

La Salette Stations of the Cross





First Station: Jesus is Condemned to Death

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.

Reader: "Christ suffered for (us)...When he
was insulted, he returned no insult. When he
was made to suffer, he did not counter with
threats. Instead, he delivered himself up...
(and) by his wounds we were healed." (1 Peter
2: 21a, 23, 24b)

Leader: Pilate condemned the Son of God to
death. When we turn from Christ's way and
follow our own will, we disregard what Jesus
did for us.

People: Mary, you came to La Salette to weep
over us, your children who had gone astray.
May your prayers and our openness to God's
grace always keep us close to the ways and
message of your Son.



Second Station: Jesus Carries His Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: “Though he was in the form of God, he did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at. Rather, he emptied himself and took the form of a slave, being born in (our) likeness.” (Phil. 2:6-7a)

Leader: Jesus, the Innocent One, accepted the heavy cross with which he was laden. We, who are so often guilty, murmur and complain when we feel the weight of the sorrows of life.

People: Our Lady, you appeared at La Salette wearing the crucifix on your breast. You invite us to bear our cross with constant faith, in imitation of your Son.



Third Station: Jesus Falls for the First Time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "...he was pierced for our offences, crushed for our sins; Upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed." (Is. 53: 5)

Leader: Jesus, laden with his cross, bore the weight of our sins and falls, his face pressed to the earth. It was also under the weight of our sins that Our Lady of La Salette sat down upon a stone, covering her face with her hands, weeping for her children.

People: Mother Mary, you pray for us without ceasing. May our prayers be joined with yours, as we make our way through the joys and the challenges of this life.



Fourth Station: Jesus Meets His Holy Mother

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "...when (his) parents brought in the child Jesus... Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother: 'This child is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword...'" (Luke 2: 27b, 34-35)

Leader: On the road to Calvary, Mary met her Divine Son who was covered with dust and blood. On coming to earth, she found her children, disfigured by sin. In each of these occurrences, her heart was broken with grief.

People: Mother of Compassion, you ask us to place our faith in your Son's mercy and let go of the hurts and sins of the past. May your tears wash away our guilt and unite us more closely with Christ, your Son.



Fifth Station: Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus to Bear His Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "Help carry one another's burdens; in that way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6: 2)

Leader: Who would not envy the task of the Cyrenian who carried Jesus' cross? He must have found the burden they put on him very light. Like Simon and Christ himself, we are asked to bear the burdens of this life without counting the cost.

People: Our Lady of La Salette, you teach us the generosity of the cross by wearing the image of Jesus crucified. Through your example, may we bear our burdens with constant faith through the saving grace of your Son.



Sixth Station: Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "The body is one and has many members, but all the members, many though they are, are one body... If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members share its joy." (1 Cor. 12: 12a, 26)

Leader: Veronica could not allow the face of Jesus to be covered with dust and blood. She pressed through the soldiers' ranks and respectfully wiped the face of her Savior. Today other people are needed to respond lovingly by healing the wounds and injustices of our world.

People: Faithful Queen of La Salette, you came to make an appeal to our generosity. We unite ourselves to you, and pledge to be reconcilers for all those we meet.



Seventh Station: Jesus Falls the Second Time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: “Jesus said to all: ‘Whoever wish to be my followers must deny their very selves, take up their cross each day, and follow in my steps. Whoever would save their life will lose it, and whoever lose their life for my sake will save it.’” (Luke 9: 23-24)

Leader: In falling the second time, Jesus helps us realize that during our life we too will sometimes become discouraged. He always invites us to rise again with him.

People: Mother of Sorrows, you call us to approach you without fear. We need never despair but always find hope and consolation in the merciful love of your Son.



Eighth Station: Jesus Consoles the Women of Jerusalem

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.

Reader: "They shall mourn for him as one
mourns for an only son, and they shall grieve
over him as one grieves over a first-born."
(Zechariah 12: 10b)

Leader: Jesus wished that the generous
women who followed him to Cavalry would
weep not over his sufferings but rather over
their sins and the sins of their children. Mary
weeping at La Salette called to us to do
penance, pray each day and regularly give
thanks to God in worship.

People: Mother of Compassion, help us to
take the steps necessary to keep ourselves
healthy in mind, body and spirit. May we
console you and your Son by our daily lives of
vibrant faith.



Ninth Station: Jesus Falls the Third Time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "I cry out to you, O Lord, I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.' Attend to my cry, for I am brought low indeed." (Psalm 142: 6-7a)

Leader: What overwhelmed Jesus was not so much the weight of his sufferings, as the obstinacy of those who refused the opportunity to be reconciled. It is to these people that Our Lady of La Salette addressed her consoling words.

People: Gentle Mother, we pray for all those who find it difficult to be reconciled to God, to others or to themselves. Through your intercession, may Christ touch their lives and melt their hearts with his boundless love and mercy.



Tenth Station: Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: “They look on and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots.” (Psalm 22: 18b-19)

Leader: The soldiers roughly tore off the garments of Jesus. At La Salette Mary appeared in garments that were worn by the poor. The simple throne on which she was seated in an attitude of grief was a stone. She called us back to the basics—faith, prayer and an awareness of God's presence in our daily lives.

People: Mary, our Weeping Mother, may the simplicity of your message to the two children resound in our minds and hearts. May it remind us that you and your Son love us today and always, even into eternity.



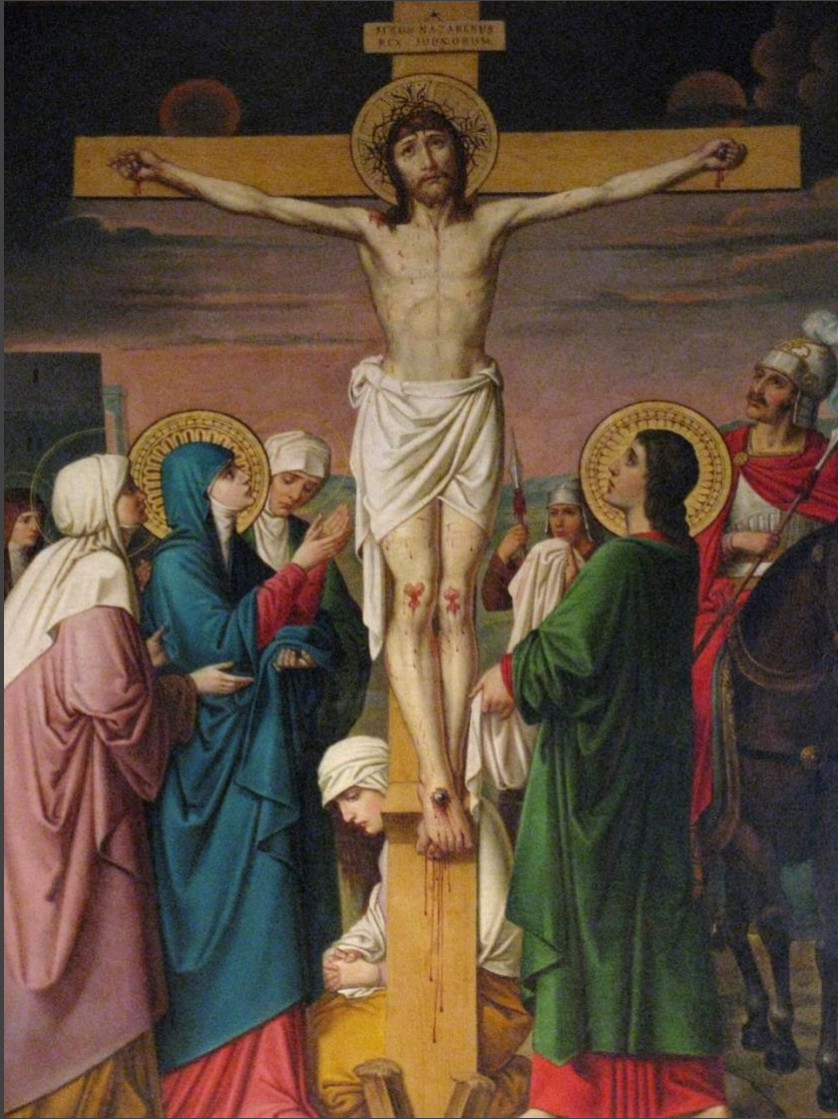
Eleventh Station: Jesus is Crucified

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "They surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; they have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones." (Ps. 22: 17-18a)

Leader: Jesus stretched himself on the Cross. His mother beheld it all. Mary appeared at La Salette in an attitude of profound sorrow that her Son's self-sacrifice for our sakes sometimes goes unheeded.

People: Mary, grateful Mother, never allow us to take for granted the very special gifts given to us by Christ, especially the Eucharist. May we be fed often by his Word and Sacrament and, in turn, share with others our faith and hope in your Son.



Twelfth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "Christ has achieved reconciliation for you in his mortal body by dying, so as to present you to God holy, free from reproach and blame." (Col 1:22)

Leader: Jesus offered his life and died on Calvary. He did this for love of us, that we might be reconciled to God. Our Lady of La Salette invites all people to conversion, especially those who feel no need of Christ or his saving grace.

People: Mary, in your Magnificat, you praised God for all the wondrous things done for us. Like you, may we always give thanks to God, who loved us first and sent Christ to be our reconciling Lord.



Thirteenth Station: Jesus is Laid in the Arms of His Mother

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "Listen! the cry of the daughter of my people! Oh, that my... eyes (were) a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night over the slain of the daughter of my people!" (Jer. 8: 19a, 23)

Leader: Mary offered her Son to God and offered herself along with him. At La Salette, Mary showed herself to us with Jesus crucified on her heart.

People: Mother of Christ, just as your Son took flesh in you, so now God's Spirit lives in us. Help us to be Christ's hands and heart, his love and forgiveness to all those who bear the burdens of pain or sorrow.



Fourteenth Station: Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: "Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Through baptism into his death we were buried with him, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life." (Rom 6: 3-4)

Leader: Jesus died and was buried in order to teach us to die to sin, to the world, and to ourselves. The Virgin of La Salette, by her tears and her garb, by the instruments of the Passion which she wore, by the glory that surrounded her, preached to us this death and the offer of new life.

People: Mary, Mother of our Savior, may his death and resurrection be for us the daily pattern of our living. May we, like John the Baptist, decrease that Christ might increase.

Concluding Prayer: Holy Mother of God, your Son is the Way, the Truth and the Life. At times, we feel afraid and alone, in need of more reassurance than the world can give. Blessed are you, Mary, for your visit at La Salette, where your maternal love invited us: "Come near, my children; do not be afraid. I am here to tell you great news." We who fall, who struggle and daily bear our crosses, we who lack courage and lose heart, are comforted by your presence and strengthened by your words. Mother of Reconciliation, through this Way of the Cross, may the life, death and resurrection of your Son always awaken in our minds and hearts a deep appreciation for all that you and your Son have done for us. May we give you thanks, now and forever. Amen.

Our Lady of La Salette, Reconciler of Sinners, pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to you.

