
ATENEO DE MANILA
UNIVERSITY
WAY
of the
CROSS
A PILGRIMAGE from
DISAPPOINTMENT
to FULFILLMENT
JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Introduction

PRIEST: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: **Amen.**

PRIEST: God, come to my assistance.

ALL: **Lord, make haste to help me.**

PRIEST: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

ALL: **As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

LEADER: We thank everyone for joining us in this University Way of the Cross. Today, we walk as pilgrims of hope in our journey as one Ateneo university community along with the whole Church.

Led by our Blessed Mother Mary, we trudge along in the alleys and byways of a suffering humanity where we are invited to have a "genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the "door" (cf. Jn 10:7.9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as "our hope" (1 Tim 1:1).[1]

PRIEST: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we remember and join you in your suffering and death on the cross.

We thank you for your act of selfless love which makes it possible for us to share this burning hope[2] of healing and redemption for all.

Lead us, Lord, in our pilgrimage until your love is inscribed in our minds and hearts.

By following you through the meditation of the way of the cross, may this be an act of going back to you.

We pray, Lord, that we may see the grace which accompanies us when we carry our cross with you through the journeys we take.

ALL: **Amen.**

PRIEST: Friends, let us now walk together the Way of the Cross of Jesus with our Blessed Mother, Mary.

1 Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit.*
Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025. Chapter 1.

2 From the official theme song of the Jubilee Year.

FIRST STATION

Jesus is Condemned to Death

FOR THE PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS ALL OVER THE WORLD

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for Christians who are condemned, ostracized, or oppressed for

their faith. May they find courage in Christ's example and remain steadfast in their witness.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW (MATTHEW 27:22-26)**

Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!" So, when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves. "Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" So, he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

LEADER: Christians, in places where they are a minority, are often victims of abuse, persecution and discrimination. We pray, as we walk this pilgrimage of hope, that they may share in the abundant grace that the saints and martyrs had the privilege to relish as they testified to their faith often at the cost of their own lives. **(PAUSE)**

In this, we ask ourselves, "When have I made the lives of others more difficult that they already are? How have I turned a blind eye on the sufferings of others?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, life is hard as it already is. I am oftentimes guilty of inflicting more pain and suffering to my brothers and sisters. When I insist that I am more important than they are, I cry for your blood which you shed for all of us. Forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Truth and Life,
condemned by falsehood.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.**

SECOND STATION

Jesus Takes Up His Cross

FOR THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for the Indigenous Peoples who carry the heaviest of burdens in the forms of injustice, displacement and denial of their basic human rights. May they and those who work with and for them find strength in Christ who bore His cross for all.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN (JOHN 19:14-17)**

Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. Pilate said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor."

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

LEADER: Our indigenous brothers and sisters suffer the brunt of global developments and economic downturns. Along with the pandemic and ecological disasters all over the world, they are often victims of governments and business enterprises who have little or no regard for their welfare and future. We pray and help carry their crosses. **(PAUSE)**

But we also ask ourselves, "When have I made choices that exploit the vulnerabilities of the indigenous folks? How have I contributed to making them more marginalized?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you asked us to take care of the littlest ones. How easy is it for me to pretend that I do not know how members of the cultural minorities suffer on a day to day basis? Whenever I look down on them as inferior and insignificant we cry, "Away with them! Away with them!" I add to the weight of their suffering which you sought to alleviate. Forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Victor, through the saving Cross.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross**
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.

THIRD STATION
Jesus Falls the First Time
FOR THE LABORERS AND THE UNEMPLOYED

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those who labor in menial tasks and in unsafe environments. We also pray for those finding it difficult to land jobs because of restrictive requirements and lack of opportunities.

READER: **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH (ISAIAH 53:4-6)**

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

LEADER: Unskilled laborers and those who lack the necessary education to acquire decent jobs fall victims to unscrupulous and abusive employers. Often cheated out of their rightful salaries and benefits, they try to make ends meet for the sake of their families relying on them. **(PAUSE)**

There are times when we mindlessly complain about the drudgery of work while others simply want to be able to work at the expense of their physical and emotional well-being. We therefore ask the questions: "When do I become ungrateful for the work that I do today? How have I demanded better service from those simply trying to make a living?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you invited us who are tired and find life burdensome to rest in you. Yet many times we are unwilling to let others have the same chance. Whenever I treat workers and those on the service sector unjustly, I deal them unnecessary bruises that may take a lifetime to heal. Teach me to deal with them with dignity and respect. Forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ of the poor,
condemned though innocent.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.**

FOURTH STATION

Jesus Meets His Mother

FOR PARENTS WHO SUFFER FOR THEIR CHILDREN

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for mothers and fathers who struggle to bring their children to the right path but are often overwhelmed by forces that undermine their efforts. We pray that through their sacrifices, the children might reap the rewards sown and tended for their benefit.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE (LUKE 2:33-35)**

And the Jesus' father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

LEADER: Parents all over the world, regardless of socio-economic status, cultural background and educational attainment worry about their children's welfare and security. A globalized environment has brought in blessings and curses when it comes to raising children in uprightness and fear of God. **(PAUSE)**

We oftentimes take for granted the challenges and obstacles that parents face on a day-to-day basis. We ask ourselves, "When have I shown appreciation towards my parents and what they do for me? How do I treat them when they make mistakes and when they do not know any better?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, no parent is ever perfect. Born out of their experiences and upbringing, they rear us in the best way they could. Like Mary and Joseph, they worry about us. Whenever I fail to take this into consideration, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Son of Mary, immolated for all of us. He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross through the roads of the world, through the alleys of poverty and misery. Marching to a dawning day, to freedom and victory, to God's life and endless glory.**

FIFTH STATION

Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry the Cross

FOR CAREGIVERS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND ALL WHO ASSIST THE VULNERABLE

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those who care for the vulnerable and the ones that need an extra lift. We pray that through their selfless acts the world may come to value members of the society who cannot fend for and take care themselves.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE (LUKE 23:22-26)**

A third time Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him."

But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified, and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from

the country, and they laid the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.

LEADER: Physically disabled and neuro-divergent individuals are often left to the able hands of the doctors, caregivers and respite workers. They play an important role in recognizing the need to become more emphatic and understanding of the vulnerable members of our society. **(PAUSE)**

We owe a debt of gratitude to them for teaching us to be more patient and more appreciative of the weak. We ask, "When have I shown understanding of those with physical and mental limitations? How do I treat members of my family who need an extra dose of gentle loving and compassion?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you have always invited us to love the little, the last and the lost. May through the brave example of our caregivers we finally take this invitation to heart. Whenever I decline your invitation, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, humble Servant, aided by Simon.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.**

SIXTH STATION

Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

FOR CHURCH AND SOCIAL WORKERS AND
THOSE OFFERING RELIEF TO THE SUFFERING

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for the church, social and development workers, those who make sure that the least served individuals in society receive the adequate help intended for them.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW (MATTHEW 25:31-36)**

When the Son of Man comes in his glory…the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I

was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

LEADER: Victims of abuse, criminal neglect and institutional violence often have no other people to care for them and take up their cause. Church and humanitarian workers play a vital role in making sure that these individuals do not become faceless and voiceless in society. **(PAUSE)**

Just as Veronica endeavored to feel and touch the face of the suffering Christ, we too are asked to look into the faces of poverty, destitution and misery. We ask, "What have I done to alleviate the sufferings of those around me? What am I doing for them and what would I be willing to do for their sake?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you were comforted and found respite in the loving hands of Veronica. May we, imitating her compassionate gaze and touch, give the same to those who desperately need it. Whenever I turn away from this task, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Redeemer,
crowned with piercing thorns.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross**
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.

SEVENTH STATION
Jesus Falls the Second Time
FOR THOSE SUFFERING WITH MENTAL HEALTH

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those battling depression, anxiety, or other mental health challenges. May they find support, healing, and hope in Christ.

READER: **A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF ST. PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS (2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-7)**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the

sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for you consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we also suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

LEADER: Individuals who suffer from various mental health problems and suffer silently and unknown to many need our utmost care and attention. Just as Christ heals all infirmities, we endeavor to assist in whatever way we can those agonize with this unseen pain and the stigma that come with it. **(PAUSE)**

As we patiently minister to them, we ponder these questions: "How have I been an instrument of healing for those who struggle with mental health? How do I show care and concern with people living with this condition?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you bore our sufferings and iniquities. You seek to heal all infirmities of our body, mind and spirit. Whenever I fail to do my share in easing the agony of others, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, sent by God,
obedient to the Father's will.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross**
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.

EIGHTH STATION
Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem
FOR WOMEN SUFFERING FROM DISCRIMINATION OR VIOLENCE

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for women who face inequality, abuse, or exploitation. May they find empowerment and justice.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE (LUKE 3:27-29)**

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to

them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.'

LEADER: Women have always enjoyed a special place in the heart of our Lord Jesus Christ. While his male friends and disciples deserted him during his trial and crucifixion, the women have always been there for and with him. **(PAUSE)**

As we see and experience a world where women continue to be marginalized, disrespected or commodified, we reflect on how women were entrusted by Christ with the intimate knowledge of his resurrection. We therefore ask, "How do I treat women in my family, school, work and in the community, I belong? As a woman, how do I struggle to carry out the mission given to me by Christ?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you have wept at the sufferings of women, especially of mothers and of widows, help me to appreciate the gifts that women bring into the workplace and in the Church. Whenever I do not recognize their inherent dignity and worth, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, our Healer,
Consoler of those who grieve.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.**

NINTH STATION
Jesus Falls the Third Time
FOR THOSE WEIGHED DOWN BY SIN AND ADDICTIONS

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for individuals who struggle to rise after multiple setbacks and are on the verge of giving up. May they find the grace and strength to persevere in the cross of Christ.

READER: **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS (PSALM 51:1-7)**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly

from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

LEADER: Vices and addictions are but symptoms of the deeper need of the soul for food that only God can give. We, and the people close to us, struggle to rid ourselves of the unbearable weight of sin that no earthly substance or pleasure could satisfy. **(PAUSE)**

As we cry out for relief from God, we recognize also our own contribution to the miseries we put ourselves in. We ask, "How have I often insisted on slaking my thirst with a drink that only make me desire the Water of Salvation? How have I partaken of forbidden food and pleasures that only highlight my need for the Bread of Life?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you recognize our proclivities to seek sustenance that stunt our spiritual growth. When I exchange your divine nourishment for allure of carnal delights, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Lamb of God,
for us sinners crucified.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.**

TENTH STATION

Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments

FOR THE HOMELESS AND REFUGEES

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those stripped of dignity, shelter, and security. May they find warmth, protection, and hope through the compassion of others.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN (JOHN 19:23-24)**

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now

the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

And that is what the soldiers did.

LEADER: The homeless, the refugees and those seeking asylum in foreign countries relive the trauma of their displacement as host cities and countries become intolerant and unwelcoming of them. They are without protection and comfort. **(PAUSE)**

As we experience the relief of our secure homes and the warmth of our families, we also wonder, "How has a life of relative luxury and privilege prevented me from seeking to provide basic necessities for those without shirts on their backs? In what ways do I support institutions that deny shelter and succorance to the displaced and dispossessed of society?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you experienced being stripped of your cloak and dignity. You counseled us to clothe the naked and welcome into our homes the strangers, when I shut the door to the homeless and refugees, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Son of David,
stripped of his glory.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross**
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.

ELEVENTH STATION
Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross
FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL AND THOSE ENDURING GREAT PAIN

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those who suffer physically, emotionally, or spiritually because of their lingering illness and pain. May they unite their suffering with Christ's Passion and find peace.

READER: **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS (PSALM 22:1-2; 6-7; 11, 14-15)**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not

answer; and by night, but find no rest… But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. All who see me mock at me; they curl their lips, they shake their heads; Do not be far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

LEADER: The Psalmist poignantly captures the great pain of those who suffer from terminal illnesses. The anguish, confusion, fear and hopelessness felt by those in their deathbeds are also experienced by Christ. **(PAUSE)**

As we stare helpless at our friends and loved ones experiencing all these, we also look at the cross of Christ, a testament of how Jesus embraced the same for the love of humanity. We ask "How do I offer my sufferings and pains in union with Christ's own? How do I journey with people close to me who are near death and needing companionship at the twilight of their lives?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you cry in agony for all the pains you experienced as your hands and feet are nailed to the cross. You did not choose the easier path, but gave your all for all. When I withhold love and compassion for the sorrowing and those in pain, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Good Shepherd, on the Cross crucified.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross**
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.

TWELFTH STATION

Jesus Dies on the Cross

FOR THE VICTIMS OF WAR, VIOLENCE, AND NATURAL DISASTERS

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those who have lost their lives or loved ones to due conflict, violence, or calamities all over the world. May they rest in God's eternal peace.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN (JOHN 23:44-48)**

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts."

LEADER: To have lost loved ones due to man-made conflicts and natural disasters could feel incredibly devastating. Our Blessed Mother must have felt helpless and powerless when her son Jesus was unjustly condemned, tortured and killed. **(PAUSE)**

As we continue our journey with Mama Mary, we feel her torment as she watches her beloved son's life slowly ebbs away. But full of faith and trust in God we remain steadfast in our belief that God our will fill our brokenness with meaning. With Mary we ask "How can I make my heart beat for the sufferings of humanity? How do learn to trust God in His wisdom and judgment?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you mother Mary stood at the foot of your cross, a silent and faithful witness to your suffering and death. When I fail to surrender my understanding in front of an ineffable mystery such as the deeper meaning of death, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, Bread of Life,
the self-giving Lord of all.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross through the roads of the world, through the alleys of poverty and misery. Marching to a dawning day, to freedom and victory, to God's life and endless glory.**

THIRTEENTH STATION

Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross

FOR FAMILIES MOURNING THE UNJUST DEATH OF LOVED ONES

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those grieving the loss of loved ones who suffered unjust deaths—victims of summary executions, extrajudicial killings, and wrongful convictions that led to capital punishment. May they find consolation in the promise of resurrection.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN (JOHN 19:31-34)**

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed.

Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.

LEADER: To have lost loved ones is painful enough. To have lost them due to miscarriage

of justice and by rampant abuse of law without hope of restitution and accountability is to suffer doubly. **(PAUSE)**

Like our beloved Mother Mary, we feel the indescribable grief that eats our souls as we look on members of the family and friends we've lost to faulty and corrupted judicial systems. Not losing sight of divine justice that's coming, we ask, "How do I stand before systematic killings that target mostly the defenseless and the poor? How do recover compassion for those who have less in life and even lesser in law?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you mother Mary witness your lifeless body brought down from your cross, a monument of shame but of redemption later on. Together with her teach us to regard all life precious because they come from God. Failing this, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, sacrifice,
Whose dying destroys our death.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross**
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.

FOURTEENTH STATION
Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb
FOR PRISONERS AND THE FORGOTTEN

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for those who feel abandoned or without purpose—especially prisoners who languish in inhospitable cells without hope for pardon or release. May they encounter God's mercy and hope for a new life in Jesus.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE (LUKE 23:50-54)**

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to

Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning.

LEADER: Prisoners, regardless of the gravity of their offense and guilt, remain one of the most neglected and pitiable members of our society. Many of them have been cast off as undesirable and irredeemable individuals that deserve eternal oblivion. **(PAUSE)**

Christ has shown, even as he lay dying on the cross, that no one is beyond God's boundless compassion. He pardoned the thief who begged for His mercy and promised to take him to paradise. Knowing this, we ask, "How do I regard persons deprived of liberty? Do I easily condemn people because they do not look like me, talk like me and behave the way that I do?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you have shown remarkable empathy even to those considered the dregs of society. By doing so, you are inviting us to move out of our comfort zones to embrace convicted criminals as part of the human family needing acceptance and salvation. Whenever I shun my eyes and fail to see them as brothers and sisters, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, our Savior, in the tomb laid to rest.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross**
through the roads of the world,
through the alleys
of poverty and misery.
Marching to a dawning day,
to freedom and victory,
to God's life and endless glory.

FIFTEENTH STATION

Jesus Is Resurrected from the Dead

FOR THE ATENEO SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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

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

LEADER: In this station, we pray for the university community, in its earthly pilgrimage, in our common desire to be messengers of hope for our students, colleagues, family members, the nation and the world.

READER: **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW (MATTHEW 28:5-7)**

But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said.

Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you."

LEADER: As a Filipino, Catholic and Jesuit University we have been given the mission to be pilgrims of hope leading others to Christ through our various activities and endeavors. There is not a single unit of the university community wherein hope cannot be our overarching message and purpose. **(PAUSE)**

With our Lord Jesus Christ, we are one big family with members having different talents, skills and functions but one and the same mission: "to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind and freedom for those oppressed in every way" (Luke 4:16-21). In this regard, we ask "How do I live out the mission given to me as an essential member of the school community? Do I see myself as a pilgrim of hope doing what I know best for the greater glory of God?"

ALL: **Lord Jesus, you have blessed us with so many things inorder that we may share our giftedness with one another and those that ardently need them. Remind me of this lofty mission that you first gave to your disciples and friends. And whenever I forget this, forgive me, Jesus.**

[Assembly walks to the next station while praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, 1 Glory Be]

CANTOR: Christ, risen,
Our Lord who makes all things new.
He leads the way of the Cross.

ALL (♪): **We carry the saving cross through the roads of the world, through the alleys of poverty and misery. Marching to a dawning day, to freedom and victory, to God's life and endless glory.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Concluding Invocations to the Holy Name of Jesus[3]

Lord, we lift our prayer to you, like the poor, the needy and the sick in the Gospels, who called upon you in the simplest and most direct of ways: by crying out your name.

Jesus, your name itself saves,
for you are our salvation.

Jesus, you are my life. I need you, lest I go astray, for you forgive me and raise me up; you bring healing to my heart and give meaning to my pain.

Jesus, you took my evil upon yourself. From the cross, you do not accuse me but embrace me. Meek and humble of heart, heal me of jealousy and resentment; set me free from suspicion and distrust.

Jesus, as I contemplate you on the cross, I find pure love, the meaning of my life and the goal of my journey. Help me to love and forgive, to leave behind my impatience and indifference, and not to feel sorry for myself.

**Jesus, on the cross you thirsted.
You thirsted for my love and
my prayer; you count on them,
in bringing to fulfilment your
plan of goodness and peace.**

Jesus, I thank you for all those who answer your call and persevere in prayer, firm faith and constancy in confronting every challenge and difficulty.

Jesus, I lift up to you the pastors of your flock, whose prayer sustains your holy people. May they make time to dwell in your presence and may they conform their hearts to your own.

Jesus, I praise you for those contemplatives, male and female, whose prayer, hidden from the world and pleasing to you, sustains the Church and our human family.

Jesus, I bring before you all those families and individuals who have prayed with us tonight in their homes: the elderly, especially those who live alone, and the sick, the treasures of the Church, who unite their sufferings to your own.

Jesus, may this prayer of intercession embrace our brothers and sisters who in so many parts of the world are suffering persecution on account of your name; those who experience the trauma of war, and all those who look to you for the strength to bear their heavy crosses.

Jesus, by your cross, you have made us one. Bring believers into deeper communion, help us to grow in fraternity and forbearance, to cooperate with one another and to journey together. Grant lasting peace to your Church throughout the world.

Jesus, just judge who will one day call me by name, free me from hasty judgment, gossip, and violent and offensive words.

Jesus, in the hour of your death, you said: "It is finished". I have not yet finished the course of my life, yet I continue to trust in you, for you are my hope, the hope of the Church and the hope of our world.

Jesus, let me say one last word to you, and to say it over and over again: Thank you! Thank you, my Lord and my God!

3 From the concluding rites of the Stations of the Cross at the Colosseum led by Pope Francis last March 29, 2024.