

The Way of the Cross

Contemplating Christ's Passion whilst
praying for the souls in Purgatory



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Notre-Dame
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"O Cross of Christ, teach us that the rising of the sun is more powerful than the darkness of night. O Cross of Christ, teach us that the apparent victory of evil vanishes before the empty tomb and before the certainty of the Resurrection and the love of God that nothing can defeat, obscure or weaken.

Amen!"

Pope Francis,
25 March 2016

The Way of the Cross is an invitation to join and follow Christ in prayer through his life's ultimate stages.

Each station calls to follow Christ in his afflictions until his final agony and surrender into the Father's hands.

Contemplating the One who loved us so slowly steers us to conversion.

Furthermore, we also pray for departed brothers and sisters so that the merits of the Passion of Christ may lead them to the beatitude of eternal life.

1st 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.

Meditation

Contemplate Christ the King who accepts to be judged and convicted by sinners. Jesus endures the unjust condemnation as a way to unite with all victims who fall prey to persecution in their quest for justice.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters. May your divine mercy consume their sins, and introduce them in Your Covenant of love.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

2nd Station

Jesus carries His Cross

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

Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate the One who calls us to come after Him, so as to be able to carry our daily cross.

He not only urged us on, but also showed us the way to unite with all who toil under the load.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.

May the mystery of Christ's Cross radiate on them so that they may share in the Resurrection.

Hail Mary...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

3rd 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.

Meditation

Let us contemplate the One who stumbled on the rock-strewn way, and fell to the ground under the weight of the cross.
He thus united with all those who are crushed by tribulations so that they may receive the grace of strength and courage.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.
Grant them to endlessly trust in your merciful grace.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

4th Station

Jesus meets His Mother

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate the mother's compassion as she gazes, aching and powerless, onto her Lord and son. Her whole heart, body and soul unite with Him and His love for men; thus she partakes in their redemption, starting with her son's executioners.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.
May Our Lady's intercession hastens their deliverance and their entering eternal glory.

Hail Mary...

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Our Lady of Montligeon, pray for the souls in Purgatory.

5th Station

Simon of Cyrene

helps Jesus to carry his cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate how,
in accepting Simon's
reluctant help, God-made-
man comes to touch this
mere passer-by's heart.
Jesus thus transforms
many acts, originally rather
done out of resignation
than love, into channels of
salvation and grace.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our
deceased brothers and
sisters.
May they find numerous
friends here on earth whose
prayers will hasten their
deliverance.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

6th 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.

Meditation

Let us contemplate this woman's creative charity. Unable to stop the ignominy of the execution, she however finds a way to ease the convict's suffering and provide him with a more human appearance. Through her simple yet courageous gesture, she compensates the cowardice of so many. "Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters. May their soul, disfigured by sin, gradually radiate with your resplendent light.

Hail Mary...

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Our Lady of Montligeon, pray for the souls in Purgatory.

7th Station

Jesus falls for the second time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Christ painfully falling to the ground, and yet, rising to his feet and resuming his way. Thus he unites and heartens people who struggle to move forward, or to remain faithful, and are tempted to relinquish when faced, over and over again, with dints of setbacks.

Prayer

Father, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters. May they not be defeated by the burden of their errors and infidelities. May they let your merciful love transform them.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

8th Station

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Jesus who does not shut himself down in his suffering, but opens wide his heart to the women inviting them to conversion.
He thus unites with all those who weep and commiserate with their brothers and sisters, to help them bear fruit and partake into bringing about God's Kingdom.

Prayer

Father, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.
May the grief of the separation not be sterile, but contribute to our conversion and salvation.

Hail Mary...

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Our Lady of Montligeon, pray for the souls in Purgatory.

9th Station

Jesus falls a third time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Christ's weariness as he collapses for the third time. He relinquished all out of love, for the sake of humankind.

Beyond exhaustion, he still sets out onto the path that leads him towards death.

He thus unites with the wearied and the suffering, earning them the grace of final perseverance.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.

Be the potency of the most abandoned souls, those who are in the most need of our prayers so as to open up to your love.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

10th Station

Jesus is tripped of his garments

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Jesus, from whom his garment meagre protection is ripped, leaving him exposed, defenceless, to mockery and laughter.

He thus unite with all the people whose dignity is violated, and with the demeaned who have no means of covering or sheltering themselves.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.

May your grace cover them with the nuptial garment, the tunic of great value that you bestow on the heirs of eternal life.

Hail Mary...

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Our Lady of Montligeon, pray for the souls in Purgatory.

11th Station

Jesus is crucified

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Christ risen onto the cross, facing men whom he loves, and yet who still had him executed like a criminal. Through the hours he hung on the cross awaiting death, he unites with all the people undergoing agony, or succumbing to a violent death.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.

May the prayer of the Church prior to their death, during their agony, or after their passing away, gain them eternal salvation.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

12th 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.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Christ whose love for man led him to lay his life for them. Let us contemplate the immortal God who, out of love, became man and, accepting to bear the cost of sin, until death on a cross. He thus unites with every single human being's own experience of death.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters. Through the mystery of your death on the cross, do welcome in your Kingdom all your brothers and sisters, and impart them with eternal life.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

13th Station

Jesus is taken down from the cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Mary's grief, and that of the disciples, as they receive the Lord's corpse.

They thus unite with our bereaved brothers and sisters, who mourn their loved ones, and experience incomprehension, loneliness, abandonment, even anger, when faced with the departure of their beloved ones.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.

Comfort also those who continue to love them beyond death, so that they may never lose hope.

Hail Mary...

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Our Lady of Montligeon, pray for the souls in Purgatory.

14th 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.

Meditation

Let us contemplate Christ being interred in the depths of the tomb, like grain buried into earth so as to bear fruit. Thus graves, as symbols of people's finitude, already signal hope to people for, on the day of the resurrection of the dead, they shall rise in glory out of their graves.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.
Hasten and come back, so that life may rise again in cemeteries, where our dead brothers and sisters congregate.

Our Father...

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Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the souls in
Purgatory.

15th Station

Along with Mary, hopeful in the resurrection

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

Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Let us contemplate the Blessed Virgin Mary who, despite the apparent total failure, remained hopeful of God's victory over death. She sustains the people who painfully enter the valley of tears, and unite with all who, struggling with their faith, await the fulfilment of Her Son's promise and triumph.

Prayer

Lord, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters.

Lead them to the everlasting dawn and gather us altogether in your Kingdom.

Hail Mary...

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Our Lady of Montligeon, pray for the souls in Purgatory.

Hymn:

1. When I survey the wond'rous Cross
On which the Prince of Glory dy'd,
My richest Gain I count but Loss,
And pour Contempt on all my Pride.

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the Death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his Blood.

3. See from his Head, his Hands, his Feet,
Sorrow and Love flow mingled down!
Did ever such Love and Sorrow meet?
Or Thorns compose so rich a Crown?

4. His dying Crimson, like a Robe,
Spreads o'er his Body on the Tree;
Then am I dead to all the Globe,
And all the Globe is dead to me.

5. Were the whole Realm of Nature mine,
That were a Present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my Soul, my Life, my All.

(Isaac Watts, 1707)

Prayer to Our Lady of Montligeon

Our Lady-Liberatrix,
Have mercy on all our departed loved ones,
especially those who are most in need of
the Lord's mercy.

Intercede for all those who have left us,
and may the purifying love of God
lead them to full deliverance.

May our petition,
united with the prayer of the whole Church,
obtain for them joy beyond all their desires,
and bring consolation and relief to our loved ones
in their suffering and distress.

Mother of the Church, help us, pilgrims on earth,
to be better in living each day
of our journey towards the Resurrection.

Heal the wounds of the heart and soul.

Help us to become witnesses of the Unseen God,
Seeking already what the eye cannot see.

Grant us the grace to become apostles of Hope,
Like watchmen awaiting the dawn.

Refuge of sinners and Queen of all Saints,
gather us all, one day, in our Father's house
through Jesus Christ Our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

Our Lady of Montligeon,
pray for the Souls in Purgatory.

