

All conditions must be met within eight days prior or after the work.

One must be in the state of grace and no attachment to sin, including venial sin. Otherwise, venial sin renders only a partial indulgence.

The hearing and speech impaired can gain these indulgences by praying the Stations mentally.

A plenary indulgence may be gained only once a day, with the exception of the Apostolic Blessing for those on the verge of death. A partial indulgence may be gained as many times as the Stations are prayed. The fruitfulness of the indulgence depends upon one's spiritual disposition.

Offering For The Holy Souls

Our Pope has encouraged us to pray the Stations of the Cross and to offer them for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Stations represent the sorrowful journey that Jesus made with the Cross to die on Calvary. The Church teaches that the souls in Purgatory undergo a process of purification that must include suffering.

The person doing the work may personally gain the benefit of the indulgence or apply it to a particular deceased soul. It can also be applied generally to all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

By praying and making sacrifices for the Holy Souls, you have the power and privilege to relieve their pain. *In their great gratitude, they will pray powerfully for you.* This stream of mercy flows from you to the Holy Souls, and then becomes a solution to *your* problems!

Prayer to Our Redeemer by Blessed Escriva

My Lord and My God, under the loving eyes of Our Mother, we are making ready to accompany You along this path of sorrow, which was the price of our redemption. We wish to suffer all that You suffered, to offer You our poor, contrite hearts because You are innocent, and yet You are going to die for us, who are the only really guilty ones.

My Mother, Virgin of Sorrows, help me to relive those bitter hours which Your "Son wished to spend on earth, so that we, who were made from a handful of clay, may finally lie in the freedom and glory of the children of God."

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Walking With Christ ...Stations



The Fifth Station
Simon helps carry the cross

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You...

Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world...

Consider how weak and weary Jesus was. At each step He was at the point of expiring. Fearing that He would die on the way when they wished Him to die the infamous death of the cross, they forced Simon of Cyrene to help carry the cross after Our Lord.
(may we all help those in need as they carry their cross)

Walking With Christ...Stations

by Susan Tassone

We must all spend some time walking with Christ along the path of His passion and crucifixion, if we wish to share in the salvation that God has planned for each and every soul that was and will ever be created.

Blessed Josemaria Escriva, founder of *Opus Dei*, tells us that the Way of the Cross is not a sad devotion, but "Christian joy found in the shape of the Cross." If the Passion of Christ is a way of pain, it is also a path of hope leading to certain victory.

As he explained in one of his homilies: "You should realize that *God wants you to be glad and that, if you do all you can, you will be happy — very, very happy, although you will never for a moment be without the Cross.* That Cross is no longer a gallows, it is the throne from which Christ reigns. And at His side, His Mother, our Mother, too, will obtain for you the strength that you need to walk decisively in the footsteps of Her Son."

Fr. Escriva proposed this devotion to those who asked him for advice on how to *deepen their interior life*. He was doing no more than passing on his own experience, pointing out the short cut he had been using throughout his life, which led him to the highest peaks of spiritual life. *His love for Jesus through this devotion, became something real, tangible, and strong.*

Daily Stations

Many are familiar with the name of Irving Houle from Escanaba, Michigan. Irving has the stigmata of Christ, and suffers for hours each night, the pain of the stigmata for the sins of the world. Fr. Robert Fox, founder of the *Family Apostolate of Fatima*, tells us in his book "*Francis*," that when Irving was a child, Irving's father gathered the family each Sunday after Mass to walk and pray the Stations of the Cross. Later Irving himself, after a day's work, would stop by the local

Church and pray the stations. This habit he has maintained throughout his lifetime.

Many other saints expressed their love of Christ by dedicating their lives to meditating on His passion.

Daily Plenary Indulgence

In the Handbook of Indulgences, 1986, we are told that: "A plenary indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly make the Stations of the Cross. It is required only that one devoutly meditate upon the passion and death of the Lord."

(Some conditions listed below apply:)

This devout exercise must be performed before the Stations of the Cross that have been properly erected. Movement from one Station to the next is required. If this devout exercise is carried out publicly, and such movement by all present cannot be done without some disorder, it is sufficient that the person who is leading the exercise move from Station to Station, while the others remain in their places.

Persons who are legitimately prevented from fulfilling the above requirements can obtain this indulgence if they at least spend their time, e.g., fifteen minutes, in devout reading and meditation upon the passion and death of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Conditions of receiving this plenary indulgence are:)

Sacramental confession,
Eucharistic Communion,
Stations of the Cross,
Prayer for the Pope's intentions,
e.g., Our Father, Hail Mary, or any
pious prayer.