



Journey with the Cross

Mini Vinnies' Stations of the Cross

Stations 1-3: See, Think, Do



Priority

This Lent, help us Make Poverty a Priority.

Mini Vinnies' Stations of the Cross

These special reflections help us to pray and pause for a moment to think about the journey that Jesus took to the cross on Good Friday when he gave his life for us. This Lent, the SVP invites you to a year of encounter, a chance to meet others and make a difference. As we go on this journey with Jesus, you are challenged to see, think and do to make sure poverty is made a priority.



First Station: Jesus is condemned to death

Leader: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

All: Because by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

Jesus was accused of many crimes he didn't commit. He was made fun of, beaten, and insulted and was forced to wear a crown of thorns. Pilate was the one person who had the power to set Jesus free. He knew Jesus was innocent, but the crowd pushed Pilate to condemn him to death.

Just like Pilate, we all have the power to make a difference to other people's lives.



Lord, help us to see people through your eyes, with love. Help us not to just follow the crowd of people that may look down on others in society.



Who are the people our society often looks down on? How could we help others see that these people are loved by Jesus as much as we are?



Proverbs 31:8-9 (ICB)

"Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are hopeless. Speak for them and be a righteous judge. Protect the rights of the poor and needy."

Second Station: Jesus takes up his cross

Leader: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

All: Because by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

Jesus was in a lot of pain already when he had to pick up the heavy cross. It was hard for him to carry, but he did it without complaining. Not only was the cross physically heavy, but it was also heavy with the sins of the world, all the bad things we have done in our lives.

Sometimes we complain about things we have to do, especially when other people ask us to do them. This might be our homework, tidying our rooms, doing chores, or just giving someone a hand when they need it.



Lord, give us strength to do the things we might not always want to do. We know you are with us as we take up our own cross and follow in your footsteps. Help us to do this without expecting anything in return from others, but to do it to share your love with those around us.

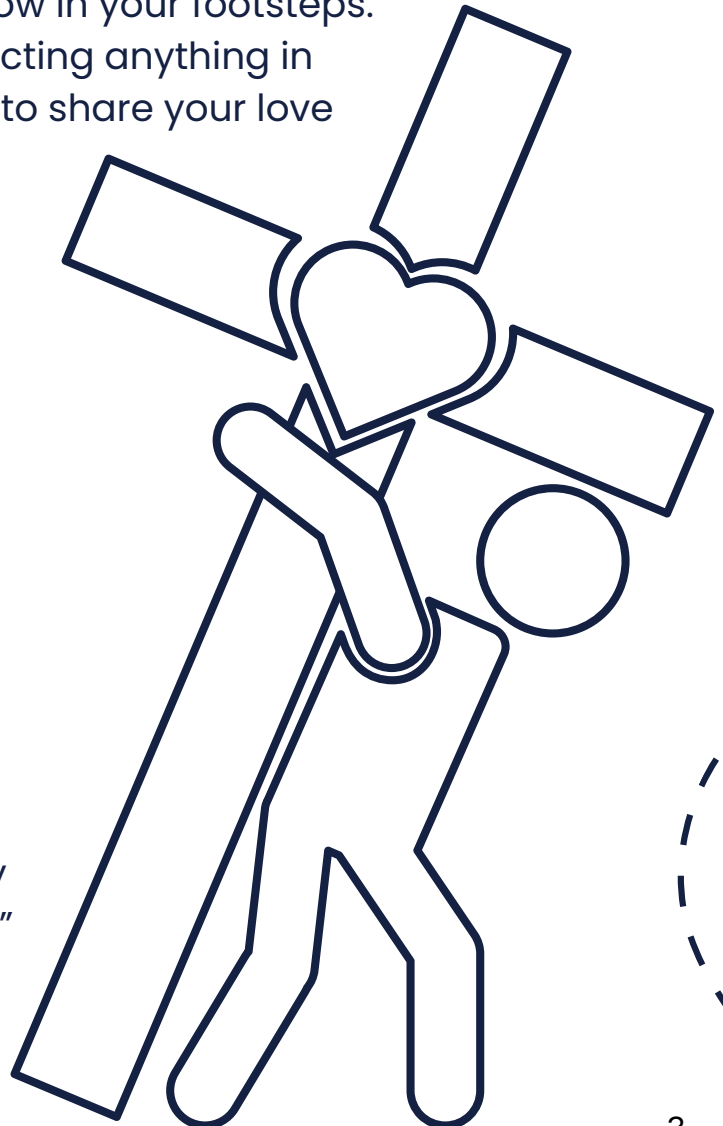


Write on your cross some of the difficult things or worries you have in your life and ask Jesus for his help to carry those crosses.



Matthew 11:28 (ICB)

“Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest.”



Third Station: Jesus falls for the first time

Leader: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

All: Because by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.

With a heavy cross and badly wounded, Jesus stumbled and fell for the first time. It must have hurt him very much, but he found strength to pick himself up and continue on that journey. Just like Jesus, sometimes we might feel like we have fallen down- we might get sick or find life difficult at times.



Lord, when we are in these moments, help us to offer up those difficulties to you to give us strength. Help us to notice when others need our help too, so we can offer them a helping hand. Help us not to judge, but to see what the need is for that person in that moment and how we can best help them.

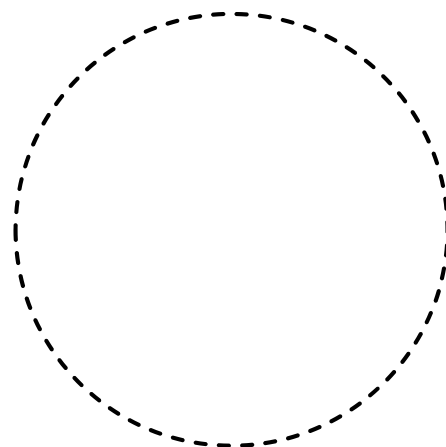


Think of a worry, or something you find difficult, and offer it up to Jesus as a prayer for all those who may be feeling the same.



Philippians 4:6-7 (ICB)

“Do not worry about anything. But pray and ask God for everything you need. And when you pray, always give thanks. And God’s peace will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace that God gives is so great that we cannot understand it.”



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