

Sixth Grade: Stations of the Cross Lesson

Ash Wednesday was February 18th. This begins our journey through Lent. On Ash Wednesday we receive ashes upon our forehead. When we receive these ashes, we hear this prayer, “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel” or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” The ashes are not a sign of how holy we are but rather a reminder to repent of our sins, humble ourselves, and renounce our own pride. Just as God formed man out of the clay of the earth and breathed into him the breath of life, He can breathe new life into all of us who have fallen to sin.

As we pray the Stations of the Cross we are following Jesus on his way of the Cross by praying and meditating on the fourteen stations. Stations of the Cross are an ancient devotion in the Church which is practiced especially in Lent. Each Station focuses on specific events of Jesus’ last day, beginning with his being condemned. We recall and pray on the specific event of each station.

- Have you walked through the Stations of the Cross, or remember watching the Stations of the Cross at Church, or in Faith Formation?
- Do you know what the Stations of the Cross are all about?

Please, use the Attached Handout: *Stations of the Cross for Teens* as a guide for explanation, reflection and prayer for each station. Take your time reading the stations and maybe have your family pray them with you.

Fr. Denis and the Staff at OLV have made a video praying the Stations of the Cross for Lent. You could choose to watch them on our website at <https://olvnorthville.org/olv-lenten-season-schedule>. Also, attached is a blank sheet for you to create your own Graphic Story of the Stations of the Cross. You can use the reflections questions below. This is for you!

Questions for Reflection

- How does my “cross” look like right now? Where am I called to embrace my cross and carry it to follow Jesus? Which people in my life have helped me to carry my cross? How can I be “Simon” for others and be there for them in their suffering?
- Where am I struggling right now with doing God’s will and recognizing his love for me?
- Who in my life am I tempted to write off because they are annoying, an inconvenience, or different? What new gesture of love can I extend to this person?
- In what ways do I need to show my concern for others?
- Where in my life do I need the loving forgiveness of Jesus? Be courageous and ask for it!
- Which specific person in my life can I show greater kindness, love and compassion towards?

- Have I had moments in my life when I felt abandoned by God? What, or who, helped me to go through these moments?