



**First Station**

Jesus is condemned to death
O Jesus! so meek and uncomplaining, teach me
resignation in trials.

Second Station

Jesus is made to carry His Cross
My Jesus, this cross should be mine, not Thine; my sins crucified Thee.

Third Station

Jesus Falls the First Time
O Jesus! by the first fall, never let me fall
into mortal sin.

Fourth Station

Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother
O Jesus! may no human tie, however dear,
keep me from following the road of the Cross.

Fifth Station

Simon unwillingly assisted Thee;
may I, with patience, suffer all for Thee
Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry His Cross

Sixth Station

Veronica wipes the Face of Jesus
O Jesus! Thou didst imprint Thy Sacred features upon Veronica's
veil; stamp them also indelibly upon my heart.

Seventh Station

Jesus Falls the Second Time
By the second fall, preserve me, dear Lord, from relapse into sin.

Eighth Station

The Women of Jerusalem weep over Jesus
My greatest consolation would be to hear Thee say: "Many sins are
forgiven thee, because thou hast loved much."

Ninth Station

Jesus Falls the Third Time
O Jesus! When weary upon life's long journey,
be Thou my strength and perseverance.

Tenth Station

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

Eleventh Station

Jesus is Nailed to the Cross
Thou didst forgive Thy enemies; my God, teach me to forgive injuries and FORGET them.

The Twelfth Station

Jesus is raised upon the Cross and Dies
Thou art dying, my Jesus, but thy Sacred Heart still throbs with love for Thy sinful children.

The Thirteenth Station

Jesus is taken down from the Cross and placed in the arms of His Mother.
Receive me into Thy arms, O Sorrowful Mother; and obtain for me perfect contrition for my sins.

The Fourteenth Station

Jesus is laid in the Sepulchre
When I receive Thee into my heart in Holy Communion,
O Jesus, make it a fit abiding place for Thy adorable Body.

INDULGENCES FOR MAKING THE WAY OF THE CROSS

A **plenary Indulgence** each time the entire way of the cross is made. Plenary Indulgence also if communion is received on the same day. After the way of the cross has been made ten times in one month and Holy Communion has been received, another Plenary Indulgence is gained.

To gain the Indulgence it is necessary to go from station to station. If the priest and servers only go from one station to the other, in the public Way of the Cross, it is sufficient. It is necessary also to meditate on the passion with contrition for our sins.

WAY OF THE CROSS:

The Way of the Cross was started by the Franciscans in the 17th Century. Franciscans had pastoral care of all of the shrines in the Holy Land, and when the friars (particularly, St. Leonard of Port Maurice) saw that most people would never get to Jerusalem, they started installing "a traveling pilgrimage", similar to the portable labyrinths, which allowed many persons near and far from the original labyrinths to walk it.

In the beginning, the Franciscans placed 14 crosses to mark the 14 stops on the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, and people would walk them, meditate, and pray on the passion and death of Jesus.

Soon they were installed in almost all Catholic Churches around Europe, and are now a normal part of the side walls of most of them.

In the late 1970's Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM, began this Good Friday event in Cincinnati, Ohio, where it became very popular and continues to this day. It was always an attempt to bring the passion of Christ to the contemporary and local ways that Jesus still suffers in our midst.

This card is a template for your community or organization as you seek to create a Good Friday event around the Stations of the Cross. We hope this helps you create a successful and meaningful event!

Nihil Obstat
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Archbishop of Chicago,
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For Free Cards to help spread the devotion, contact

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