

#### St. Therese Parish

9525 W Bluemound Rd Milwaukee, WI 53226

sttheresemke.org info@sttheresemke.org (414) 771-2500 Facebook:@sttheresemke

We are St. Therese Catholic Church, a community of believers, who walk together by faith in Christ Jesus, and minister in the Little Way of St. Therese, as we strive hand-in-hand to live as God's people.

#### St. Vincent Pallotti Parish

East Church 5424 W Bluemound Milwaukee, WI 53208 West Church/Office 201 N 76th St Milwaukee, WI 53213

stvincentpallotti.org / vpallotti@stvpc.org (414) 453-5344

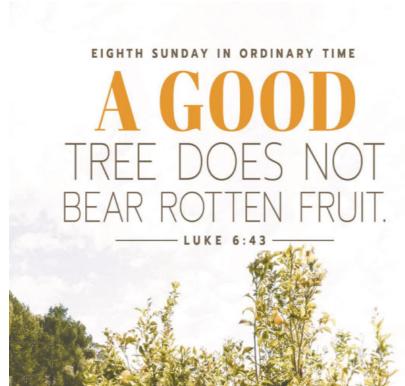
Facebook: @stvincentpallottimke

YouTube: @st.vincentpallottiparish



A Community of disciples, nourished by the Eucharist, caring for each other and reaching out to others.

### March 2, 2025



#### **Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday 4:00PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West Sunday 7:30AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East 9:00AM - St. Therese 10:30AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West

#### **Weekday Mass Schedule**

Mon, Wed, Fri: 6:25AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East Tues: 8:45AM - St. Therese Tues: 12 Noon - St. Vincent Pallotti - West Wed: 6:00PM - St. Therese Thurs: 12 Noon - St. Vincent Pallotti - West First Friday: 5:30PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 3:15-3:45PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West Sunday 6:45-7:15AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East First Sunday of the Month - 8:15AM - St. Therese Or by appointment on weekdays

#### **Pray the Rosary**

Saturday: 3:15PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West Sunday: 7:00AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - East Third Sunday of the Month -10:00AM - St. Therese

#### **Adoration**

First Friday 6:00PM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West Wednesdays 5:30PM - St. Therese Thursdays 11:30AM - St. Vincent Pallotti - West

#### **Blessing of the Sick**

After Mass on the First Full Weekend of the Month. You can also contact either Parish Office or Fr. Tom PC on his cell phone (414) 308-6238 to arrange a visit.

#### **Baptism, Marriage and RCIA**

Please call either Parish Office. Preparation can take nine months or more.

#### **Funerals**

Contact either Parish Office to plan.

#### March 2, 2025 | 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### **Parish Pastoral Council**

1st Wednesday of the Month at 7:00PM

To contact a Parish Pastoral Council Member, send an email to council@sttheresemke.org or leave a message for them in either parish office. Meeting minutes are available in the parish offices.

#### Chairperson

**Art Nennig** 

#### **Vice Chairperson**

**Brett Surinak** 

#### **Secretary**

Jennifer Tierney

#### **Trustees**

Dennis Ferger – STP (414) 546-7330 Christopher Gauthier – SVP (414) 302-1033 Ann Maher – STP (414) 698-7016 Lenny Schaefer – SVP (414) 534-1450

#### Members-At-Large

David Helterbran Linda Okruhlica Sr. Marilyn Metz Tom Ratkowski Mary Noeske

> Saint Vincent de Paul (414) 462-7837

#### **Hospital Visits**

The Federal Privacy Regulation (HIPAA—Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act) prohibits hospitals from informing churches of a patient's presence unless the patient gives permission for the hospital to do so. If you are admitted to a hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please contact either Parish Office.

#### **Prayer List for Mass**

It is our privilege to pray at our weekend masses for those in need. If you would like to add a name to the list, please contact either Parish Office.

#### **Need Prayer?**

Call the Prayer Network at (414) 810-9844

#### **Need Holy Communion?**

Call either Parish Office

#### Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 8:00AM

# Announcement Deadline: Thursday, 8:00AM

All submissions must be in writing to either Parish Office; email preferred.

#### Pastor of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish & St. Therese Parish

Fr. Thomas Pulikkeel Chacko, SAC ext. 1 at St. Therese and ext. 102 at St. Vincent Pallotti fr.thomaspc@stvpc.org (414) 308-6238

#### St. Therese Parish Staff

Office (414) 771-2500 – For Parish Emergencies After Hours, Push 0

Office Hours: Friday and Saturday: Closed Sunday: 10:00AM-11:30AM Mon, Tues, Wed, & Thurs: 8:00AM-12:00PM Onsite; 12:00PM-4:00PM Remote

# Director of Administrative Services

Heather Goeden ext. 2 heather@sttheresemke.org

#### **Finance Director**

Christine Jensen ext. 4 christine@sttheresemke.org

#### **Choir Director**

**Carrie Sanders** 

#### **Organist**

Kathy Luty

#### **Catechesis Ministry**

Sr. Marilyn Metz – Co-Coordinator Preschool to Grade 8 Program & Coordinator of First Reconciliation and First

Communion: gr2 3@sttheresemke.org

Mary Rose Sanger – Co-Coordinator Preschool to Grade 8 Program:

mrs77stt@sttheresemke.org

Rick Reinders – Coordinator of High School & Youth Confirmation: rreinders@sttheresemke.org

#### St. Vincent Pallotti Parish Staff

Office (414) 453-5344

Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:30AM-3:30PM

# Director of Admin & Development

Susana Cuellar ext. 109 sscuellar@stvpc.org

#### **Director of Liturgy & Music**

Carrie Sanders (414) 258-4165 ext. 107

csanders@stvpc.org

#### **Food Service Director**

Laura Ruiz-Reyes ext. 120 Iruiz-reyes@stvpc.org

#### Secretary

Lori Gabert ext. 101 lgabert@stvpc.org

#### **Bookkeeper**

Kari Utzerath ext. 104 kutzerath@stvpc.org

#### **Scrip Coordinator**

Therese Schaefer (414) 534-3836

#### Librarian

librarian@stvpc.org

#### St. Vincent Pallotti Parish School Staff

Office: (414) 258-4165 Fax: (414) 258-9844

#### **Principal**

Joe Fryda ext. 111 jfryda@stvps.org

#### **Vice Principal**

Tracy Irwin ext. 114 tirwin@stvps.org

# Office Manager/ Choice Coordinator

Lirse Jones ext. 110 ljones@stvps.org

#### Parish Membership / Support

Anyone over age 18 is invited to register as an adult member. Please call either Parish Office for more information.



# Events Week for the

STP = St. Therese Parish SVP-E = St. Vincent Pallotti East Church
SVP-W = St. Vincent Pallotti West Church

#### Sunday, March 2

#### Prayer Shawl/ Healing Blessing @ SVP

6:45AM Reconciliation at SVP-E

7:30AM Mass at SVP-E

8:15AM Confessions at STP

9:00AM Mass at STP-Live Streamed on Facebook

10:00AM Blessing of the Sick at STP

10:00AM Sunday Morning Catechesis Preschool –

**Grade 8 Program at STP** 

10:00AM First Communion Preparation at STP

10:00AM High School Catechesis/ Confirmation Prep at STP

10:30AM Mass at SVP-W – Live Streamed and Posted

#### Monday, March 3

6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E

#### Tuesday, March 4

8:45AM Morning Mass at STP 9:15AM Bible Study at STP

12:00PM Afternoon Mass at SVP-W

7:00PM Parish Pastoral Council at SVP-E

#### Wednesday, March 5 - Ash Wednesday

6:25AM Ash Wednesday Mass at SVP-E12:15PM Ash Wednesday Mass at STP6:30PM Ash Wednesday Mass at SVP-W

#### Thursday, March 6

11:00AM Reconciliation at SVP-W
11:30AM Lenten Stations at SVP-W
12:00PM Afternoon Mass at SVP-W
4:00PM Choir Rehearsal at SVP-W
7:00PM Group 100 AA

#### Friday, March 7

6:25AM Morning Mass at SVP-E
9:00AM Church Cleaning at SVP-W
11:00AM Reconciliation at STP
12:00PM Lenten Stations at STP
5:30PM First Friday Mass at SVP-W
6:00PM First Friday Adoration at SVP-W
6:00PM Lenten Stations at SVP-E

#### Saturday, March 8

3:15PM Confessions at SVP-W 3:15PM Rosary at SVP-W 4:00PM Mass at SVP-W

#### Sunday, March 9

#### Sharing Weekend @ STP/Daylight Saving Time Begins

6:45AM Reconciliation at SVP-E 7:30AM Mass at SVP-E

9:00AM Mass at STP – Live Streamed on Facebook
9:15AM Children's Liturgy of the Word at STP
10:00AM Sunday Morning Catechesis Preschool –

Grade 8 Program at STP

10:00AM First Communion Preparation at STP 10:00AM Emmaus 90 Watch Party @ STP

10:30AM Mass at SVP-W – Live Streamed and Posted 10:45AM Children's Liturgy of the Word at SVP – W

# Intentions & Readings for the Week

#### **March Sanctuary Candle at STP**

The Krebs Family

Sunday, March 2

Readings Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

#### Monday, March 3

**Observance: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin** 

Readings Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 10:17-27 6:25AM (SVP-E) Souls in Purgatory (M. Aranda-Rojas)

#### Tuesday, March 4

Observance: St. Casimir

Readings Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23/Mk 10:28-31

8:45AM (STP) †Jeanette Mae Martin

12:00PM (SVP-W)

## Wednesday, March 5 Observance: Ash Wednesday

Readings Jl2:12-18/Ps51:3-4,5-6ab,12-13,14and17/2Car5-20--6-2/Mt6.1-6,16-18

6:25AM (SVP-E) Blessings for Grace Griffin (M/P Griffin)

12:15PM (STP) St. Therese Parish Community

6:30рм (svp-w) Parishioners

#### Thursday, March 6

Readings Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

12:00PM (SVP-W) The Special Intentions of Louise Faragallah

#### Friday, March 7

Observance: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Readings Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15 6:25AM (SVP-E) Blessings for Aranda-Rojas Family

#### Saturday Mass, March 8

Observance: St. John of God, Religious

Readings Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32 4:00PM (SVP-W) †Carol Lemmermann (Family)

#### Sunday Mass. March 9 - First Sunday of Lent

**Observance: Daylight Saving Time Begins** 

Readings Dt26:4-10/Ps91:1-2,10-11,12-13,14-15 (see5b)/Rom10:8-13/Lk4:1-13

7:30AM (SVP-E) Parishioners

9:00AM (STP) +Walter&+EmilyZastrowand St. Therese Parish Community

10:30AM (SVP-W) †Joyce Fullington (Friends)



To be included, please call either Parish Office.

Dorothy Ash, Peter Carlis, Brandon Choe, Irene Czarnecki, Michael Czarnecki, Pat D'Amore, Nancy Dineen, Dean Doberstein, Kylie Doyne, Marge Dunn, Elizabeth and Elijah, Jan Eno, Kathleen Fugiasco, Family G, Sue Grignon, Blakely Gurgul, Matthew Harrison, Dan Heinz, Linda Huber, Josette Jaeger, Mary Kirchner, Helen Klister, Julie Kross, Rachel Lund, Kathy Manthe, Debbie Martin, Loretta Merz, Bob O'Neil, Fr. Norm Oswald, Sue Pfersch, Celeste Rau, Jacob & Jaxson Rivera, Ruben Seegert, Kaity Shields, Michael Sullivan, Robert Szablewski, Beverly T., Rosann Thate, Terry Valdovinos, John Wachowiak, Crystal Webb, Chris Wehausen

#### St. Therese Parish News and Updates



#### From the Earth Ministry: Monarch Populations Continue to Decline

Last week, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced an estimated 80% decline in the eastern monarch butterfly population since the 1980s. The western population has declined even more. Wisconsin falls within the path of the eastern population of monarchs, which overwinter in the forests of central Mexico.

Threats to monarchs include loss and degradation of breeding, migratory and overwintering habitat; exposure to insecticides (neonicotinoids); and the effects of climate change.

The USFWS proposes a designation of "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act, which provides for special regulations to prevent their decline and eventual extinction. To secure that rating, they request the required **Public Input** support, which closes **March 12**. Information on how to submit comments can be found on regulations.gov by searching docket number FWS-R3-ES-2024-0137.

Barb Agnew has been exploring the Milwaukee County Grounds' windy terrain since the 1990s. She realized the property's high elevation, along with its habitat of prairie and oak savannah, offers food and shelter attracting magnificent waves of monarchs — as many as 5,000 in 2019, when she started Friends of the Monarch Trail. But those migration numbers have since seen a steep decline. Volunteers of the Friends group plant flowers, remove invasive plants, and support public events.

Also on March 12, presenters from Prairie Nursery and Johnson Nursery will provide an interactive book conversation on, "Nature's Best Hope" by Douglas Tallamy at Elm Grove Woman's Club (13885 Watertown Plank Rd, Elm Grove) at 6:30PM, with education displays open at 5:30PM. The \$6 entrance fee will support the Monarch Trail.

#### **Lent Reflection Booklets Available**

Pick up your copy of the *Not by Bread Alone* Lenten reflection booklet on the Grow Your Faith Table in the back of church. The Christian Formation Committee is providing this resource to help guide you these 40 Days of Lent.

#### Emmaus 90 - 2025

Join us at our next Emmaus 90 formation session on **Sunday, March 9 following the 9:00AM Mass at St. Therese**. The session is approximately 30 minutes. We hope you join us as we learn more about our faith and grow in holiness. Everyone is welcome, whether you signed up for Emmaus 90 or not.

9:00AM Sunday Mass Live-Streamed on our Facebook page. It is also posted on our website after Mass.

#### **Sharing Weekend is Next Weekend: March 9**

Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is the largest hunger relief organization in the state of Wisconsin. Our mission is to solve hunger and we believe that every meal we help provide is a step toward a stronger, healthier community. Before the pandemic, 1 in 4 Native Americans struggled with hunger which is more than twice the rate of white individuals. To work toward solving this disparity, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin has been working in close partnership with the Great Lakes Intertribal Food Coalition since 2019 to coordinate and distribute Tribal Elder Food Boxes to Tribal Elders across the state of Wisconsin. Together, they have distributed over 94,500 boxes to Elders from all 11 Federally recognized Tribes as well as to three intertribally serving organizations here in Milwaukee.

In addition to serving Tribal Elders healthy and nutritious foods purchased from local Wisconsin producers, the program prioritizes providing culturally specific foods such as wild rice, maple syrup, maple sugar, and heirloom white corn mush flour purchased from Tribal producers. In this way, the program aims to address the unique health and economic needs of the Great Lakes Tribes by building a network of Tribal producers and supporting traditional foodways, food access, and economic development within Tribal communities. For more information or ways to support, please visit https://feedingamericawi.org/our-programs/tribal/

Donations can be made at Mass, mailed to the Parish Office or by using the QR code to donate online. If you are writing a check, please make it out to Feeding America. Thank you for your generosity.



# International Women's Day Saturday, March 8th

The first International Women's Day was celebrated in 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany, & Switzerland.

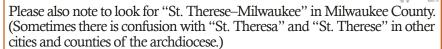
#### **Donation Opportunities**

- Vacuum Cleaner—\$150
- Palms \$175
- Lenten & Easter Booklets \$155

If you would like to donate the cost or toward the cost of one of these items, please contact Heather Goeden in the Parish Office. Please let her know if your donation is in honor or memory of someone and whether or not we may acknowledge your donation in the bulletin.

#### **Snow and Weather Closings**

In the event of snow or weather closings for the parish, please check Channel 12 WISN-TV or WISN.com (WISN website) for closures.



Looking to donate online? Use the QR Code on the right to make a contribution to St. Therese Parish on our online giving website. Thank you for your generosity.





#### **CHURCH SUPPORT**

Collection Totals will be reported on the second weekend of the month.

Please remember St. Therese in your will!





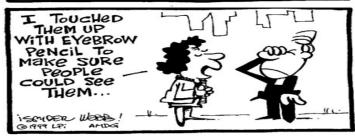
If you are interested in having a home visit with Fr. Tom PC so that he can get to know you and bless your home, go to the SVP website or call the parish office.

Once you choose the time, someone will follow up to confirm your appointment.



#### ASH WEDNESDAY







# The St. Vincent Pallotti Picnic is scheduled for SUNDAY JUNE 1!

And here's a warm thought: That's only 12 Sundays away!

The **Stewardship Parish Support** table will be posted on the second weekend each month showing the entire previous month's contributions.

Thank you for your contributions!

Please remember St. Vincent Pallotti in your will.

#### 10:30AM Sunday Mass Live-Streamed and Recorded

Find the link under "Mass Times" Also available on YouTube.



For an on-line copy of our weekly combined bulletin, please refer to our website at:

www.stvincentpallotti.org



#### What is Lent?

Highlighted by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving, Lent is the penitential period and liturgical season that leads into the celebration of the Easter Triduum.

#### When did Lent start?

The observance of Lent as a 40-day time period began after the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. but periods of fasting before Easter date back even earlier.

#### Who celebrates Lent?

Lent has traditionally been associated with the Catholic Church, but some Protestants, Orthodox Christians, and others also observe some form of Lent.

# What is the purpose of Lent? What does it represent?

Lent begins with a visible, outward sign of ashes but aims toward inner conversion, helping us repent, avoid distractions, and focus on living the Gospel.

#### What should I give up for Lent?

Focus on sacrificing something meaningful that will help you draw closer to God. Better yet, focus on what you can take on: What small acts can you take on to manifest the love that God calls us to share?

# Why don't Catholics eat meat on Fridays during Lent?

Abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent is a sacrifice and a small act of self-discipline that <u>dates back</u> to the early Church. Fish Frys are popular on Fridays during Lent. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday feature additional rules for fasting and abstinence. This is in stark contrast to the abundant feasts of Easter.

#### What is the color of Lent?

Violet (purple) is the color of Lent. On Laetare Sunday, priests will wear rose (pink) as a small break from the solemn purple and a reminder that Easter is drawing near. During Palm Sunday and Good Friday, priests wear red vestments.

The color of Easter is white.

#### March 2, 2025 | 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time



#### Masses with Distribution of Ashes

We will celebrate Mass with distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 5 at the

following times and locations:

- 6:25AM at St. Vincent Pallotti East (5424 W Bluemound Rd)
- 12:15PM at St. Therese Parish (9525 W Bluemound Rd) (We will NOT have evening Adoration or Mass that day.)
- 6:30PM at St. Vincent Pallotti West (201 N 76th Street) All are welcome to attend any of these Masses!

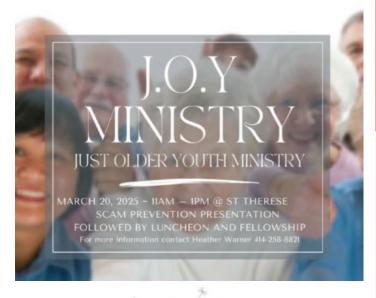


The Pallottines on Bluemound invite you to the St. Patrick's Day Parade!

Saturday, March 15 at 3:30PM

On Bluemound Rd. 68th St.-52nd St.

Come and Join the Fun!



#### Join Us at Our Lenten Mission

March 30 at SVP-W and March 31 at STP Join us at 6:30PM both evenings.

We all have false idols that prevent a right relationship with God. We need rigorous self-examination to root out those weedy patches of our souls. As symbols of hope, seeds remind us that sacrifice is necessary to bear good fruit. Weeds & Seeds:

Tending the Garden of Our Heart

Watch the bulletin and website for details! RSVP using the QR code.



### **Lenten Prayer Opportunities**

#### **Daily Mass**

• Mon, Wed, Fri: 6:25AM - SVP-E

• Tues: 8:45AM - STP • Tues: 12 Noon - SVP-W

• Wed: 6:00PM - STP • Thurs: 12 Noon - SVP-W

• First Friday: 5:30PM - SVP-W

#### **Lenten Reconciliation Opportunities**

- SVP-W: 11:00-11:45AM on Thurs. and 3:15- 3:45PM on Sat.
- SVP-E: 6:45AM 7:15AM on Sundays (Enter at Northwest Door)
- STP: 11:00-11:45AM on Fridays and Sunday, April 6 at 8:15AM Private Confessions by Appointment. Call either Parish Office

#### **Lenten Stations**

- SVP-W: 11:30AM on Thursdays
- SVP-E: 6:00PM on Fridays
- STP: 5:30PM on Wednesdays and Noon on Fridays
- Sunday, March 16 and Sunday, March 30 at 10:00AM

#### **Lenten Observances for Fast and Abstinence**

The Catholic Church asks each member to preserve the penitential character and purpose of Lent. For this reason:



- Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and each Friday of Lent.
- Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, in addition to abstaining from meat, should fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Hence, on those days they should eat only one full meal. Smaller quantities of food may be taken at two other meals, but no food should be consumed at other times during those days. The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday.

Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

#### Lenten Giving 2025 – Guest House of Milw.

St. Therese and St. Vincent Pallotti parishes are joining together for Lenten Giving this year. Our Lenten Giving recipient for 2025 is Guest House of Milwaukee, a shelter that provides services to up to 86 men that are otherwise unhoused. We will be collecting money to buy food, and then we will prepare and serve hot meals to these men. By making a small sacrifice during Lent, you can make a difference to men who are trying to better their situations. Visit guesthouseofmilwaukee.org to learn more. Your donation can be made online, in church or by mail. Please make out checks to St. Therese or St. Vincent Pallotti Parish and label it "Lenten Giving" in the memo line. Return your donation by April 27. Questions? Call Shari (414) 771-1668.

#### Catechesis Corner

#### **Upcoming Class Schedule:**

- o CLOW: March 9
- o Sunday Morning Age 3 Grade 8: March 9
- o High School Program and Confirmation Prep: March 16
- o First Communion Prep: March 9





#### March 2, 2025 | 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### The Stations of the Cross

Have you ever wondered what it was like to walk with Jesus during his Passion? Praying The Stations of the Cross, also known as The Way of the Cross, is one way we can share in Jesus' passion and death. It is a beautiful devotion that reminds us, especially during Lent, of the price Christ paid for the forgiveness of our sins. Often lining the walls around the church, each station is an artistic depiction meant to call to mind the events of the day. We might look at each station as a reminder, or close our eyes and imagine ourselves as a part of the scene. We will have several opportunities to be part of this practice during lent this year. If you can't attend a Stations of the Cross service, you can always pray them on your own.

#### **7** Benefits of Praying the Stations of the Cross

#### 1. It gives us a way to make a spiritual pilgrimage.

In 1686, the Franciscans began displaying the Stations of the Cross in their churches. It made it easier for the faithful to pray this devotion. In 1726, Pope Benedict XIII granted it the same indulgence as visiting Jerusalem. Our hearts walk along with Jesus on His final steps as we pray.

#### 2. We can gain a plenary indulgence to shorten our time in Purgatory.

There are a few conditions to receive this indulgence. First, we must receive the sacrament of Confession and be in a state of grace (detached from sin). It must be within 20 days (before or after) praying the devotion. We must also receive the Eucharist within that timeline. Next, we pray for the Pope's intentions. An extra requirement is that we (or a leader) move from station to station as we pray. We can still gain a partial indulgence if we cannot meet every condition.

#### 3. Praying the Stations of the Cross helps inspire deep prayer.

God gives us the grace to contemplate the suffering of Jesus and feel deep empathy and love for Him. As we meditate on the events, they become more vivid and take root in our hearts.

#### 4. We can look at suffering from a different perspective.

Our Lord understands our struggles and gives us the grace we need to bear them well. We can learn how to do this from His example. He endured His suffering with patience, dignity, and humility. Jesus never stopped loving, forgiving, and praying for His persecutors. Even though the situation was so intense, He obeyed God's Will. His response to such an extreme situation was one of love. He endured it for our salvation. From His example, we can learn to love with humility and patience despite our broken world.

#### 5. Praying this devotion helps us grow in our love for God.

We can express our love for Him as we pray the stations. It reminds us that we are not alone in our struggles. Jesus chose to embrace every aspect of human life, including suffering and death. He embraced human suffering on the Cross in a way no one else ever had before Him or ever will again. He made it redemptive by conquering evil with good. Through grace and our union with His suffering, we can learn to offer up our struggles out of love for others.

#### 6. Praying the stations helps us to become holy.

We learn to have more compassion for those who suffer. It pulls us out of our selfishness and teaches us to sacrifice for others. We can learn to be patient in situations of unavoidable suffering. It helps us to examine our conscience. We can think about how we have sinned, how it makes our Lord suffer, and then have remorse.

#### 7. We learn to hope in the promise of salvation.

Christ's promise of salvation far outweighed the horrors He had to endure. His suffering was redemptive not because it was full of pain but because He endured it with great love. When we unite our struggles with our wounded Savior, we can learn to bear them well. We can find courage and strength in times of difficulty because of His merciful love. We can trust in Him.

#### For each station, we follow these basic steps:

Name the Station

Read the opening prayer: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You. (Kneel) Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world. (Rise) If you are unable to kneel, you can sit or stand.

Read a selected Scripture passage or meditation.

Reflect and consider what this Station of the Cross means for your life.

Finish with a closing prayer.

#### These are the 14 Stations of the Cross as we have them today:

Jesus is condemned to death.

Jesus takes up His Cross.

Jesus falls for the first time

Jesus meets His Mother, Mary.

Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the Cross.

Veronica wipes the Face of Jesus

Jesus falls for the second time

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.

Jesus falls for the third time

Jesus is stripped of His garments.

Jesus is nailed to the Cross.

Jesus dies on the Cross.

Jesus is taken down from the Cross.

Jesus is laid in the tomb.

#### Join us this Lent to pray the stations:

- Wednesdays at 5:30PM @ STP 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16
- Thursdays at 11:30AM @ SVP-W 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10
- Fridays at Noon @ STP 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4, 4/11
- Fridays at 6:00PM at SVP-E 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4, 4/11
- Sunday, March 16 at 10:00AM @ STP

The cross of Christ, embraced with love, never brings sadness with it, but joy, the joy of being saved and doing a little of what He did on the day of His death. -Pope Francis





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