THE SCRIPTURAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

CELEBRATED BY

HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II

IN THE COLISEUM OF ROME
ON GOOD FRIDAY
IN THE YEAR OF SALVATION 1991
THE FIRST STATION:

*Jesus prays in the Garden of Olives.*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: They came to a place named Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” Then he said to them, “My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch.” He advanced a little and fell to the ground and prayed that if it were possible the hour might pass by him; he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will.” When he returned he found them asleep.

Mark 14:32-36

All: LORD, hear my prayer;
In your faithfulness listen to my pleading;
Show me the path I should walk,
for I entrust my life to you.

Psalm 143: 1, 8

Presider: meditation …

All: Jesus in the garden praying,
Fears before your Father laying
Yet, obedient to his will.
THE SECOND STATION:

*Jesus is betrayed by Judas.*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: *Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Lector: Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs who had come from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. His betrayer had arranged a signal with them, saying, “The man I shall kiss is the one; arrest him and lead him away securely.” He came and immediately went over to him and said, “Rabbi.” And he kissed him. At this they laid hands on him and arrested him.

Mark 14:43-46

All: It is not an enemy that reviled me
Not a foe who viewed me with contempt,
But it was you, my comrade and friend,
You, whose company I enjoyed,
at whose side I walked in the house of God.
But I will call upon God,
and the *LORD* will save me.

- Psalm 55, 13-15, 17

Presider: *meditation …*

All: Sold for gain by your disciples,
Handed over to the people,
King held captive by his own.
THE THIRD STATION:  
*Jesus is condemned to death by the Sanhedrin.*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: The high priest rose before the assembly and questioned Jesus, saying, “Have you no answer? What are these men testifying against you?” But he was silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him “Are you the Messiah, the son of the Blessed One?” Then Jesus answered, “I am; and ‘you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.’” At that the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further need have we of witnesses?”

Mark 14:60-63

All:  
Blessed are those  
who do not follow the counsel of the wicked,  
nor go the way of sinners.  
Because the LORD knows the way of the just,  
but the way of the wicked leads to ruin.

Psalm 1:1, 6

Presider: mediation …

All: Judge of all, you stand convicted  
of the sin that we’ve committed.  
All for love you bear our guilt.
THE FOURTH STATION:

Jesus is denied by Peter.

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the high priest’s maids came along. She looked intently at Peter and said, “You too were with the Nazarene, Jesus.” But he denied it and went out into the outer court. Then the cock crowed. The maid said to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” Once again he denied it. A little later the bystanders said to Peter once more, “Surely you are one of them; for you too are a Galilean.” He began to curse and to swear, “I do not know this man.” And immediately a cock crowed a second time. Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice you will deny me three times.” He broke down and wept.

Mark 14:66-72

All: Even my trusted friend, who ate my bread,
has raised his heel against me.
But you, LORD, take note of me to raise me up
and let me stand in your presence forever.

Psalm 41:10-11, 13

Presider: meditation …

All: Even Peter now denies you,
Claiming even not to know you,
Just as you had prophesied.
THE FIFTH STATION:

*Jesus is judged by Pilate.*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: *Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Lector: Now on the occasion of the feast Pilate used to release one prisoner whom they requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison along with the rebels who had committed murder in a rebellion. The crowd came forward and began to ask him to do as he was accustomed. Pilate answered, “Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas instead. So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas and handed Jesus over to be crucified.

Mark 15:1, 6-15

All: *O God, whom I praise, do not be silent,*
*for wicked and treacherous mouths attack me.*
*They speak against me with lying tongues;*
*with hateful words they surround me,*
*attacking me without cause.*
*Help me, LORD, my God; save me in your mercy.*

Psalm 109, 2-3, 26

Presider: *meditation …*

All: *To the ruling pow’rs delivered,*
*By the crowd your verdict rendered,*
*Shunned by those you came to save.*
THE SIXTH STATION:
Jesus is flogged and crowned with thorns.

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: The soldiers led him away inside the palace, that is, the praetorium, and assembled the whole cohort. They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. They knelt before him in homage. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him out to crucify him.

Mark 14:16-20

All: Rescue me from my enemies, my God;
lift me out of reach of my foes.
Deliver me from evildoers;
from the bloodthirsty save me.
My strength, for you I watch;
you, God, are my fortress, my loving God.

Psalm 59:2-3, 10

Presider: meditation …

All: Pain on head and back you carry,
May we just but briefly tarry,
Pond’ring now what love will do.
THE SEVENTH STATION:

*Jesus carries his cross.*

Presider:  We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha.

John 19:16b-17

All: Because I kept silent, my bones wasted away; For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength withered as in dry summer heat. Then I declared my sin to you; my guilt I did not hide. I said, “I confess my transgression to the LORD,” and you took away the weight of my sin.

Psalm 32:3-5

Presider: *meditation …*

All: Now the cross as Jesus bore it, Has become for us who share it, Symbol of our victory.

QUARTET

*Adoramus te*

Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

*The meditation is sung when the quartet is present.*

*Adoramus te, Christe, et benedicimus tibi.*

We adore you, Christ, and we bless you.

*Quia per sanctam crucem tuam redemisti mundum.*

For by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.
THE EIGHTH STATION:  
*Jesus is helped by Simon of Cyrene.*

Presider:      We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All:           *Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Lector:        They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry Jesus’ cross.  
               *Mark 15:21*

All:           *Hasten to answer me, LORD; for my spirit fails me. Do not hide your face from me, lest I become like those descending to the pit. At dawn let me hear of your kindness, for in you I trust. Show me the path I should walk, for to you I entrust my life.*  
               *Psalm 143:7–8*

Presider:      *meditation …*

All:           *Simon bears with hesitation, Glorious sign of our salvation, That which we should bear with joy.*
THE NINTH STATION:

Jesus encounters the women of Jerusalem.

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children, for indeed, the days are coming when people will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.’”


All: Answer me, LORD, in your generous love;
in your great mercy turn to me.
Do not hide your face from your servant;
in my distress hasten to answer me.
Here I am miserable and in pain;
let your saving help protect me, God,
That I may praise your name in song
and glorify you with thanksgiving.

Psalm 69:17-18, 30-31

Presider: meditation …

All: Like the women at your passion,
Loving hearts within us fashion,
That we might share other’s pain.
THE TENTH STATION:  
*Jesus is crucified.*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: *Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Lector: They brought him to the place of Golgotha (which is translated Place of the Skull). They gave him wine drugged with myrrh, but he did not take it. Then they crucified him and divided his garments by casting lots for them to see what each should take. It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him.  

Mark 15:22-24

All: *The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack.*  
*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*  
*I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me.*  

Psalm 23:1, 4

Presider: *meditation …*  

All: *Arms spread wide our pain embracing,*  
*Stain of blood our sin erasing,*  
*Though nailed fast, your hands still heal.*
Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us.” The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, “Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus replied to him, “Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”


All: Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger, abounding in mercy. For as the heavens tower over the earth, so his mercy towers over those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.

Psalm 103: 8, 11-12

Presider: meditation …

All: Even in the midst of suffr’ing Jesus words of comfort off’ring “This day you shall dwell with me.”
THE TWELFTH STATION:
*Jesus’ mother and his disciple stand by his cross.*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

John 19:25-27

All: Keep me safe, O God;
in you I take refuge. Say to the Lord,
you are my Lord, you are my only good.
I keep the Lord always before me;
with him at my right hand, I shall never be shaken.

Psalm 16, 1-2, 6

Presider: meditation …

All: Jesus gives to us our mother,
In his blood, now sisters, brothers,
God makes us his family.
THE THIRTEENTH STATION:  
*Jesus dies on the cross.*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Some of the bystanders who heard it said, “Look, he is calling Elijah.” One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.” Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

Mark 15:33-37

All: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why so far from my call for help, from my cries of anguish? My God, I call by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I have no relief.

Psalm 22: 1-2

Presider: *meditation …*

All: Word of Life, of death defiant, Bowed his head—the world is silent; Through his death came life anew.
THE FOURTEENTH STATION:

Jesus is placed in the tomb.

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Lector: When it was already evening, since it was the day of preparation, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the council, who was himself awaiting the kingdom of God, came and courageously went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was amazed that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. And when he learned of it from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. Having bought a linen cloth, he took him down, wrapped him in the linen cloth and laid him in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb.

Mark 15:42-46

All: O God, you are my God—for you I long!
For you my body yearns; for you my soul thirsts,
Like a land parched, lifeless, and without water.
My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me.

Psalm 63:2, 9

Presider: meditation …

All: Hidden from the sight of heaven,
Earth’s dark womb receives our victim
Now our hope seems all but gone.
THE FIFTEENTH STATION:  
*Jesus is raised from the dead.*

**Presider:** We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
**All:** Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

**Lector:** When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. Very early when the sun had risen, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb. They were saying to one another, “Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back; it was very large. On entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were utterly amazed. He said to them, “Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him.”

*Mark 16:1-6*

**All:** I will praise you, **LORD**, with all my heart;  
I will declare all your wondrous deeds.  
I will delight and rejoice in you;  
I will sing hymns to your name, Most High.  

*Psalm 9:2-3*

**Presider:** *meditation* …

**All:** Life and love are now victorious  
Paschal Lamb, who was slain for us,  
Come and reign as Lord of all!

**Quartet**  
*Adoramus te*  
*Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)*

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We adore you, Christ, and we bless you.  
*Quia per sanctam crucem tuam redemisti mundum.*  
For by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.
IN THE YEAR OF SALVATION TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN

COMES CELEBRATE WITH US AGAIN

Saturday  5:00pm Mass of Anticipation
Sunday    7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am
            4:30pm, 6:30pm

THE BASILICA
OF SAINT MARY