SAINT FAUSTINA'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS – From the Diary of Divine Mercy

Jesus, I Trust in You





FIRST STATION Jesus is Condemned to Death

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward" (Mt. 26:59-60).

Jesus: Do not be surprised that you are sometimes unjustly accused. I myself first drank this cup of undeserved suffering for the love of you (Diary 289). When I was before Herod, I obtained a grace for you: namely, that you would be able to rise above human scorn and follow faithfully in My footsteps (1164).

St. Faustina: We are sensitive to words and quickly want to answer back, without taking any regard as to whether it is God's will that we should speak. A silent soul is strong: no adversities will harm it if it perseveres in silence. The silent soul is capable of attaining the closest union with God (477)

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world!

Antonio Ciseri (1821–1891) Ecce Homo Circa: 1860-1880 Museo Cantonale d'Arte



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

SECOND STATION -Jesus Takes up His Cross

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You

R: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and arrayed him in a purple robe; they came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing him out to you, that you may know that I find no crime in him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." (Jn. 19:1-6).

Jesus: Do not be afraid of sufferings; I am with you (151). The more you will come to love suffering, the purer your love for Me will be (279).

St. Faustina: Jesus, I thank you for the little daily crosses, for opposition to my endeavors, for the hardships of life, for the misinterpretation of my intentions, for humiliations at the hands of others, for the harsh way in which we are treated, for false suspicions, for poor health and loss of strength, for self-denial, for dying to myself, for lack of recognition in everything, for the upsetting of all my plans (343).

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> El Greco (1541-1614) Christ Carrying the Cross Circa: 1580 Metropolitan Museum of Art New York

Through her heart, His sorrow sharing All His bitter anguish bearing Now at length the sword had passed.



THIRD STATION Jesus Falls the First Time

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.... yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors" (Is. 53:6,12).

Jesus: My daughter, write that involuntary offenses of souls do not hinder My love for them or prevent Me from uniting Myself with them. But voluntary offenses, even the smallest, obstruct My graces, and I cannot lavish My gifts on such souls (1641).

St. Faustina: O my Jesus, how prone I am to evil, and this forces me to be constantly vigilant. But I do not lose heart. I trust God's grace, which abounds in the worst misery (606).

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Oh, how sad and sore distressed Was that Mother highly blessed Of the sole-begotten One!

FOURTH STATION Jesus Meets his Mother

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed" (Lk. 2:34-35).

Jesus: Listen, although all the works that come into being by My will are exposed to great sufferings, consider whether any of them has been subject to greater difficulties than that work which is directly Mine — the work of Redemption. You should not worry too much about adversities (1643).

St. Faustina: I saw the Blessed Virgin...(she) held me close to herself and said to me: Be courageous. Do not fear apparent obstacles, but fix your gaze upon the Passion of My Son, and in this way, you will be victorious (449).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world! Christ above in torment hangs She beneath beholds the pangs Of her dying, glorious Son.

Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617-1682) Christ Bearing the Cross Circa: 1665-75 Philadelphia Museum of Art



FIFTH STATION Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry His Cross

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus." (Lk. 23:26).

Jesus: I permit adversities in order to increase merit. I do not reward for good results but for the patience and hardship undergone for My sake (86).

St. Faustina: O my Jesus, You do not give a reward for the successful performance of a work, but for the good will and labour undertaken. Therefore, I am completely at peace, even if all my undertakings and efforts should be thwarted or should come to naught. If I do all that is in my power, the rest is not my business (952).

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Titian (1490 – 1576) Christ on the Way to Calvary Circa: 1574 Museo del Prado

Is there one who would not weep Whelmed in miseries so deep Christ's dear Mother to behold?

SIXTH STATION Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You

R: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or comeliness that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not." (Is. 53:2-3).

Jesus: Know that whatever good you do to any soul, I accept it as if you had done it to Me (1768).

St. Faustina: I am learning how to be good from Jesus, from Him who is goodness itself, so that I may be called a daughter of the heavenly Father (699). Great love can change small things into great ones, and it is only love, which lends value to our actions (303).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world! Can the human heart refrain From partaking in her pain In that Mother's pain untold?

Mattia Preti (1613–1699) Saint Veronica with the Veil Circa: 1655-1660 Los Angeles County Museum of Art



SEVENTH STATION Jesus Falls a Second Time

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted." (Is. 53:4).

Jesus: The cause of your falls is that you rely too much upon yourself and too little on Me (1488). Without special help from Me, you are not even capable of accepting My graces (738)

St. Faustina: Jesus, do not leave me alone... You know, Lord, how weak I am. I am an abyss of wretchedness, I am nothingness itself; so what will be so strange if You leave me alone and I fall? (1489) So You, Jesus, must stand by me constantly like a mother by a helpless child — and even more so (264).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world!



Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1696–1770) Christ Carrying the Cross Circa: 1737-1738 Church of Sant'Alvise Venice

Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled She beheld her tender Child All with bloody scourges rent.

EIGHTH STATION Jesus Consoles the Women of Jerusalem

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children'" (Lk. 23:27-28).

Jesus: O how pleasing to Me is living faith! (1420) I desire that you would all have more faith at the present time (352).

St. Faustina: I fervently beg the Lord to strengthen my faith, so that in my drab, everyday life I will not be guided by human dispositions, but by those of the spirit. Oh, how everything drags man towards the earth! But lively faith maintains the soul in the higher regions and assigns self-love its proper place; that is to say, the lowest one (210).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world! For the sins of His own nation Saw Him hang in desolation Till His spirit forth He sent.

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Raffaelo Sanzio (1483-1520) Christ falls on the way to Calvary Circa: 1514-16 Museo del Prado

NINTH STATION Jesus Falls the Third Time

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth... Yet it was the will of the Lord to bruise him; he has put him to grief; when he makes himself an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand" (Is. 53:7,10).

Jesus: My child, know that the greatest obstacles to holiness are discouragement and an exaggerated anxiety. These will deprive you of the ability to practice virtue... I am always ready to forgive you. As often as you beg for it, you glorify My mercy (1488).

St. Faustina: My Jesus, despite Your graces, I see and feel all my misery. I begin my day with battle and end it with battle. As soon as I conquer one obstacle, ten more appear to take its place. But I am not worried, because I know that this is the time of struggle, not peace (606).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world!

Domenico Zampieri (1581-1641) The Way to Calvary Circa: 1610 J. Paul Getty Museum



Ah Mother, fountain of love make me feel the force of the sorrow so that I may mourn with you.

TENTH STATION Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"When the soldiers had crucified Jesus they took his garments and made four parts, one for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was without seam, woven from top to bottom; so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfil the scripture, "They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." (Jn. 19:23-24).

St. Faustina: Jesus was suddenly standing before me, stripped of His clothes, His body completely covered with wounds, His eyes flooded with tears and blood, His face disfigured and covered with spittle. The Lord then said to me:

Jesus: The bride must resemble her Betrothed.

St. Faustina: I understood these words to their very depth. There is no room for doubt here. My likeness to Jesus must be through suffering and humility (268).

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Make me feel as thou hast felt Make my soul to glow and melt With the love of Christ, my Lord.

Theophile Marie Francois Lybaert (1848–1927) Jesus is stripped of His garments Circa: 1886 and 1887 Our Lady of Grace Church Antwerp

ELEVENTH STATION Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You **R:** Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God." (Mt. 27:39-43).

Jesus: My pupil, have great love for those who cause you suffering. Do good to those who hate you (1628).

St. Faustina: Oh my Jesus, you know what efforts are needed to live sincerely and unaffectedly with those from whom our nature flees, or with those who, deliberately or not, have made us suffer. Humanly speaking, this is impossible. At such times more than at others, I try to discover the Lord Jesus in such a person and for this same Jesus, I do everything for such people (766).

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National Portrait Gallery London



Holy Mother! Pierce me through *In my heart each wound renew* Of my Saviour crucified.

> Gerard David (1450/1460-1523) Christ Nailed to the Cross Circa: 1481

TWELFTH STATION Jesus Dies on the Cross

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

Kneel for a moment of silence

"It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed;[b] and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last." (Lk. 23:44-46). "But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water." (Jn. 19:33-34).

Jesus: All this is for the salvation of souls. Consider well what you are doing for their salvation (1184).

St. Faustina: Then I saw the Lord nailed to the cross. When He had hung on it for a while, I saw a multitude of souls crucified like Him. Then I saw a second multitude of souls, and a third. The second multitude were not nailed to [their] crosses, but were holding them firmly in their hands. The third were neither nailed to [their] crosses, nor holding them firmly in their hands, but were dragging [their] crosses behind them and were discontent.

Jesus: Do you see these souls? Those who are like Me in the pain and contempt they suffer will be like Me also in glory. And those who also resemble Me less in pain and contempt will also bear less resemblance to Me in glory (446).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world! Let me share with thee His pain Who for all our sins was slain Who for me in torments died.

Diego Velázquez (1599–1660) Christ Crucified Circa: 1632 Museo del Prado



THIRTEENTH STATION Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

R. Declade by four holy cross four have reaccined the world

"Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, and said, "Certainly this man was innocent!" And all the multitudes who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things." (Lk. 23:47-49).

Jesus: Most dear to Me is the soul that strongly believes in My goodness and has complete trust in Me. I heap My confidence upon it and give it all it asks (453).

St. Faustina: I fly to Your mercy, Compassionate God, who alone are good. Although my misery is great, and my offenses are many, I trust in Your mercy, because You are the God of mercy; and, from time immemorial, it has never been heard of, nor do heaven or earth remember, that a soul trusting in Your mercy has been disappointed (1730).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world!



William-Adolphe Bouguereau (1825–1905) Pietà Circa: 1876 Private Collection

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

FOURTEENTH STATION Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise YouR: Because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world

"They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. 41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. 42 So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there." (Jn 19:40-42).

Jesus: You are not yet in your homeland; so go, fortified by My grace, and fight for My kingdom in human souls; fight as a king's child would; and remember that the days of your exile will pass quickly, and with them the possibility of earning merit for heaven. I expect from you... a great number of souls who will glorify My mercy for all eternity (1489).

St. Faustina: Every soul You have entrusted to me, Jesus, I will try to aid with prayer and sacrifice, so that Your grace can work in them. O great lover of souls, my Jesus, I thank You for the immense confidence with which You have deigned to place souls in our care (245).

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world! By the cross with thee to stay There with thee to weep and pray Is all I ask of thee to give.

Caravaggio (1571-1610) Entombment of Christ Circa: 1603–1604 Pinacoteca Vaticana, Vatican City



Sources used:

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