

Scheme I

**MOTHER AND DISCIPLE  
ON THE WAY OF THE CROSS**

INTRODUCTION

*L.* In the name of the Father,  
the Son  
and the Holy Spirit.

*A.* Amen.

GREETING

*L.* May Jesus Christ  
who sacrificed his life  
and opened the way to the Father  
fill you with his peace.

*A.* Blessed be the Lord throughout the centuries.

ADMONITION

Brothers and sisters,  
life is a journey we must undertake  
as disciples following Christ  
“Whoever does not take up his cross,”  
he tells us  
“and follow me  
cannot be my disciple.”  
The Blessed Virgin too  
undertook this journey following Christ  
as his mother and his disciple.  
The journey was marked with suffering  
but like her Son’s journey it ended in joy.  
Listening to the Word of God  
in faith and love  
we want now to follow  
the stations of the *Via Matris* – Our Lady of Sorrows.

PRAYER

*L.* Let us pray.

Lord, our Father,

look at this your family, pilgrims in time,  
and through our journey with the Blessed Virgin  
on the way of the cross  
let us achieve full knowledge of Christ,  
the fulfillment of our hope  
and the sight of your face.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*A.*      Amen.



*A.* Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*A.* This is the time of our passion  
With him we go up to Jerusalem  
Let us face the same destiny.

*Or:*

Holy Mother, this impart,  
Deeply print within my heart,  
All the wounds my Savior bore.

II  
MARY FLEES INTO EGYPT  
WITH JESUS AND JOSEPH

JESUS, PERSECUTED BY HEROD

*"I am God, the God of your father;  
do not be afraid to go down to Egypt,  
I myself will go down with you to Egypt,  
and I will also bring you up again."  
(Gen 46, 3. 4)*

V. We praise you, Holy Mary  
R. Faithful Mother at the foot of your Son's Cross.

GOSPEL READING

R. From the Gospel according to Matthew (2, 13-14)

An angel of the Lord  
appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,  
"Get up,  
take the child and his mother,  
and flee to Egypt,  
and remain there until I tell you;  
for Herod is about to search for the child,  
to destroy him."  
Then Joseph got up,  
took the child and his mother by night,  
and went to Egypt.

*Moment of silence.*

LITANY

L. Let us call upon the Lord,  
mighty and merciful God.

Leader of your people,  
Defender of the oppressed,  
Hope of exiles,  
Refuge of the persecuted,

Save us, O Lord.

L. O God  
you entrusted the safety of your only Son  
persecuted by Herod  
to Joseph and Mary  
grant us to be fearless defenders  
of our brothers and sisters

oppressed by injustice or victims of violence.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*A.* Amen.

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*A.* And you, O Mother, you weep now  
Not over him but over us  
Who are surrounded by death.

*Or:*

Holy Mother, this impart,  
Deeply print within my heart,  
All the wounds my Savior bore.

# MARY SEEKS THE LOST JESUS IN JERUSALEM

*My beloved had turned and was gone.  
My soul failed me when he spoke.  
I sought him, but did not find him;  
I called him, but he gave no answer.  
(Cant 5, 6)*

GOSPEL READING

When the festival was ended  
and they started to return,  
the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem,  
but his parents did not know it.  
Assuming that he was in the group of travelers,  
they went a day's journey.  
Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.  
When they did not find him,  
they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

LITANY

*L.* Let us call upon the Lord,  
the God near and hidden.

Source of Wisdom,  
Author of the Law,  
Lord of the Covenant,  
God of Glory,

*L.* Holy Father  
through the mystery of your Son,  
lost and found in the Temple  
grant us, we pray,  
to seek Jesus, like Mary  
and to discover him in your Word  
and in the mystery of the Church.

He lives and reigns throughout the centuries.

*A.* Amen

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*A.* Mother, you are every woman who loves,  
Mother, you are every mother who weeps,  
Over a son killed, a son betrayed.

*Or:*

Holy Mother, this impart,  
Deeply print within my heart,  
All the wounds my Savior bore.



MARY MEETS JESUS  
ON THE ROAD TO CALVARY

*Surely he has borne our infirmities  
and carried our diseases  
(Is 53, 4a)*

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*A.* Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*A.*     Make us live this time with you,  
          Each of us bearing the other's burden,  
          Weeping with you in the world's lament.

*Or:*

Holy Mother, this impart,  
Deeply print within my heart,  
All the wounds my Savior bore.

V

MARY STANDS AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

JESUS, THE LAMB LIFTED UP ON THE CROSS

*Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.<sup>e</sup>  
When you make his life an offering for sin,<sup>f</sup>  
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;  
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.  
(Is 53, 10)*

*V.* We praise you, Holy Mary  
*R.* Faithful Mother at the foot of your Son's Cross.

GOSPEL READING

*R.* From the Gospel according to John (19, 25-27)

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother,  
and his mother's sister,  
Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.  
When Jesus saw his mother  
and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her,  
he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son."  
Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

*Moment of silence.*

LITANY

*L.* We call upon you, Lord,  
the living God.

Source of life, have mercy on us.  
God of mercy,  
Sun that never sets,  
Fulfillment of all things,

*L.* O God, who willed that  
his Sorrowful Mother would stand  
at the foot of your son's Cross  
grant that associated with her in the passion of Christ  
we may share in the glory of the resurrection.  
He lives and reigns throughout the centuries.

*A.* Amen

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*A.* And as you, Mary, offered him to the Father,  
We pray that you may offer each of us,  
And that no one's suffering be in vain.

*Or:*

Holy Mother, this impart,  
Deeply print within my heart,  
All the wounds my Savior bore.

## VI

### MARY RECEIVES THE BODY OF JESUS FROM THE CROSS ON TO HER LAP

#### JESUS, A VICTIM FOR RECONCILIATION

*They sat with him on the ground  
no one spoke a word to him,  
for they saw  
that his suffering was very great.  
(Job 2, 13)*

*V.* We praise you, Holy Mary  
*R.* Faithful Mother at the foot of your Son's Cross.

#### GOSPEL READING

*R.* From the Gospel according to Matthew (27, 57-59)

When it was evening,  
there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph,  
who was also a disciple of Jesus.  
He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus;  
then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.  
So Joseph took the body  
and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth.

*Moment of silence.*

#### LITANY

*L.* Let us call upon the Lord,  
the just and Merciful God

Faithful God, Thy will be done.  
God of justice,  
God of peace,  
God of all consolation,

*L.* Father of life  
through your mysterious and loving plan  
the lifeless body of the Son  
you gave for our salvation  
lies on the lap of his Mother  
a woman of boundless pity:  
grant that we may share with her  
in the passion and death of Christ

and have part in the glory of his resurrection.  
He lives and reigns throughout the centuries.

*A.* Amen

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*A.* Let no one profane suffering and death,  
There is nothing more precious in the world  
Than to join in the lament of mankind.

*Or:*

Holy Mother, this impart,  
Deeply print within my heart,  
All the wounds my Savior bore.

## VII

MARY PLACES THE BODY OF JESUS  
IN THE TOMB  
AND AWAITS THE RESURRECTION

## JESUS, FIRST FRUITS OF THE RESURRECTION

*And you shall know that I am the LORD,  
when I open your graves,  
and bring you up from your graves.  
(Ezek 37, 13)*

*V.* We praise you, Holy Mary  
*R.* Faithful Mother at the foot of your Son's Cross.

## GOSPEL READING

R. From the Gospel according to John (19, 40-42)

They took the body of Jesus  
and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths,  
Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified,  
and in the garden there was a new tomb  
in which no one had ever been laid.  
They laid Jesus there.

*Moment of silence.*

## LITANY

*L.* We call upon you, O Lord,  
Father of the Risen Christ.

God of creation,  
God of history,  
God of salvation,  
God of Glory,

Give us the Spirit of life.

*L.* O God,  
in this new tomb  
you have planted the seed of a new creation:  
grant that we may bring hope  
to this world  
and be witnesses of the Risen Christ.  
He lives and reigns throughout the centuries.

A. Amen.

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

A. Your mercy is the assurance  
That we too will be heard  
And will rejoice in our lament.

*Or:*

Holy Mother, this impart,  
Deeply print within my heart,  
All the wounds my Savior bore.

#### DISMISSAL

#### ADMONITION

L. Our Lady's journey  
did not end in the darkness of the tomb.  
with living faith  
the Mother believed that her Son  
would rise from the dead  
as he had said.

At the end of this "*Via Matris*"  
we salute the Woman  
of faith, expectation and hope  
and we turn our eyes  
to the light of Easter.

#### ACCLAMATION

A. Blessed are you, Queen of Martyrs:  
joined to the passion of Christ  
you have become our mother  
a sign of hope in our journey.

*Or:*

Rejoice, Daughter of Zion, exult Israel,  
Rejoice with all your heart  
Daughter of Jerusalem:  
The Lord has revoked the condemnation,  
And has scattered the enemy,  
You will not see misfortune.



## PRAYER

*L.* Let us pray.

We have followed in faith  
the sorrowful journey of the Virgin Mother,  
send down upon us, O Lord,  
your abundant gifts:  
consolation and forgiveness,  
serenity and peace,  
joy and certain hope  
that we will join the glory of the Risen Christ.  
He lives and reigns throughout the centuries.

*A.* Amen.

## BLESSING

If the presider is a priest or a deacon he will bless the others with these words:

*L.* With the resurrection of his Son  
God has scattered the darkness of the world  
may he light your hearts with the light of Easter  
and establish them in peace.

*A.* Amen.

*L.* May the blessing of Almighty God  
Father, Son + and Holy Spirit  
descend upon you and remain forever.

*A.* Amen.

*L.* May Our Lady protect  
and graciously guide us along the path of life.

*A.* Amen.

**Note:** All Bible texts are taken from: The New American Bible <http://www.vatican.va/archives/>