

# Your Way of the Cross



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The First Station:  
**JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH**



*They all condemned Him as deserving to die.*

Mark 14:64

Lord Jesus, may we deliver ourselves up with patience and love to the many little deaths that fidelity in Your service may require of us.

Found guilty though innocent, unjustly judged, our Master accepted a perverse human verdict. He knew God has the last word. We, too, must imitate Christ, pray for the wicked, and leave the rest to God.

The Second Station:  
**JESUS ACCEPTS THE CROSS**



*Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified.*

John 19:16

Strengthen us, Lord Jesus, to carry our cross with faith and trust, and without complaining of its weight.

All of us who follow Christ will have our own cross to bear. By imitating our Lord, the cross we carry becomes a means of salvation and final victory both for ourselves and for others as well.

The Third Station:  
**JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME**



*I looked about, but there was no one to help ...*

Isaiah 63:5

Be with us always, Lord Jesus; despite the weakness of the flesh, may we never waiver in our loyalty to You.

Even our blessed Lord staggered and fell under the weight He was bearing. He had no one to aid Him. Christ is with us when we stumble; He is eager to help us. Turn to Him now and ask His aid.

The Fourth Station:  
**JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER**



*“Woman, behold your Son.”*

John 19:26

Lord Jesus, may your Mother and ours remain always a sure hope and comfort for us, Your pilgrim people.

Our Lord gave His holy Mother a part in His suffering so she might fully share His victory and glory. Our Lord, Jesus, gives us this same chance to join Him in sorrow so we may share their great joy.

The Fifth Station:  
**SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS**



*They took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian ...  
they made him carry it behind Jesus.* Luke 23:26

May we be generous, Lord Christ, in coming to the aid of our fellow pilgrims during our earthly journey.

Simon resisted until he learned how easy the yoke, how light the burden when carried for Christ. Never let our natural, human fear of pain keep us from the tasks we meet on our journey to eternal life.

The Sixth Station:  
**VERONICA WIPES JESUS' FACE**



*“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”* Matthew 25:40

Dear Lord, may we never turn a cold shoulder, but always a smiling face to those who look to us for comfort.

Veronica's instinctive act of pity will be recalled forever. Anything we do for anyone else Christ counts as done for Him. So never hesitate to do good to others whether they deserve it or not. God will never forget.

The Seventh Station:  
**JESUS FALLS A SECOND TIME**



*The Lord laid upon Him the guilt of us all.*

Isaiah 53:6

Gird us with new strength, dear Christ, for the steep climb and the hard stretches along the road to our glorious resurrection.

Christ's weakness made Him fall again, but He went on. When we weaken, when we falter and fall, our Savior knows from His own experience how hard our way is. He will be our strength, our helper in every difficulty.

The Eighth Station:  
**JESUS SPEAKS TO THE WOMEN**



*“Weep instead for yourselves and  
for your children.”* Luke 23:28

Lord Jesus, may the assurance that our Father in heaven will someday wipe our tears away sustain us in the dark and painful hours of life.

Jesus did not think of Himself; he thought of others, of the sufferings His people would yet have to endure. When we act like Christ and think first of others, our own trials seem somehow easier to bear.

The Ninth Station:  
**JESUS FALLS A THIRD TIME**



*You lay Me in the dust of death.*

Psalm 22:16

Help us, dear Lord, to pick ourselves up each time we fall. Conscious of our weakness, may we stretch a helping hand to all who share our human frailty.

His final fall reflects the frailty of Christ's human nature. Yet, He went on. We often have proof of our weakness, too. Yet, we show fidelity to God by going on in spite of our infirmity.

The Tenth Station:  
**JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS**



*They divided His garments by casting lots.*

Matthew 27:35

Dear Jesus, stripped of Your garments in the passion, bless all our efforts at purification and renewal.

Our Lord's clothing was taken away. So in spirit must we also separate ourselves from our material possessions. Eventually, we must part with them. Be generous always with the gifts God gives you for a time.

The Eleventh Station:  
**JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS**



*They crucified Him and  
the criminals there.* Luke 23:33

We give You thanks and praise, dear Savior, for submitting willingly to suffering and death for our sake. We bless Your precious cross by which the joy and salvation came into the world.

Fastened hand and foot, moving only with pain, how humiliating to be nailed at last to Your cross! Our Lord cries out to our Father, “My God, My God, why have You deserted Me?” *Matthew 27:46*

The Twelfth Station:  
**JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS**



*“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”*

Luke 23:46

We are Yours, Blessed Savior, whether we live or whether we die. In baptism we have agreed to be Yours in time and in eternity. May we be made dead to sin and alive to God with You.

All of us must someday die. With God’s help we will meet death as Jesus did. Final bodily defeat is turned by God into our first moment of triumph. Having died with Christ we will rise and reign with Him.

The Thirteenth Station:  
**JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS**



*Joseph of Arimathea took His body down and wrapped it in linen.* Luke 23:53

Lord Jesus, You are the Resurrection and the Life. May we stand before the world as Your witnesses, vivid signs of the living God.

Christ's death is ultimate proof of His humanity. Unless He was human, He could not have died. Unless He was also God, His death could not save us. "Ours were the sufferings He bore." Now we must be dead to sin.

The Fourteenth Station:  
**JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB**



*Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance  
to the tomb.* Matthew 27:60

Lord Jesus, may we always continue in the strength which comes from our hope in Your mercy, goodness and love for us.

We see Christ's body laid to rest, but no grave can hold the Lord of the Universe. He rises again to new life with God living always to intercede for us while we continue His work here on earth.

# Christ is Risen

## Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Lastly, He showed Himself to the Eleven themselves while they were at table. He reproached them for their incredulity and obstinacy because they had refused to believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, “Go out to the whole world; proclaim the good news to all creation.”

Mark 16:14-15



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