

As we gather today for the Stations of the Cross, let us offer our intentions:

- 1) For an end to all legal abortion
- 2) For an end to all abortion
- 3) For an end to Euthanasia
- 4) For the Reparation of sins
- 5) For Change of Hearts for those who do not believe or understand that life begins at natural conception and ends at natural death
- 6) For those who do not believe in the Sanctity of Life at all stages
- 7) For our personal intentions

Prayer to the Holy Spirit, Giver of Life

Come Holy Spirit, Creator of all things;
You who breathed over the waters at the dawn of
creation and brought forth all living beings;
You who filled the apostles
when the Risen Lord breathed on them
on the first Easter night, giving them the power to
restore life to those dead in sin;
You who, on the last day, will breathe again
over all the dead and raise them from the grave;
Come! Come and breathe on our world again,
immersed as it is in the Culture of Death!
Come, O Lord and Giver of Life!
Defeat the works of death in our midst,
that abortion may no longer stain our land.
We worship You, O Holy Spirit, and we rejoice in You.
We know that no matter how strong the force of death
may be, we can still find in You
the endless source of life.
Renew that life in each of us,
and make us worthy apostles of the
Culture of Life in our day! Amen.

Respect Life Prayer (St. John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae)

Mary bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we
entrust the cause of life;
Look down, O Mother, upon the vast number of babies not allowed to be
born. Of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of men and women who
are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by
indifference or out of misguided mercy.
Grant that all who believe in your Son, may proclaim the Gospel of life with
honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace to
accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude
throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in
order to build together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth
and love, to the praise and glory of God, the creator and lover of life. Amen

Meditations for Pro-life Stations of the Cross

PROLIFE STATIONS of the CROSS

SING: The Stabat Mater

At the cross her station keeping;
Stood the mournful mother weeping.
Close to Jesus to the last.

FIRST Station: Jesus Is Condemned to Death

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Through her heart, his sorrow sharing.

All his bitter anguish bearing.

Now at length the sword had passed.

Leader: Though innocent, Jesus is condemned by the power of the State. In like manner, our innocent brothers and sisters in the womb have been condemned. Their rights and dignity are not recognized. In this, they bear a special likeness to Jesus

All: All-powerful and eternal God, for proclaiming The truth, Your Son Jesus Christ, is condemned to death by crucifixion. Have mercy on the thousands of babies who today stand sentenced to Crucifixion in the womb, by verdict of their own mothers.

Everyone: Say the Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified.

All: Have mercy on us.

Second Station: Jesus is Made to Bear His Cross

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

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SING: Oh how sad and sore distressed,
Was that mother highly blessed.
Of the sole-begotten One!

Leader: The Salvation of the world carried a heavy price for our Lord, the agony of the Cross. As He accepts His Cross, let us also resolve to endure suffering that others may live. Let us pay the price for standing up for our preborn brothers and sisters. Let us pray:

All: 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 and avoided by men, / a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, / one of those from whom men turn away, / and we held him in no esteem. (Is. 53:1-3)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

THIRD Station: Jesus Falls the First Time

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Christ above in torment hangs,
She beneath behold the pangs,
Of her dying glorious Son.

LEADER: Almighty God was weak because He chose to be like us. He had power and glory from all eternity, yet He chose to be immersed in the world of suffering. We pray that this benefits and advantages we have in life

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may not cause us to forget our pre-born brothers and sisters.

All: Why are your clothes red, / and your garments like those of the wine presser? / “The wine press I have trodden alone, / and of my people there was no one with me. / I trod them in my anger and trampled them down in my wrath; / their blood spurted on my garments and I stained all my clothes. / I looked about, but 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.” (Is. 63:2-5)

Everyone: Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be ...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

Fourth Station:: Jesus Meets His Afflicted Mother

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: 5 Is there one who would not weep.

Whelmed in miseries so deep,
Christ's dear Mother to behold?

Leader: There is no deeper relationship than that of mother and child. They belong together. When one suffers, the other suffers. To love and defend one means to love and defend the other. To be pro-life means to serve both the child and the mother. It means to ask our society, “Why can't we love them both?”

All: 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? (Lam. 2:13)

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Everyone: Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

**FIFTH Station: Simon, the Cyrenian Helps Jesus
Carry His Cross**

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Can the human heart refrain,
From partaking in her pain,
In that Mother's pain untold?

Leader: Many watched the Lord suffer. Simon the Cyrenian helped alleviate that suffering. Many lament abortion. Some actually get involved to help to stop it. We pray that all people may take their active place in the pro-life movement.

All: 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 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. (Ps. 141:2-5)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

Sixth Station: Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

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SING: For the sins of His own nation,
Saw Him hang in desolation,
All with bloody scourges rent.

Leader: The compassion Veronica shows reflects the compassion of so many medical doctors and nurses, who treat Their patients with dignity We pray for repentance and renewal in the medical profession. May the tools and skills meant for healing nevermore be used for killing.

All: 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. / A faithful friend is a life-saving remedy, such as he who fears God finds; / for he who fears God behaves accordingly, / and his friend will be like himself. (Sirach 6:14-17)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

Seventh Station: Jesus Falls the Second Time

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled,
She beheld her tender Child,
Till His Spirit forth He sent.

Leader: In working to defend life, there are many setbacks and obstacles. Yet we know the meaning of the cross. In weakness, power reaches perfection. We do not look to our own strengths and talents alone, but to Christ. His own strength will sustain us.

All: Though he was harshly treated, / he submitted and opened not his mouth; / like a lamb led to the slaughter

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or a sheep before the shearers, / he was silent and uttered no cry. / When he was cut off from the land of the living, and smitten for the sin of his people, / a grave was assigned him among the wicked, and a burial place with evildoers, / though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood. (Is. 53:7, 9)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

**Eight Station: Jesus speaks to the
Women of Jerusalem**

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Make me feel as thou has felt;
Make my soul to glow and melt,
With my love of Christ our Lord.

Leader: Christ told these women to weep for themselves and for their children. He does not want false worship, but repentance. He does not want followers who cry out to Him but then ignore injustice and bloodshed. May all who believe in Christ likewise stand up for the defenseless children.

All: Come, all you who pass by the way, / look and 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. (Lam. 1:12, 16)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

L: Lord Jesus Crucified **ALL:** Have mercy on us

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Ninth Station: Jesus Falls the Third Time

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Holy Mother, pierce me through,
In my heart each wound renew,
Of my Savior crucified.

Leader: Despite the falls, nothing can stop our Lord,
because He is on a mission of love. If the pro-life
movement is not a movement of love, it is nothing at all;
but if it is a movement of love, then nothing will stop it.
Love is stronger than death, more powerful than hell.

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation; / whom
should I fear? / The Lord is my life's refuge; / of whom
should I be afraid? / When evildoers come at me to
devour my flesh, my foes and my enemies themselves
stumble and fall. / Though an army encamp against me, /
my heart will not fear; / though war be waged upon me,
even then will I trust. (Ps. 26:1-3)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified.

All: Have mercy on us.

Tenth Stations: Jesus is stripped of His Garments

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Let me share with thee His pain,
Who for all my sins was stain,
Who for me in torments died.

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Leader: Nobody can stop us from loving our unborn brothers and sisters. Those who are stronger than we are may strip us of popularity, possessions, or power, but they cannot strip us of love. We love others with the same love that Christ showed for us.

All: 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, and I am weak; / I looked for comforters, and I found none, / rather they put gall in my food, and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. (Job 5:17-18; Ps. 68:21-22)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be ...

L: Lord Jesus crucified.

All: Have mercy on us.

Eleventh Station: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Let me mingle tears with thee,
Mourning Him Who mourned for me,
All the days that I may live.

Leader: The powers of this world crucified the God who made this world. All power and authority come from God. All who exercise power have to account for it before the throne of God. We pray that those in government may use their powers to protect the innocent babies in the womb.

All: 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, and you answer not; / I cry out

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by night, and 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 and my feet; / I can count all my bones. (Ps. 21:2-3, 15-16, 17b)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

Twelfth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: By the cross with thee to stay,
There with thee to weep and pray,
This I ask of thee to give.

Leader: Our Lord died. So many of His children have died with Him. His passion is re-lived with every abortion, one every twenty seconds in our country. We only know a fraction of the horror of this act in the sight of God. We only know a fraction of the horror of Christ's crucifixion. May all our brothers and sisters killed by abortion rest in Christ's peace and be saved by His cross.

All: My people, what have I done to you? / Or in what have I offended you? / Answer me. / What more should I have done, and did not do? / I led you out of the land of Egypt, and you prepared a cross for me. / I opened the Red Sea before you, and you opened my side with a lance. / I gave you a royal scepter, and you have given

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me a crown of thorns. / With great power I lifted you up,
and you have hung me upon a cross. / My people, what
have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? /
Answer me. (From the Reproaches of Good Friday)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be ...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

**Thirteenth Station:
Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross.**

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Virgin of all virgin blest,
O refuse not my request:
Let me in they weeping share.

Leader: Mary experienced the pain of holding her dead
Son. So many mothers grieve after their abortions. We
ask that Mary may comfort them, help them face the
truth about abortion, and lead them to forgiveness and
healing.

All: O my people, I will open your graves and have you
rise from them, / and 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, / and
I will do it, says the Lord. (Es. 37:12-14)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

Fourteenth Station: Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Leader: We adore Thee O Christ and we praise Thee.

All: Because by Your holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

SING: Let me, to my latest breath,
In my body bear the death,
Of that dying Son of thine.

Leader: A tomb is a memorial. It helps us remember the one who can no longer speak. May we and our society remember the babies who cannot speak. May we also remember Our Lord's Resurrection and His promise of eternal life. He has conquered abortion because He has conquered death. May we bring His victory to every part of our world!

All: I will praise you, O Lord, for you drew me clear and did not let my enemies rejoice over me. / O Lord, my God, I cried out to you and you healed me. / O Lord, you brought me from among those going down into the pit. / Sing praise to the Lord, you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. / For his anger lasts but a moment; his good will is for a lifetime. / At nightfall, weeping enters in, but with dawn comes rejoicing. (Ps. 29:2-6)

Everyone: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be ...

L: Lord Jesus crucified. **All:** Have mercy on us.

To end the Stations, **SING** the last few verses
on the next page.