

A Devotion for Times of Trouble, Pain and Loss
Stabat Mater Dolorosa!

For all of us who have felt the pain of losing a loved one, I offer this devotion, reminding that GOD is always with us, and that our Advocate, Holy Mary, intercedes for us all the moments of our lives: "Stabat Mater Dolorosa," our Sorrowful Mother Mary, our Lady of Consolation, stands always at The Foot of The Cross of our Lord JESUS CHRIST on our behalf:

"The Blessed Virgin was born to be The Mother of GOD. From the first moment of Mary's immaculate presence in Her mother's womb (the child of Saints Joachim & Anna), our Lady has led us to Her Son. From The Cross, CHRIST commands, "Behold your Mother!"

JOHN 19:27

Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your Mother!" From that hour the disciple took Her into his own household. [NAB]

"As The Savior's dying gift to us, JESUS leads us back to Mary. For we need The Maternal closeness of The Sorrowful Mother to sustain us when overcome by the terrifying trials of life. Through Mary's compassionate presence at The Cross, that event - as it recurs in our lives - becomes more deeply human, filling us with the courage to face life's sufferings, certain in the secure embrace of Divine Providence."

DEUTERONOMY 31:6

Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for The LORD your GOD is the one who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. [NAB]

HEBREWS 13:5-6

5 ...being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,"

6 so that we confidently say, "The LORD is my Helper, I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" [NAB]

"Whenever Mary loves us, She gives us JESUS. By obeying The Lord in our devout beholding of The Mother of GOD, we give Mary the chance to speak Her "Yes" <see LUKE 1:38> (with us and for us) to the "annunciation" uttered from The Cross, "Behold your son!""

JOHN 19:26

When JESUS then saw His Mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His Mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" [NAB]

Amen. ¹

Now close your eyes. Let go of all things in your hands. Put down the distractions of your day. Contemplate with me The hymn, "Stabat Mater Dolorosa," The "Mother of Sorrows Standing" at The Cross of CHRIST. See the hymn, "Stabat Mater – At The Cross Her Station Keeping" by Donna Cori Gibson @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nP42wU80uzo>:

At The Cross Her station keeping,
Stood The mournful Mother weeping,
Close to JESUS to the last.

Through Her heart, His sorrow sharing,
All His bitter anguish bearing,
Now at length the sword had passed.

1 The Magnificat, Memorial, "Our Lady of Sorrows," 9/15/2020, p 190.

Oh, how sad and sore distressed
Was That Mother highly blest,
Of The Sole Begotten One!

CHRIST above in torment hangs.
She beneath beholds the pangs
Of Her dying glorious Son.

Is there one who would not weep,
Whelmed in miseries so deep,
CHRIST's dear Mother to behold?

Can the human heart refrain
From partaking in Her pain,
In That Mother's pain untold?

Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled,
She beheld Her tender Child,
All with bloody scourges rent.

For the sins of His own nation,
Saw Him hang in desolation
Till His Spirit forth He sent.

O Thou Mother: fount of Love!
Touch my spirit from Above,
Make my heart with Thine accord.

Make me feel as Thou hast felt;
Make my soul to glow and melt
With The Love of CHRIST my Lord.

Holy Mother, pierce me through;
In my heart each wound renew
Of my Savior crucified.

Let me share with Thee His pain,
Who for all my sins was slain,
Who for me in torment died.

Let me mingle tears with Thee,
Mourning Him who mourned for me,
All the days that I may live.

By The Cross with Thee to stay;
There with thee to weep and pray,
Is all I ask of Thee to give.

Virgin of all virgins blest,
Listen to my fond request:
Let me share Thy grief Divine.

Let me to my latest breath,
In my body bear the death
Of that dying Son of Thine.

Wounded with His every wound,
Steep my soul till it hath swooned
In His very Blood away.

Be to me, O Virgin, nigh,
Lest in flames I burn and die,
In His awful Judgment Day.

CHRIST, when Thou shalt call me hence,
Be Thy Mother my defense,
Be Thy Cross my victory.

While my body here decays,
May my soul Thy goodness praise,
Safe in Paradise with Thee. Amen! ²

² "Stabat Mater: A Sorrowful Hymn About The Passion." Our Catholic Prayers. Viewed 10/05/2020. <https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/stabat->

mater.html