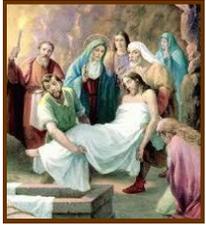




**Thirteenth Station:** *Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross*  
***We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.***  
***Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.***  
Receive me into thy arms, O Sorrowful Mother,  
and obtain for me perfect contrition for my sins.  
***Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....***



**Fourteenth Station:** *Jesus is Laid in the Sepulcher*  
***We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.***  
***Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.***  
When I receive Thee into my heart in Holy Communion,  
O Jesus, make it a fit abiding place for Thy adorable Body.  
***Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father.... Amen.***

### **Closing Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, You left us a record of Your passion in the Holy Shroud, wherein Joseph wrapped Your sacred body when it was taken down from the Cross. In Your mercy, grant that through Your death and burial we may experience the glory of Your resurrection. This we ask of You now living and reigning forever. Amen!

***For the intentions of the Holy Father recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary and one Glory Be!***

***Conclude prayers by making the Sign of the Cross***

### **Explanation of the Stations of the Cross**

The most important reason for reviving the practice of making the Stations of the Cross is that it is a powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus's gift of himself to us. It takes the reflection on the passion out of my head, and makes it an imaginative exercise. It involves my senses, my experience and my emotions. To the extent I come to experience the love of Jesus for me, to that extent the gratitude I feel will be deep. Deep gratitude leads to real generosity and a desire to love as I have been loved. A Plenary Indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly make the Stations of the Cross. The short way to be used are those used by the Franciscan Fathers on their Missions.

### **The History**

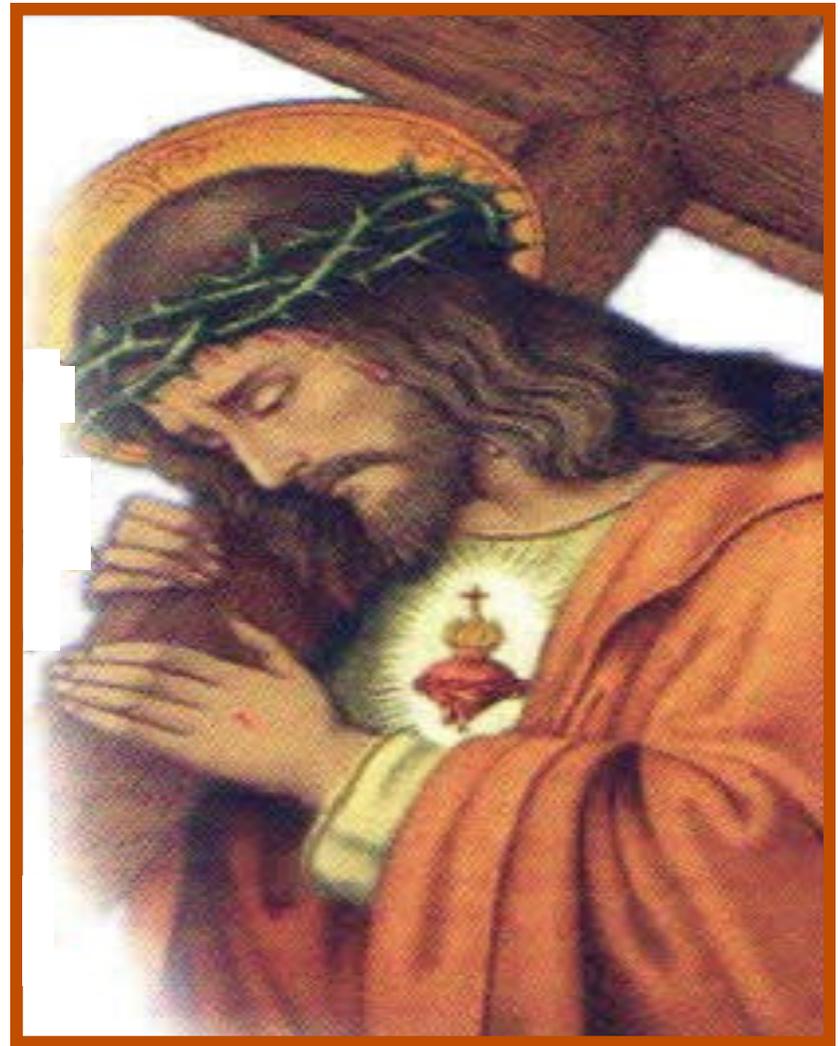
From the earliest of days, followers of Jesus told the story of his passion, death and resurrection. When pilgrims came to see Jerusalem, they were anxious to see the sites where Jesus was. These sites become important holy connections with Jesus. Eventually, following in the footsteps of the Lord, along the way of the cross, became a part of the pilgrimage visit. The stations, as we know them today, came about when it was no longer easy or even possible to visit the holy sites. In the 1500's villages all over Europe started creating "replicas" of the way of the cross, with small shrines commemorating the places along the route in Jerusalem. Eventually, these shrines became the set of 14 stations we now know and were placed in almost every Catholic Church in the world. +

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## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**(SHORT FORM)**



***THOSE WHO PRAY  
THE WAY OF THE CROSS***

**OFTEN**

***WILL HAVE A SPECIAL GLORY IN HEAVEN***

# SHORT MEDITATIONS ON THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

*Begin by Making the Sign of the Cross*

*Recite the Act of Contrition*

## Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, take me along that holy way you once took to your death,  
Take my mind, my memory, above all my reluctant heart,  
and let me see what once you did for love of me and all the world.

*(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be)*



**First Station:** *Jesus is Condemned to Death*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

O Jesus! So meek and uncomplaining,  
teach me resignation in trials.

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Second Station:** *Jesus carries His Cross*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

My Jesus! This Cross should be mine, not Thine!  
My sins crucified Thee.

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Third Station:** *Our Lord Falls the First Time*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

O Jesus!

By this first fall, never let me fall into mortal sin.

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Fourth Station:** *Jesus Meets His Mother*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

O Jesus! May no human tie, however dear,  
keep me from following the road of the Cross.

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Fifth Station:** *Simon, the Cyrene, Helps Jesus Carry His Cross*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

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

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Sixth Station:** *Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

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

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Seventh Station:** *The Second Fall of Jesus*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

By Thy second fall, preserve me,  
Dear Lord, from relapse into sin.

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Eighth Station:** *Jesus Consols the Women of Jerusalem*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

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

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Ninth Station:** *Third Fall of Jesus*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

O Jesus! When I am weary upon life's long journey, be Thou  
my strength and my perseverance.

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Tenth Station:** *Jesus is stripped of His Garments*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

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

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



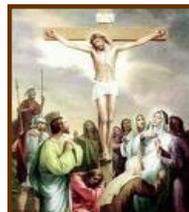
**Eleventh Station:** *Jesus is Nailed to the Cross*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

Thou didst forgive Thy enemies; my God, teach me to forgive  
injuries and forget them.

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*



**Twelfth Station:** *Jesus Dies on the Cross*

*We adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee.*

*Because by Thy holy cross Thou hast redeemed the world.*

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

*Our Father.... Hail Mary.... Glory Be to the Father....*