## Congregation of St. Pius V IMMACULATA Immaculate Heart Seminary www.congregationofstpiusv.com March 2024

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

Among the many venerable devotions in the Church is the Way of the Cross, commonly referred to as the Stations of the Cross. It consists of fourteen stations, or considerations, along which an individual can retrace the footsteps of Our Lord on His path to Calvary.

"The object of the Stations," we read in the Catholic Encyclopedia, "is to help the faithful to make in spirit, as it were, a pilgrimage to the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death, and this has become one of the most popular of Catholic devotions. It is carried out by passing from Station to Station, with certain prayers at each and devout meditation on the various incidents in turn."



Stations of the Cross at the Seminary



Leading the Students in the Way of the Cross at St. Pius V School

Saint Alphonsus Liguori relates that Our Lady was the first to practice this devotion. He tells us that it is an ancient tradition that the Blessed Virgin Mary often visited the sites of her divine Son's Passion to reflect on His sufferings and death after He ascended into Heaven.

The priests, seminarians, and brothers make the Way of the Cross each Friday of Lent and monthly throughout the year. During Lent, the Stations of the Cross are also held for the faithful at a number of chapels throughout the country. This devotion is an inspiring way to relive the chief events of the Way of the Cross and instill in us a greater love for God and gratitude to Christ for all that He endured to redeem us.