

THE MAGDALENE XIV CONGREGATION



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I

LEADER

The First Station: Jesus Is Condemned to Death We adore
you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Have I myself acted like Pilate or the
people and their leaders and added to the lies, fears, injustices,
threats, and violence of the world? (Pause) Have I failed to look
for, see, and support those who are standing up for truth?
Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, forgive us for when we too have been swept up
by the ways of the world and not recognized your Presence and
your Truth. Help us to stand for truth, and to recognize you in
those who risk and suffer in the service of truth.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In those who in the midst of the world stand up for truth...I have
seen the Lord.

II.

LEADER

The Second Station: Jesus Takes Up His Cross We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Whom do I know who carries a heavy cross with courage and steadfastness? Whom do I know who volunteers for burdens and responsibilities for the sake of others? Do I rebel against the crosses given to me or those I love? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, rid of us the failings that keep us from taking up crosses. Help us to remember and to support those we know who carry heavy crosses either forced upon them or taken by them for the sake of others.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

When I see others take crosses with boldness and selflessness.../
have seen the Lord.

III.

LEADER

The Third Station: Jesus Falls for the First Time We adore you
O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: How do I respond when I see people
near to me or in the news overwhelmed by events or situations
beyond their control? How do I respond when I feel
overwhelmed and helpless myself? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, help me to turn to you as one who understands
and loves when I feel overwhelmed and helpless. And grant that
when I see the faces of those overwhelmed by tragedy,
injustice, evil or disaster I respond with your love that places
others before self.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

When I have encountered the traumas and suffering of the
helpless, *I have seen the Lord!*

IV

LEADER

The Fourth Station: Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother. We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Amid the chaos, noise and distractions of life, do I seek out Christ? Do I meet him in moments of stillness and silence? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

Lord, help us to be still, and know that you are God. May we seek you out, even amid the busyness of our lives, even amid stress and disaster, and pause to know your presence.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In brief moments of seeking and silence, *I have seen the Lord.*

V.

LEADER

The Fifth Station: Simon the Cyrene Is Made to Help Carry the Cross We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Who is it whom I look upon with annoyance or disdain? Whom do I help or tolerate only because in some way I feel forced? What do I need to try to understand?

Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, teach me to see your face in those who annoy me and in those whose needs are imposed upon me. Grant me a heart that seeks to serve and understand.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In the faces of those who bother and want much from me.../
have seen the Lord.

VI.

LEADER

The Sixth Station: Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Among the people I know, whose face best reveals to me the courage, love, and compassion of Christ? (Pause) If the people I knew were asked the same question...would anyone name me? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, help us to recognize you both in extraordinary moments of grace and in the ordinary people around us who live fully the faith that you proclaimed. And grant that we too, in our living, reveal a courage, love and compassion that images your own.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In the faces of those I know who live with the love, courage, and compassion of Christ...*I have seen the Lord.*

VII.

LEADER

The Seventh Station: Jesus Falls for the Second Time We
adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: When forced to face a hard and
painful truth, have I desired and expected only a Christ of
miracles? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, when the call comes in the middle of the
night...or the doctor asks me to sit down for the test results....
When it seems certain that what I most dread must be, help
me to know your presence.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

When I am face down on the road to my own Golgotha, Jesus is
there too, his face buried in the same dust as mine, so that I can
say, "On the hard and painful way...*I have seen the Lord.*"

VIII.

LEADER

The Eighth Station: Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem We
adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: What is it about myself and my life that I have tried to bury within? What experience or wound or sorrow does the Lord want me to reflect upon when he turns my way and says, "Weep not for me but for yourself"? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, often we believe weeping for ourselves is a sign of weakness or failure. Sometimes we fear to face the secrets we keep. Hiding them from ourselves and others, we become isolated and false. We make ourselves less able to understand and be compassionate toward ourselves, and therefore to others as well. Help us, Lord, to develop hearts that can truly weep for ourselves and others.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

When I realize the Lord says to me as he said to the women of Jerusalem, "Weep not for me but for yourself..." *I have seen the Lord.*

IX.

LEADER

The Ninth Station: Jesus Falls for the Third Time We adore
you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Who has inspired me by example to
carry on with courage in the face of despair? Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, there are times when to simply live, to simply
go on living, is the greatest act of faith we have to offer. At such
times, help us to call upon your name: Jesus...Jesus...Jesus.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In the faces of those who have endured or are enduring
despair...*I have seen the Lord.*

X.

LEADER

The Tenth Station: Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Have I stood among others while they have shamed or mocked someone? Have I shamed or mocked others myself? How have I responded when I did not get the respect I felt I deserved? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, in the faces of those whose dignity is unrecognized, attacked, or disregarded teach me to see the face of their God and savior—and mine.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In the faces of those who have been shamed, mocked and disregarded...*I have seen the Lord.*

XI.

LEADER

The Eleventh Station: Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: Have I avoided persons suffering from injury or illness or age because being around them makes me uncomfortable? Do I accept my own sufferings with grace? Do I truly pray, "Thy will be done"? Please stand. Let us pray.

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, grant that I may suffer with grace. And teach me to see you in the faces of those whose suffering is difficult to witness, and not turn away.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In the faces of those whose suffering is hard to witness...*I have seen the Lord.*

XII.

LEADER

The Twelfth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: When have I felt utterly depleted, totally lost, unable, even, to pray? Please stand. Let us pray:

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, teach me to remember that when all seems lost, when I feel absolutely alone, completely drained, that you have been there...for me. You are there...for me.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In the dark depths of total loss, when all I can do is look to Jesus and put all else into the Father's hands...*I have seen the Lord.*

XIII.

LEADER

The Thirteenth Station: Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: When have I desperately yearned for the presence of Jesus, to feel him close enough to touch, to know that he was there? Please stand. Let us pray.

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, teach me to long for your Real Presence, and to seek you in the Sacrament of the Eucharist and in Eucharistic adoration.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist...*I have seen the Lord.*

XIV.

LEADER

The Fourteenth Station: Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb We
adore you O Christ and we praise you.

ALL

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MARY MAGDALENE

LEADER

Let us each ask ourselves: When have I last gazed upon the face
of one no longer among the living? What did I see and feel?
What did I try to avoid seeing or avoid feeling? Please stand.
Let us pray.

LEADER AND ALL

(Standing) Lord, teach me to face death, and to see even in the
dead, your face.

LEADER

Now, let us proclaim together:

LEADER AND ALL

In the still, blank, breathless face of death...*I have seen the Lord.*

MARY MAGDALENE'S CONCLUSION

On behalf of XIV Ministries, we thank you for praying the Stations with us. You are welcome to remain here for a while or to exit quietly.



To learn more about the history of the Stations of the Cross, the 21st Century Popes' thoughts relating to the Stations, and how you can support and/or join XIV Ministries, please visit:

xivministries.org