

## **Journey of Love and Faith**

### **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 for all the world.

### **Station One: Jesus is condemned to death**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Pilate asked what crime Jesus had committed. It was a good question. Jesus has annoyed the religious leaders, of that there was no doubt. He had been critical of the social and religious structures, He had healed the villagers; He had told stories to the crowds; He was probably a threat to law and order But was this enough to condemn him, to end his life? But he would not defend himself-The storyteller was silent now. And the crowd was noisy And Pilate handed him over to be crucified.

*Prayer: Let us pray for all who administer justice, all who face trial this day, all those incarcerated and those falsely imprisoned.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

### **Station Two: Jesus receives his cross**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!'. Then they led him out to crucify him. Soldiers. Taking the chance for a bit of fun. They had a heavy day ahead. Soon they would have to put on their public face. Disciplined, controlled, efficient. But for now a bit of a lark with the lads With no risk of recrimination. Dead men tell no stories, And Jesus was going to his death.

*Prayer: We pray that we might give our lives to the service of God, accepting the trials and difficulties of the pilgrimage of this earthly life.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

### **Station Three: Jesus falls for the first time**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Jesus was exhausted. He was in pain. He was going to his death. The cross was heavy and he fell. He was flesh and blood like us, He was struggling.

*Prayer: We pray for all who feel weighed down by anxiety, stress, or concern for those whom they love.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

#### **Station Four: Jesus meets his Mother**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

She was going to be there at his end. She who had been there with Him at his beginning. She was his mother. She had fed him and cradled him And watched over his growing. Whatever he had said and done, He was still her son And she would not desert him now. Whatever pain of his she could embrace she would. And in the meeting of their eyes, there was love, Suffering and shining.

*Prayer: We pray for all parents, those who look after loved ones who are sick and suffering and children who suffer at the hands of others.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

#### **Station Five: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his cross**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. Simon of Cyrene, What a tale you have to tell! You helped Jesus, You gave him your strength on the streets of Jerusalem. Willing or unwilling, You Simon, have become part of his story, And he part of yours, For you helped him, When he needed you. What would we give to be Simon?

*Prayer: We pray for all who have helped us on our journey of faith. For all who are struggling with their faith at this time and all who have .fallen away from the Church.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

#### **Station Six: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Wiping faces, Faces full of sweat and tears. Wiping faces is something we try to do gently and lovingly; Something that cleanses and soothes. For those in pain or in trouble, Wanting them to know that they are loved and cherished. And when we wipe the face's of God's little ones. We are wiping the face of God.

*Prayer: We pray for those who bring comfort and care to others. For all who work in the medical profession and all involved in work with aid agencies.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

#### **Station Seven: Jesus falls a second time**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. I am finding it hard to watch you, Jesus, To see you struggling, To see you on the ground. Into your silence I want to shout: 'Why do we keep on hurting you? What have you done wrong?'

*Prayer: We pray for those caught up in warfare, for victims of terrorism, and those who live in poverty because of the greed and injustice of others*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

### **Station Eight: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. Weep for the mothers and children of Jerusalem, and of all war-torn areas of the world. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Pray that all people may live together in justice and in peace.

*Prayer: We pray for those who eagerly await the coming of the Kingdom and who try to witness to it as a present reality in their work for justice and peace*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

### **Station Nine: Jesus falls a third time**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

I am not sure if I can watch you much longer. In his pain I see my pain, In his falling I feel myself falling, In his cross...in his cross I am included. He carried it for me- For me, and my enemies, and my friends.

*Prayer: We pray for those whom I love, those whom I struggle to like and those who find me difficult; for the grace to truly accept difference.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

### **Station Ten: Jesus is stripped of his garments**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

When they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha .And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. Stripped now- Of clothing Of disciples Of friends. Alone, Naked and vulnerable, With nothing to protect you from the pain to come.

*Prayer: We pray for the downtrodden and the rejected. For the refugee, the victim of prejudice, the victims of warfare and all who are deprived of their rights of freedom*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

### **Station Eleven: Jesus is nailed to the cross**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, "The King of the Jews", but, "This man said, I am King of the Jews." ' Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.' We look on from a distance: A distance of time and space and culture, And yet even for us it hurts to watch Jesus dying. It hurts to know that we are rescued. It hurts to know that we are cherished and loved.

*Prayer: We pray for all who contemplate ending their own lives. Those who work in hospices and face death daily, for those who fear death in warfare and for those who can find no joy in being alive.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

#### **Station Twelve: Jesus dies on the cross**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.

*Prayer: We pray Lord that when the problems of life seem to overwhelm us, remind us that tomorrow will bring a new day, full of new possibilities*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

#### **Station Thirteen: Jesus is taken down from the cross**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Pieta

Jesus is dead and lies in the arms of his mother. Death is hard and final And yet, whatever happens on this earth, Children never die to their mothers. In the memory of those who loved them, loved ones remain. And for us, and for all God's people, Our hope is safe in God. From the swaddling bands to grave clothes, All the days of our living and dying, We are cradled and wrapped in love.

*Prayer: We pray for all families and especially those which have experienced the death of a child. We pray for all who mourn with no hope in the resurrection.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

#### **Station Fourteen: Jesus is laid in the tomb**

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Joseph of Arimathea then laid the body in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where the body was laid.

*Prayer: We pray Lord that as your mortal life ends, our life in you, and your work through us begins. Let us be the signs and instruments of your Life and Kingdom, and let your love shine through us to all.*

*I Love you Jesus, my love above all things, I repent with my whole heart of having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always and then do with me what you will.*

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Sign of the Cross.*