
Leader:    For the self will that constantly challenges your love.
All:       Forgive us, O Lord
Leader:    For saying so often:  I know it's wrong, but God will understand.
All:       Forgive us, O Lord

All:       Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us
THE EIGHTH STATION: JESUS TALKS TO THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.
THE EIGHTH STATION: JESUS TALKS TO THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

Leader: From the temptation to ignore the sufferings of others.
All: O Lord, deliver us

Leader: From the temptation to shy away from situations that might cause inconvenience.
All: O Lord, deliver us

Leader: From the temptation to envy, dislike or condemn anyone.
All: O Lord, deliver us

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

I cry with my voice to the Lord, with my voice I make supplication to the Lord. I cry out my complaint before him, I tell my troubles before him. When my spirit is faint, thou knowest my way! In the path where I walk, they have hidden a trap for me. I look to the right and watch, but there is no one who takes notice of me, no one who cares for me. I cry to thee, O Lord; I say thou art my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.
THE NINTH STATION: JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

Leader: To persevere in the face of discouragement.
All: Help us, O Lord

Leader: To accept failure, knowing that what I consider failure, you may consider triumph.
All: Help us, O Lord

Leader: To learn the lesson of the cross; that it is my effort that really matters.
All: Help us, O Lord.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
THE TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

So, they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross to the place called the place of the skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and made four parts, one for each soldier; also, his tunic. But the tunic was without seam, woven from top to bottom; so, they said to one another: "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be. This was to fulfill the scripture: "They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots."
THE TENTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

Leader: Of my desire for needless possessions.
All: Deliver me, O Lord

Leader: Of my pursuit of carefree existence.
All: Deliver me, O Lord

Leader: Of my self-seeking.
All: Deliver me, O Lord

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
THE ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world
And when they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. And Jesus said: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do". And the people stood by watching, but the rulers scoffed at him saying: "He saved others, let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his chosen one". The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar, and saying: "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself"! There was also an inscription over him: This is the King of the Jews.
THE ELEVENTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Leader: That I am infinitely precious in your sight.
All: Teach me, O Lord
Leader: That you love me more than I love myself.
All: Teach me, O Lord
Leader: That I may live in a way that is worthy of your love.
All: Teach me, O Lord

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us.
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
All: Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain in the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying in a loud voice, said: "Father, into your hands, I commend my spirit". And having said this, he breathed his last.

{Pause in silence}
Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said: "Certainly this man was innocent". And all the multitude who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.
THE TWELFTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Leader: That I may see the terrible malice of my sins.
All: Lord, open my eyes
Leader: That I may see the incredible depth of your love for me.
All: Lord, open my eyes
Leader: That I may see the response I must make to your sacrifice.
All: Lord, open my eyes
All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us. Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world
So, the soldiers did this. But standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. So, the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once, there came out blood and water.

After this, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him leave. So, he came and took away his body.
Leader: For the knowledge that living can be a cross, but a cross that can be shared with you.

All: Thank you, O Lord

Leader: For the realization of being loved, or living in love.

All: Thank you, O Lord

Leader: For the opportunity of my living for you.

All: Thank you, O Lord

All: Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, we believe in you, we hope in you. Have mercy on us. Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
THE FOURTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.
Nicodemus also, who had at first come to him by night came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds weight. They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. So, because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.
THE FOURTEENTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

Leader:  Into a present-day Veronica.
All:  Transform us, O Lord
Leader:  Into a modern Simon.
All:  Transform us, O Lord
Leader:  Into another Christ.
All:  Transform us, O Lord
All:  Lord Jesus Christ, we love you, We believe in you; we hope in you. Have mercy on us. Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Closing: Send, O Lord, your blessing upon us who have commemorated the death of your Son in the hope of rising with him; pardon and console us, increase our faith, and strengthen our hope of eternal joy.

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen

Go in the peace of Christ.