

Pr.: We adore you, O Christ and we praise you.

All: (genuflect) Because by your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

First Station – *Jesus is condemned to death*

All: (kneel & Pause) The kings of the earth rise up & the princes conspire together against the Lord & against His anointed. I will proclaim the decree of the Lord; the Lord said to me: “You are my Son; this day I have begotten you. Ask of me & I will give you the nations for an inheritance, & the ends of the earth for your possession.

Second Station – *Jesus carries His Cross*

All: (Kneel & Pause) Who would believe what we have heard? To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? He grew up like a sapling before him, like a shoot from the parched earth; there was in him no Stately bearing to make us look at him, no appearance that would attract us to him. He was rejected & avoided by men, a man suffering accustomed to infirmity, one of those from whom men turn away & we held him in no esteem.

Third Station – *Jesus falls the first time*

All: (Kneel & Pause) Why are your clothes red, & your garments like those of the wine presser? “The wine press I have trodden alone, & of my people there was no one with me. I trod them in my anger, & trampled them down in my wrath; their blood spurted on my garments & I stained all my clothes. I looked about, but there was no one to help, I was appalled that there was no one to help, I was appalled that there was no one to lend support; so my own arm brought about the victory.”

Fourth Station – *Jesus meets his afflicted mother*

All: (Kneel & Pause) To what can I compare you, O daughter Jerusalem? What example can I show

you for your comfort, virgin daughter Sion? For great as the sea is your distress; who can heal you?

Fifth Station – *Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry His Cross*

All: (Kneel & Pause) With a loud voice I cry out to the Lord; with a loud voice I beseech the Lord. My complaint I pour out before him; before him I lay bare my distress. When my spirit is faint within me, you know my path. In the way along in which I walk they have hid a trap for me. I look to the right to see, but there is no one who pays me heed. I have lost all means of escape; there is no one who cares for my life.

Sixth Station – *Veronica wipes the face of Jesus*

All: (Kneel & Pause) A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds one finds a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price, no sum can balance his worth. Faithful friend is a life-saving remedy, such as he who fears God finds; for he who fears God behaves accordingly, & his friend will be like himself.

Seventh Station – *Jesus fall the second time*

All: (Kneel & Pause) Though he was harshly treated, he submitted & opened not his mouth; like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent & uttered no cry. When he was cut off from the land of the living, & smitten for the sin of his people, a grave was assigned him among the wicked & a burial place with evildoers, though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood.

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Eighth Station – *Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem*

All: (Kneel & Pause) Come, all you who pass by the way, look & see whether there is any suffering like my suffering, suffering with which the Lord has afflicted me on the day of his blazing wrath. At this I weep, my eyes run with tears: far from me are all who could console me, far away are any who might revive me.

Ninth Station – *Jesus fall a third time*

All: (Kneel & Pause) The Lord is my light & my salvation; whom should I fear? The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid? When evildoers come to me to devour my flesh, my foes & my enemies themselves tumble & fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear; though the war be waged upon me, even then will I trust.

Tenth Station – *Jesus is stripped of this clothes*

All: (Kneel & Pause) Happy is the man whom God chastises! Do not reject the punishment of the almighty. For he wounds, but he binds up; he smites, but his hands give healing. Insult has broken my heart, & I am weak; I looked for comforters, & I found none. Rather they put gall in my food, & in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Eleventh Station – *Jesus dies on the Cross*

All: (Kneel & Pause) My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, far from my prayer, far from the words of my cry? O my God, I cry out by day, &

you answer not; I cry out by night, & there is no relief for me. All my bones are racked. My heart has become like wax melting away within my chest. My throat is dried up like baked clay, my tongue

cleaves to my jaws; they have pierced my hands & my feet; I can count all my bones.

Twelfth Station – *Jesus dies on the Cross*

All: (Kneel & Pause) My people what have I done to you? or in what have I offended you? Answer me. What more should I have done, & I did not do? I led you out of the land of Egypt, & you prepared a cross for me. I opened the Red Sea before you, & you opened my side with a lance. I gave you a royal scepter, & you have given me a crown of thorns. With great power I lifted you up, & you have hung me upon a cross. My people what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? Answer me.

Thirteenth Station – *The body of Jesus is taken down from the Cross*

All: (Kneel & Pause) O my people, I will open your graves & have you rise from them, & I will bring you back to your land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord. O my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may live. You shall know then that I am the Lord. I have promised it, & I will do it, says the Lord.

Fourteenth Station – *Jesus is laid in the tomb*

All: (Kneel & Pause) I will praise you, O Lord, for you drew me clear & did not let my enemies rejoice

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over me. O Lord, my God, I cried out to you & you healed me. O Lord, you brought me up from the lower world; you preserved me from among those going down into the pit. Sing praise to the Lord, you his faithful ones, & give thanks to his holy name. For his anger lasts but a moment; his good will is for a lifetime. At nightfall, weeping enter in, but with dawn comes rejoicing.