



Saint Charbel's Parish



Friday Evenings of Lent



**DIVINE OFFICE EVENING PRAYERS, STATIONS OF THE CROSS
AND ADORATION OF THE CROSS**

DOXOLOGY

STAND

Cel: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit in our beginning and in our conclusion.

Cong: May mercy and compassion be poured forth upon us, in this world and in the next. O Lord our God, to you be Glory forever. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Cel: Make us worthy O Lord to praise you on this blessed evening with pure praises and meditate on your Divine teachings as a cure for our souls. May we come to you shedding tears of repentance and forgiveness. Grant Lord, that we may be ready for your resurrection through fasting, prayer and good works, with a pure heart and clear conscience, that we may meet you here with joy and meet you there with happiness and delight with your chosen ones, and we shall praise you, with your Father and your Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

SIT

Cant: Barekhmor (with your Blessing Father), have mercy on us O Lord and help us. O Lord Jesus, how beautiful you were when you left the peaceful and calm solitude of the wilderness after your great triumph over all the devil's temptations, and you went around preaching your Good News in every region of Galilee and on the shores of Lake Tiberius. Grant that we will become listeners of your Gospel and live it. To you be glory forever.

First hymn: *b'edoneh dSafro*

*Our great Redeemer by His gracious Father's will
He walked the earth curing all the ill
having enriched us and curing all those
who could find no healing; praise the Lord of Grace!

**From every quarter the people flocked around Him
to benefit; what they sought He gave.
Sea of abundance whose treasure and whose
precious grace envelop all the universe!

*/** The love in Your eyes that has no bounds
And O Lord of this great love how could we repay?
You make us wealthy, O fountain which does not dry
from which we drink, so to sing your praise!

Psalm 23

- * The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me to revive my drooping spirit.
- ** He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death, no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.
- * You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my enemies. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.
- ** Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell forever and ever.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Cant: Barekhamor (with your Blessing Father), have mercy on us O Lord and help us. After the first fall there was a great covenant between Heaven and earth; a covenant of atonement and salvation. Today you announce to your disciples that you are the Lamb, the living Sacrifice, offered on the altar of shame, transforming curse to

blessing and sin to righteousness. Although you did not know sin, the Father made you like sin for our sake, so that, in you, we become the righteousness of God. To you be glory forever.

Second hymn: *Emar Qayso*

- * “You are the Christ”, this the Rock firmly cried
“You speak the truth”, is what Jesus replied.
“Flesh and blood have not made this known
you are blest for this truth was shown
By the Father adored
by the grace-giving Lord”.
- ** Our Saviour true then revealed His great plan
upon Him was placed the sins of all man
in His cross he carried our debt
with pure love He obeyed till death
so announce in three days
that the Lord has been raised.
- */** Chalice of Life, death you tasted for man
but Lord our minds will not fathom your plan
Like the grain of wheat in the earth
You have died to renew our birth
and so after the scorn
is the glorious morn.

Evening Psalms

Psalm 141:

*** Let my prayer rise before You like incense, the raising of my hands like an evening oblation.**

**** I have called to You Lord; hasten to help me! Hear my voice when I cry to You.**

*** To You Lord God my eyes are turned; in You I take refuge; spare my soul.**

**** Around me the just will assemble because of Your goodness to me.**

Psalm 119:

*** Your word is a lamp for my steps and a light for my path.**

**** I have sworn and made up my mind to obey your decrees.**

*** Your will is my heritage forever; the joy of my heart.**

***/** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, forever.**

Third Hymn: *Soughito*

**** On Sinai God gave us the law;
The Torah brought the covenant
The Son gave us on Calvary,
the Gospel finding fulfilment**

* Rejected were the poor and weak
for this the Word of God did speak
and by His blessing bringing awe
He changed the earth, renewing law

** God's beauty now esteemed above
sends grace to all to search for love
In this will we behold the Son
On Judgement Day when He will come?

* This evening let us raise our voice
To praise our God the merciful
in every moment Mother pray
that mercy finds us everyday

*/** We glorify the Father, Son
and Spirit; God the Trinity
We Thank Him for the grace He won
from time until eternity

Cantor: Stomin Kaalous (Let us all stand)

Cong: Kyrie Eleison.

STAND

HOOSOYO

PROEMION

Cel: Let us raise glory, honour and thanks to the Father who sent His Son for our salvation; the Son who made us righteous by his fasting and way of living; to the Holy Spirit who strengthens us in the struggle until we conclude it in victory.

To the Good One are due glory and honour, on this evening and all the days of our lives now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

SEDRO

Cel: Glory and praise to You, O Word and only Son, light from light and the ray of the Eternal Father. You descended to us to allow us to share in your Kingdom. You lived with us like one of us to return the freedom we had lost. For our sake, you endured fasting, hardship and suffering, to teach us that the way of Happiness, the way of Golgotha, leads to death and then to resurrection- “unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain.”

Therefore, we praise you and thank you proclaiming:

Glory to you, O Christ! You grant healing and consolation to our souls. Glory to you, O Provider for the world! You feed the hungry with your living bread. Glory to you, O Hope! By your fasting you shine on us the light of grace and inspire us with true repentance.

We ask you, O Christ our Lord, to hear us. Grant us your peace and fill our hearts with joy and holy happiness. Spread your peace and security in the whole world among all nations and people. Unite families and remove jealousy and resentment from the hearts of the children of God, so that we may know that you love us and that we are called to love each other, in words and in action.

Enlighten the minds of the Christian people that they may follow your Gospel teaching to their best ability and be your true witnesses before all. Pour your mercy upon us and on our faithful departed. With the righteous and the just we raise glory to you forever.

Cong: Amen.

SIT

Fourth Hymn: Qooqoyo

/*Liberated Paul resounds “Love is the greatest.
In whomever Love is found God’s face is witnessed”.

Moses found the Lord God in fire
and the martyrs found Him in trial
On the Cross the holy Church found Her Redeemer
and in glory, sang of Him dwelling within her
Hallelujah, Love has redeemed her.

ETRO

Cel: O Lord, accept our incense and petition; sanctify our fasting and prayer. Bestow your blessings upon us that we may carry your mission of Good News and to truly witness to you among all peoples. We praise you with your Father and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

Mazmooro: ShubHol hawro’yo

****** The Spirit makes earth wondrous and fragrant
God’s love now brings forth the world’s amendment.

***** O Lord may your wounds heal our affliction
our souls and bodies to find salvation

/* All of the ages thirst for your Graces
I yearn all day Lord to sing your praises

READINGS

(Observe the Epistles and Gospel of the day).

GOSPEL

STAND

Cong: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cant: The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them; the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them and they will fast. *(St. Mark 2:19-20)*

Cong: Alleluia!

Cel: Peace be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Cel: From the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint... who proclaimed life to the world, let us listen to the proclamation of life and salvation for our souls.

Cong: Have mercy on us O Lord

(when the Gospel has ended)

Cel: This is the truth, peace be with you.

Cong: Praise and blessings to Jesus Christ our Lord and God, for giving us His words of life!

SIT

Supplication Hymn: *Ba'out dmor Ya'qoub*

* You fasted to give us new life;
Son of God hear our cry; in your mercy reply
O Redeemer
O Refuge on high and on low,
guard your Church; lead the lost to your Kingdom on High,
mighty saviour

** In Love may this Lent's greatness be;
so in fasting abide or you will be deprived
of God's favour
Give food to the hungry who starve
do not work for yourself, but this Lent you must serve
Christ our saviour

* O give what you save to the poor
so that during this Lent we will grow in our Love
for the true King
In two mouths this Lent may you sing;
one to fast, one to hide from your own sinful pride
for God's blessing.

** The Father accepted our love,
and the Son brought His mercy to us here below;
let us praise Them
The Spirit of wisdom and truth;
give Him thanks for the prize that your charity finds
in this Season.

*/ ** Our fathers abstained from before
God was pleased; Lord accept what we offer this Lent;
make us worthy.

Exalt Lord our Mother and Queen
and the Saints, and to those who departed in you
grant them mercy.

STAND

HOOTOMO

Cel: Let us thank the Holy and Glorified Trinity, and let us
adore Him and praise Him; the Father, the Son and the
Holy Spirit, Amen.

Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison.

Qadishat aloho, qadishat hayeltono, qadishat lomoyouto.

Cong: itraHam 'alain (3 times)

Cong: Our Father who art in Heaven...

Cel: O Christ our Lord, you fasted for us and showed us the
way of life and truth. Accept our fasting and prayers;
strengthen us in the difficult pursuit following your
footsteps, that we may reach your Passover and
Resurrection, being made worthy of your blessings in
the heavenly Kingdom, and we shall raise glory and
thanks to you, to your Father and to your Holy Spirit,
forever.

Cong: Amen.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

STAND

Cel: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Cong: Amen

Act of Contrition

All: O My God, I am sorry for my sins, with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong, and in failing to do good. I have sinned against you, whom I should love, above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ, suffered and died for us. In his name, Lord have mercy.

Hymn: *Stabat Mater*

*By the Cross her vigil keeping, Mary stood in sorrow weeping,
when her Son was crucified.
Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The First Station: Jesus is Condemned to Death

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Pilate was certain of Jesus' innocence and he declared it to the Jews. Yet, he condemned Him to death. Jesus accepted the unjust sentence for our sins because "the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all". (Isaiah 53:6).



ALL: Teach us Lord, not to judge anyone. For you alone know what is in our hearts and our intentions. Strengthen us to bear the pain inflicted upon us by others through perjury and slander. Amen.

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*While she waited in her anguish, seeing Christ in torment
languish,*

bitter sorrow pierced her heart.

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Second Station: Jesus is made to carry His cross

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Lord Jesus, you said “No one takes my life from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father. For this my Father loves me because I lay down my life to receive it back” (John 10:18).



ALL: Teach us Lord that pain is not valued by its strength, but by our acceptance the value of suffering is not in its severity but in its acceptance, love and obedience to your will. Amen.

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*With what pain and desolation, with what noble resignation,
Mary watched her dying Son.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Third Station: Jesus falls the first time

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Jesus is truly human and feels pain and suffering like every one of us but even more because he knows the greatness of the Creator and the lowliness of creation. He languished and fell under the heaviness of the cross and the weight of our sins.



ALL: Teach us Lord, how to accept our human weakness when pain defeats us and weighs us down, and to bear it patiently. May we fix our eyes on you to strengthen us so that we may rise above our pain. Teach us also to be kind to the weakness of others and help them to rise above their pain. Amen.

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Ever patient in her yearning, though her tear-filled eyes were
burning, Mary gazed upon her Son.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Fourth Station: Jesus meets His Mother

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Jesus suffers with his mother's suffering and Mary endures pain for her Son's pain. And we, in our families, experience the pain caused by parents to their children and by children to their parents.



ALL: **Teach us Lord Jesus to know that the value of pain in our life refines our Christian conduct, and converts it into love and sacrifice. Amen**

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Who, what sorrow contemplating, on that passion meditating,
would not share the Virgin's grief?
Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Fifth Station: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry His cross

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: They put the cross on Simon and made him carry it with Jesus.

ALL: Teach us Lord how to bear our suffering, regardless of its kind or from where it comes, as a sign of our love for you and as repentance for our sins. Amen.



Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Christ she saw, for our salvation, scourged with heartless
acclamation, bruised and beaten by the rod.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Veronica walked the way of the cross and she wished to be kind to Jesus in his suffering. She wiped the sweat and blood from his face.



ALL: **Teach us Lord to be kind towards the pain of others and open our hands and hearts to them to ease their suffering and to heal their wounds. Amen.**

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Christ she saw with life-blood failing, all her anguish unavailing,
saw him breathe his very last.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Seventh Station: Jesus falls for the second time

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Jesus' bodily strength weakened on the long way to Golgotha under His heavy cross.



ALL: As for us Lord Jesus, our way to you is long and painful. Stretch out your hand towards us and draw us away from our Golgotha for we are longing for the light of your resurrection. Amen.

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Mary, fount of love's devotion, let me share with true emotion,
all the sorrow you endured.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Eighth Station: Jesus Speaks to the Women of Jerusalem.

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were weeping 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.” (Luke 23:27).



ALL: **Yes Lord, teach us to understand the meaning of real pain that you experienced for me. Your pain is caused by our sins. Teach us to repent from our sins and turn to you. Amen.**

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Virgin, ever interceding, hear me in my fervent pleading,
fire me with your love of Christ.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Ninth Station: Jesus falls for the third time

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: The way of the cross has been too long.
The strength of Jesus the man has
weakened. We also fall down and almost
lose hope when our way of suffering
becomes long.



ALL: **Do not leave us, Lord Jesus, but draw us
to yourself, so that we become stronger and rise from
our falls and to continue on the way to Calvary with
you, and then to the resurrection. Amen.**

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Mother, may this prayer be granted, that Christ's love may be
implanted, in the depths of my poor soul.*

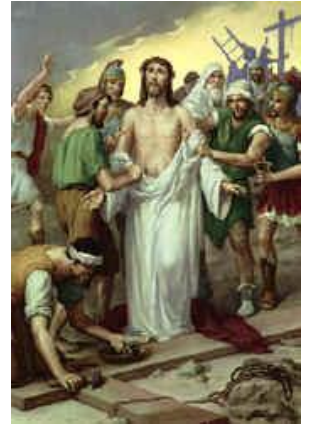
*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Tenth Station: Jesus is Stripped of His garments

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: They thought you were mocked and ridiculed when they took off your clothes leaving you naked. They failed to see that you are purity and brightness itself and your body shines with modesty.



ALL: **Teach us Lord to understand the meaning of human modesty and allow us not to put obstacles in anyone's way by our lack of modesty. Amen.**

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*At the cross, your sorrow sharing, all your grief and torment
bearing; let me stand and mourn with you.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Crucifixion was a means of torturing criminals. Isaiah prophesied: “he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” (Isaiah 53:12).



ALL: **Teach us Lord Jesus, to accept wholeheartedly, the suffering of life and particularly the pain of death, in order to make it, as you did, a redeeming and saving pain. Amen.**

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Fairest maid of all creation, Queen of hope and consolation,
let me feel your grief sublime.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Twelfth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: When you gave up your spirit into the hands of your Father, the curtain of the temple which covered the holy of holies was torn in two indicating the end of the old Covenant. The tombs were opened because your death conquered death. All this happened while your Mother was standing under your cross, drinking with you the chalice of suffering to the end, for our salvation. Her suffering increases yours but her presence and participation in your mystery of redemption comforts you.



ALL: Grant the fathers and mothers who have suffered and still suffer for the pain of their sick and suffering children, the grace of making their anguish a redemptive offering, through their patience, love and faith. Amen.

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Mary, in your love befriend me, at the judgment day defend me,
help me by your constant prayer.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Thirteenth Station: Jesus is taken down from the Cross

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: Mary, the mother of Jesus, embraces her dead son. She alone understands why He accepted His death. She alone has joined her pain to His pain and made it a redeeming and saving pain. In their hearts illuminates the light of hope, which will in turn be a jubilant victory for the righteous ones who suffer.



ALL: Teach us, Mary, to understand the meaning of participation in redemption, and to live it as you did. May we complete in ourselves the suffering of Christ that we have not yet endured. Amen.

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Saviour when my life shall leave me, through your mother's prayer
receive me, with the fruits of victory.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

The Fourteenth Station: Jesus is placed in the tomb

Cel: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.

Cong: For by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Cel: All is fulfilled, all is completed. The enemies of Jesus have defeated him and hid him in a tomb. The Apostles have lost all of what they expected from Jesus. But Jesus, who carries the love of God to all people, did not remain in the tomb. For love is stronger than death. He rolled the large stone from the door of his tomb and rose to declare to the Apostles God's love for them and for those who will believe in God through their preaching.



ALL: **Grant us Lord, not to despair in life because you are the resurrection and life. Give us love which conquers death. Amen.**

Our Father...Hail Mary...

Cel: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy.

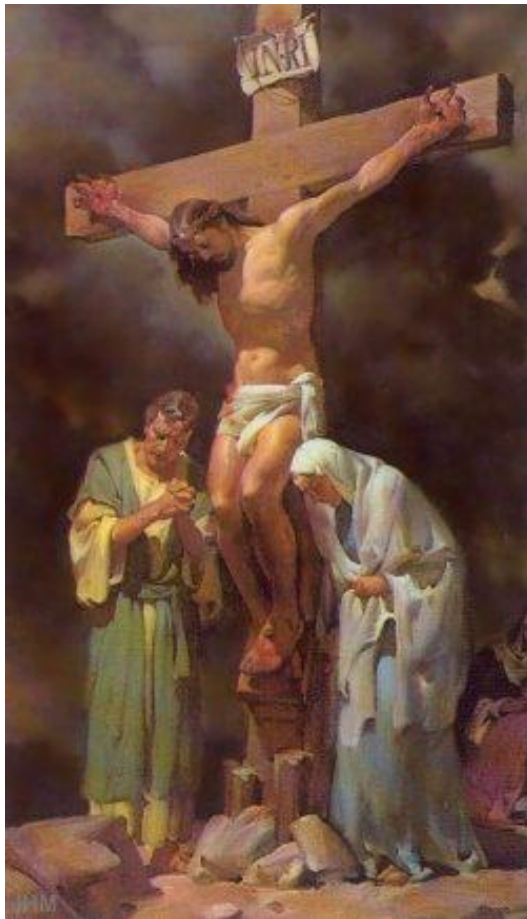
Cong: May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Let me to your love be taken, let my soul in death awaken
to the joys of paradise.*

*Mary Mother of our Saviour, may we share in your Son's passion,
leading us from death to life.*

Final Prayer

All: O Eternal Father whom you have blessed the sign of the living cross with the precious blood of your Son. We ask your mercy to those who venerate this holy cross, forgiveness of their sins and entrance into eternal glory, through the merits of our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.



ADORATION OF THE CROSS

Hymn: O My People, Friends (*Ya Sha'bee Wa Sahbee*)

* O my people, friends,
where is the faith and the love
that you pledged to me?
What crime have I done?
Why do you treat me
with great contempt and with scorn?
Now in shame I die in between two thieves.

** What have I done wrong?
Why punish me? This I ask.
What has brought me here?
Who has made the charge?
I was good to you.
Think of the sick I have cured.
You remember not what I did for you.

* Look, behold my pain,
all my distress, all my grief.
Hear my mournful cries.
Hear my Mother's sighs.
Have you seen before
one who endured such great pain
and who drank this cup, full of bitterness?

*/** Mother, do not cry.
This only adds to my grief.
Leave me. Go your way.
Do not weep for me.
Father, why am I
here, all alone, in my pain?
I am choked with tears; Father, hear my plea!

Cel: Blessed are you O Holy Cross, wood of life, slayer of error and the giver of salvation to the world; banner of triumph in the battle. In you was formed the amazing wonders. You are the end of all Sacrifices and the fulfilment of all mysteries. In you we find peace and the joy that dwells in us. In you, the Church is magnified and her children are preserved. In you our bodies are sanctified and our souls are purified. In you our wrongdoings are wiped away and our piety is increased. In you, the faithful are able to reach perfection. You are our weapon in life. In you the departed find rest. In you we shall find refuge on that final day. With you we shall walk to the abode of life, and we raise glory to Christ, the Word who was Crucified on you, O Holy Cross, and to His Father and to His living Holy Spirit, forever.

Cong: Amen

(Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be)

First Hymn in Adoration of the Cross: Fsheetso

****/* Tesh-boH-tol-Moryo (Syriac)**

*Bazqifo ashlem nafsheh Bar aloho
Wyab ruHeh biday aboy Haw moro d'olmoh
Wafqa' qabreh
Westari shu'eh weHad temho
Ikhulhen beryoto
WabrumHo tar'u Idafneh dbo-ru-yo dkhulo
Wardaw meneh dmo wmayo Husoyol 'olmo*

Tesh-boH-tol-Moryo (To God be Glory)

*On the cross the Son of God gave up his spirit.
He commended it to God his mighty Father. The earth then shook.
Tombs were opened wide, the rocks were split, and great fear filled all.
With a lance they pierced the heart of their Creator.
Blood and water flowed from him; forgiveness poured forth.*

****/* Tesh-boH-tol-Moryo (To God be Glory)**

At the cross the Church looked up and saw her Savior,
Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, who gives the world light.
She saw his wounds,
which the nails and lance had made in him,
and she grieved deeply.
Drawing close, the Church knelt down to worship saying:
We adore you, Christ our Lord,
who died to save us.

Hymn: Blessed Mary, David's Daughter (*Qamat Maryam*).

* Blessed Mary, David's Daughter, stood by the cross,
weeping for Christ, crucified there, on Golgotha.

Like a lance sorrow pierced her heart;
filled with grief, she was overwhelmed.

She beheld him and cried out:

“O my Son, whom I love!”

** Jesus, my Son, I implore you to speak to me.
Should I not weep when I see you upon the cross?

All your wounds pierce your mother's heart
and your pain fills my soul with grief.

How can I live if you die?

So I cry: “O my Son!”

* O Precious Child of your Mother, her pride and joy!

Image of God, O eternal and only Son!

See, your death cuts me like a knife.

You are hurt; anguish fills my life.

Let me now die, O my Son,

lest I see you in pain!

** Fruit of my womb, how could they do these things to you?

Your blood is shed, and affliction has come to you.

Who will bring comfort to my soul?

Let my blood flow like yours, my Son.

You remain hung on the cross,

and I weep more and more.

* What are these wounds on your body, O Holy One?
They have deformed all your beauty, O Graceful One.
Now your face, it has turned so pale,
and your tears pour out like the rain.
Hearing your sighs grieves my heart.
Seeing you, I grow faint.

*/** Mother of Christ, and the Daughter the Father loves,
Mary, the Bride of the Spirit, O Blessèd One,
may we share in the pain of Christ
and be clothed with abundant grace.
Let us give thanks all our days
and with you sing God's praise.

Final blessing with the cross

Cel: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always, and the memory of His holy Passion and its strength dwell in your hearts, and the sign of His pure cross deliver you from all evil, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit now and forever.

Cong: Amen

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy steadfast love; according to thy 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 thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight, so that thou art justified in thy sentence and blameless in thy judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, thou desirest 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. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will return to thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of thy deliverance.

O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise. For thou hast no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Do good to Zion in thy good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on thy altar.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen

Hymns for Lent:

O Beloved (Wa Habeebee)

* O Belovèd, O Belovèd,
on the cross you died for us.
We received life and forgiveness
from the wounds that you endured.
Those who died have life eternal;
all are joined to you, O Lord.
On this day death was abolished
by your promise of new life.

** Has a love like our Belovèd's
been revealed on earth before?
Or what lord has shown his glory
on a cross known for its shame?
All creation is astonished
and all people are in awe.
In the Church we can encounter
Truth and Peace in Christ our Lord.

*/** Love has led you, O Belovèd,
to the cross on Calvary.
For my sake you suffered greatly
and you died to save my soul.
Now I hope to spend my life, Lord,
meditating on your law
and the myst'ry of redemption
and your love for one and all.

Other hymns:

O Come let us worship Him

O come let us worship him,
Lord and Saviour
crucified upon the cross.

Though Son of the Mighty God,
Jesus gave Himself to show
God's love for us.

We worship you, O Son of God.

O come let us worship him,
Jesus Christ the King of Kings and
Lord of Lords.

Who died out of love for us.
Let us thank the one whose death
has saved us all.

We worship you, O Son of God.

Jesus our Lord

Jesus our Lord died for us
on the cross.

Great was his love, he restored
what was lost.

By his death he has wiped our
shame

Granting life in his holy name.

May we worship and sing
to Christ Jesus our King.

Jesus our Lord, you are Saviour of all.
Granting to us what we lost through
the fall.

May we share in your passion too,
May we give of ourselves to you.
May we worship and sing
to Christ Jesus our King.

We Praise and Honour

For those who enter
life everlasting
The gates are opened
by humble fasting
We praise and honour
Jesus our Saviour
The King of Kings and
the Lord of Lords

Let us set out on the road
so to meet Him
Bearing our crosses
and following Jesus
Let us set out on the road
so to meet Him
Where He will come
in His glory to greet us

May we, O Saviour, by our oblation
of prayer and fasting obtain
salvation
We praise and honour
Jesus our Saviour
The King of Kings and the Lord of
Lord

By Your Holy Cross

By Your Holy Cross O Lord,
You have saved the universe,
Which had wandered from Your
love
lost in darkness now returned
Redeemed by Your loving death
upon the cross.
We adore Your cross.

Cross of Love and cross of Life,
key of Heaven, path of light
which leads to You Lord,
leading to your Heavenly home.
May we follow You and worship
You O Lord,
You have saved us by Your Cross.

Good Friday Hymn: Yaaqoubito

* She slowly walked with tears of
sadness in her eyes
while darkness covered all the
earth beneath the skies
Injustice grew in strength that day
upon the mount
as sin shook earth and mortals
heard a frightful sound

** The tragedy brought
tenderness
to Calvary
And Mary leaned to suffering
and cruelty
and to her chest she then embraced
the Cross of shame
Her heart was pierced; she wept
in silence at the pain

Translated from the 'Adoration and Stations of the Cross' Evening prayers according to the Maronite Church as produced by the Lebanese Maronite Order in Kaslik, Lebanon 1993.

Prepared and produced by Saint Charbel's Youth Association

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142 Highclere Avenue, Punchbowl



St. Charbel's Youth Association