

**IMJ Stations of the Cross IMJ**

**I - VII**

*Oh My Jesus, Forgive us our Sins, Save from the Fire of Hell; Lead all Souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy Tender Mercy. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be to the Father...*

	<p><b>Station I Jesus is condemned to Death</b></p> <p>Jesus stands in the most human of places. He has already experienced profound solidarity with so many on this earth, by being beaten and tortured. Now he is wrongfully condemned to punishment by death. His commitment to entering our lives completely begins its final steps. He has said "yes" to God and placed his life in God's hands. We follow him in this final surrender, and contemplate with reverence each place along the way, as he is broken and given for us. <span style="float: right;"><i>Oh My Jesus</i></span></p>
	<p><b>Station II Jesus Carries His Cross-</b></p> <p>Jesus is made to carry the cross on which he will die. It represents the weight of all our crosses. What he must have felt as he first took it upon his shoulders! With each step, he enters more deeply into our human experience. He walks in the path of human misery and suffering, and experiences its crushing weight. <span style="float: right;"><i>Oh My Jesus</i></span></p>
	<p><b>Station III Jesus Falls the First Time-</b></p> <p>The weight is unbearable. Jesus falls under it. How could he enter our lives completely without surrendering to the crushing weight of the life of so many on this earth! He lies on the ground and knows the experience of weakness beneath unfair burdens. He feels the powerlessness of wondering if he will ever be able to continue. He is pulled up and made to continue. <span style="float: right;"><i>Oh My Jesus</i></span></p>
	<p><b>Station IV Jesus Meets His Mother-</b></p> <p>Jesus' path takes him to a powerful source of his strength to continue. All his life, his mother had taught him the meaning of the words, "Behold, the handmaid of the Lord." Now they look into each other's eyes. How pierced-through her heart must be! How pained he must be to see her tears! Now, her grace-filled smile blesses his mission and stirs his heart to its depth. Love and trust in God bind them together. <span style="float: right;"><i>Oh My Jesus</i></span></p>
	<p><b>Station V Simon Helps Jesus Carry His Cross-</b></p> <p>Jesus even experiences our struggle to receive help. He is made to experience the poverty of not being able to carry his burden alone. He enters into the experience of all who must depend upon others to survive. He is deprived of the satisfaction of carrying this burden on his own. <span style="float: right;"><i>Oh My Jesus</i></span></p>
	<p><b>Station VI Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus-</b></p> <p>Jesus' journey is at times brutal. He has entered into the terrible experiences of rejection and injustice. He has been whipped and beaten. His face shows the signs of his solidarity with all who have ever suffered injustice and vile, abusive treatment. He encounters a compassionate, loving disciple who wipes the vulgar spit and mocking blood from his face. On her veil, she discovers the image of his face - his gift to her and for us to contemplate forever! <span style="float: right;"><i>Oh My Jesus</i></span></p>
	<p><b>Station VII Jesus Falls the Second Time-</b></p> <p>Even with help, Jesus stumbles and falls to the ground. In deep exhaustion, he stares at the earth beneath him. "Remember, you are dust and to dust you will return." He has seen death before. Now he can feel the profound weakness of disability and disease and aging itself, there on his knees, under the weight of his cross. <span style="float: right;"><i>Oh My Jesus</i></span></p>