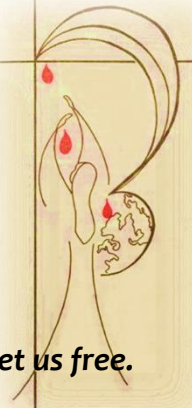


# Adorers Way of the Cross: *Walking with Laudato Si*



## Station 1: *Jesus is condemned to death*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

If we are truly concerned to develop an ecology capable of remedying the damage we have done, no branch of the sciences and no form of wisdom can be left out, and that includes religion and the language particular to it. The church's social teaching... is called to be enriched by taking up new challenges. *Laudato Si'* 63

With confidence in the Spirit who empowers us to me deeply identified with Jesus in his filial obedience, we try to obey in faith and joy, even when that which we are asked is difficult...seeking to carry out God's will here on earth as in heaven. ASC Constitution Life Charter #21

*What new language from science or spiritual writers...what images or words have you incorporated into your prayer and life to counter climate devastation and climate deniers...to bring new hope and life to people and Earth?*

## Station 2: *Jesus accepts the cross*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

We can say that "alongside revelation properly so-called, contained in sacred Scripture, there is a divine manifestation in the blaze of the sun and the fall of night." Paying attention to this manifestation, we learn to see ourselves in relation to all other creatures: "I express myself in expressing the world; in my effort to decipher the sacredness of the world, I explore my own." *Laudato Si'* 85

Let us be questioned by this truly unique time, searching for meaning of these places of crisis that are becoming, for us ASCs, challenges to be taken seriously and to which we need to respond as women signed by the Blood of Christ. This time is posed as a great opportunity capable of generating new visions, new choices, new actions, and new lifestyles as prophetic identity for today...it is a time for wisdom reading. Lucia Resta, ASC Inter-Assembly Congress 2021

*As we have embraced creation as a Presence of the Holy One...in what ways have you been questioned and challenged...how have your encounters with "the Sacred" deepened and or become more meaningful?*

### Station 3: *Jesus falls down the first time*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

What would induce anyone, at this stage, to hold on to power only to be remembered for their inability to take action when it was urgent and necessary? Politics must pay greater attention to foreseeing new conflicts and addressing the causes which can lead to them. *Laudato Si'* 57

Like the seed that comes to fruitfulness through its own dying, we are to live the paschal mystery in our ministry completing in our own lives the sufferings of Christ for the sake of the Church. We struggle against the powers of darkness and sin, that we may share the victory. *ASC Constitution Life Charter #25*

*Knowing that falling is not easy and can be dangerous...in what ways do you struggle with darkness and powerlessness...how have you been pushed down under the weight of polarization and divisiveness?*

### Station 4: *Jesus meets His mother Mary*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world. Just as her pierced heart mourned the death of Jesus, so now she grieves for the sufferings of the crucified poor and for the creatures of this world laid waste by human power. She treasures the entire life of Jesus in her heart, and now understands the meaning of all things. Hence, we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom. *Laudato Si'* 241

Mary most holy, woman of the new covenant and first adorer of the mystery of the blood of Christ, shows us how to live in adoration and service. She will be with us as virgin mother, friend and intercessor as we follow Christ in his paschal mystery. *ASC Constitution Life Charter #4*

*What is one act of love you can do to ease the pain of the millions of mothers who watch their children needlessly suffer throughout our world... and one act of love you can do to ease the pain we have caused to our own Mother Earth?*



**Station 5:** *Simon of Cyrene is forced to carry the cross*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

Human Life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbor and with the earth itself. These three vital relationships have been broken, both outwardly and within us... the harmony which St. Francis of Assisi experienced with all creatures was seen as a healing of that rupture. Laudato Si' 66

As the living legacy of Maria De Mattias, we are open to surrender and to being stretched. We will let go, to let come, as we seek to be a presence that is inclusive, loving and liberating. Assembly Statement of Intent 2021

*How have you been 'forced' and 'stretched' in listening to the call to care for our 'dear neighbor' and for our earth...what has been your response...where have you experienced harmony?*

**Station 6:** *Veronica wipes the face of Jesus*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

All it takes is one good person to restore hope. Laudato Si' 71  
A sense of deep communion with the rest of nature cannot be real if our hearts lack tenderness, compassion and concern for our fellow human beings. Laudato Si' 91

We are grateful for one another's giftedness and appreciative of the concern others have for us. As women covenanted together in vowed commitment, we encourage each other to daily fidelity in radical gospel living in the spirit of the beatitudes. ASC Constitution Life Charter #8

*How have the Beatitudes challenged and changed your understanding of spirituality over the years...in a time you were able to extend compassion to someone in need?*



## Station 7: *Jesus falls down the second time*

(together) ***We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.***

The mindset which leaves no room for sincere concern for the environment is the same mindset which lacks concern for the inclusion of the most vulnerable members of society. Laudato Si' 196

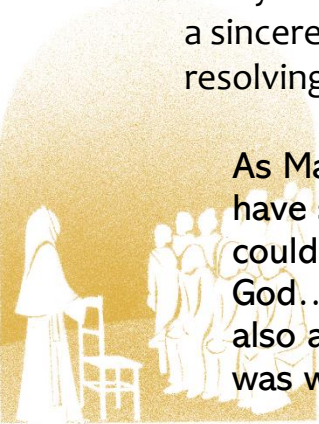
We, Adorers of the Blood of Christ, believe that all life is sacred, and that capital punishment is an affront to the sacredness of life...does not serve as a deterrent to criminal behavior...does not heal the pain caused to the victim's family, friends and others...perpetuates the cycle of violence...and that conversion is as possible through God's goodness for the perpetrator of the crime as for any person. Adorers Statement on the Death Penalty 2016

*When has there been a particularly difficult 'fall' in your life...and when have you been able to reach out to someone who was excluded, vulnerable or thought less of?*

## Station 8: *Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem*

(together) ***We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.***

Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society. Laudato Si' 91



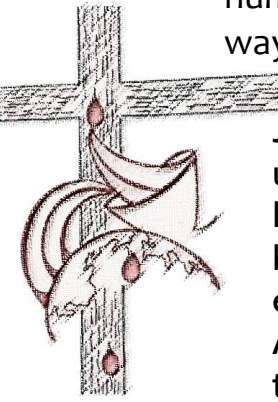
As Maria became acquainted with the women of the village, she agreed to have special days of prayer, retreats and a variety of classes for them. How could she say "no" to them when they were so hungry to learn about God...while Maria agonized in her illness, the older girls and women of Acuto also agonized. They had learned so much from Maria in the short time she was with them. Loretta Gegen, ASC What Love Can Do, A biography of Maria De Mattias

*For whom and how does your heart weep as you follow in the mission of Jesus to comfort with compassion and empower with courage...what actions can you do to give women and girls a chance today to bring forth their gifts that will transform our world?*

## Station 9: *Jesus falls down the third time*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

Any solution will be powerless to solve the serious problems of our world if humanity loses its compass... believers must constantly feel challenged to live in a way consonant with their faith. *Laudato Si'* 200



Judge Schmehl issued a decision to dismiss the Adorers' request for a hearing under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act...the latest in the Adorers' longstanding case against the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line...that dates back to the summer of 2017, when Transco seized the sisters' land under eminent domain to build an extension of the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline. The Adorers of the Blood of Christ are disappointed, but not entirely surprised, in the court's ruling. The Adorers believe that something good will come out of their ongoing struggle to remain true to their religious beliefs and practices.

US Region Public Statement 2021

*Under the complex and daunting burden of carrying the cross of stewardship for the Earth and for the poor...where do you find hope and strength to rise again and resolve anew to care for all of God's creation?*

## Station 10: *Jesus is stripped of His clothing*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

These problems (pollution and industrial waste) are closely linked to a throwaway culture which affects the excluded just as it quickly reduces things to rubbish. We have not yet managed to adopt a circular model. *Laudato Si'* 22

Finding our security in God, we will be able to adapt ourselves more readily to life's changing situations and to accept all that leads to detachment and freedom of heart. *ASC Constitution Life Charter #16*

*What is the change you are struggling with at this time of life...how does your understanding of 'detachment and freedom of heart' impact your lifestyle?*

**Station 11:** *Jesus is nailed to the cross - the Crucifixion*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

Within each social stratum, and between them, institutions develop to regulate human relationships. Anything that weakens those institutions has negative consequences, such as injustice, violence and loss of freedom. *Laudato Si'* 142

To grow in adoration means that our entire person, in all of our relationships and circumstances, in all our sinfulness and giftedness, becomes ever more fully surrendered with Jesus to [God] for the coming of [their reign.]

ASC Constitution Life Charter #27

*How has sinfulness and giftedness been integrated in your spiritual journey...how has surrender challenged and supported you in your evolving experiences and choices?*

**Station 12:** *Jesus dies on the cross*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

Nature is filled with words of love, but how can we listen to them amid constant noise, interminable and nerve-wracking distractions, or the cult of appearances? An integral ecology includes taking time to recover a serene harmony with creation, reflecting on our lifestyle and our ideals, and contemplating the Creator who lives among us and surrounds us, whose presence “must not be contrived but found, uncovered.” *Laudato Si'* 225

Remembering how he opened to humanity the way to glory by dying in apparent failure, surrounded by the ingratitude and hostility of those he came to save, we can understand better why [God] at times invites us also to drink of this chalice.

ASC Constitution Life Charter #25

*As you pause and savor a moment of inner silence, what is spoken within your heart?*



**Station 13:** *Jesus' body is removed from the cross – the Lamentation*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

Humanity is called to recognize the need for changes of life-style, production and consumption, in order to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it.      Laudato Si' 23

We acknowledge the sorrows of our Black brothers and sisters, the withholding of their rights for centuries, and their continuing struggles. We join with them to build a more just future.      Anti-Racism, Where we stand, adorers.org

*In what ways are you called to a 'letting go' of attitudes and behaviors that no longer offer you a sense of life...in what times are you called to stand in lamentation with others?*

**Station 14:** *Jesus' body is placed in the tomb and covered in incense*

(together) **We adore you, O Christ and we bless you, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.**

The Eucharist is itself an act of cosmic love: “Yes, cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world.” The Eucharist joins heaven and earth; it embraces and penetrates all creation.      Laudato Si' 236

As Adorers, we honor the sacredness of all creation; we cultivate a mystical consciousness that connects us to the Holy in all of life. As women, we celebrate the rhythms of creation; with Mother Earth we live the Paschal Mystery of life, death and new life and, with others, preserve and nurture creation.      Adorers of the Blood of Christ Land Ethic 2005

*When is a time you experienced a 'simply profound' Eucharistic celebration that opened your heart to the world...and as you move from this time of prayer, how are you called to be a sign of resurrection...a sign of earth and heaven joining...a sign that all creation can move toward "that beautiful order of things which the great Son of God came to establish in his Blood?"*

