

Prayer Stations

Who was St Oscar Romero?

Method

This is an easily adaptable prayer activity that can be used in a variety of ways. Print out the stations, they can be positioned around a chapel, hall or corridor. The stations can be walked individually or as a group. The prayers can be read collectively, out loud or silently.

Alternatively, the images can be printed and used as part of a display.

Suggestions

Carry a Romero cross between the stations.
Add a hymn or the Our Father between stations.



‘This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.’ John 15: 12-13

Station 1

Oscar Romero was born on 15th August 1917. He was born into a large family, of ten. His father trained him to be a carpenter, making tables and chairs.

We spend a moment thinking of those who care for us. We pray for our families.



Station 2

When he was 14 years old he went away to study to be a priest. He studied in Rome and was ordained in 1942.

As a priest he became famous for his sermons. He visited people and provided help and food for the poor. Fr Oscar Romero became a Bishop in 1970.

How will you live your life?

We spend a moment listening to God's call and how he wants us to live our lives.



Station 3

In 1977 violence increased in El Salvador. The Government and army began killing people who spoke out against the violence and oppression. Romero became Archbishop of San Salvador. His close friend, and champion of the poor and oppressed, Fr Rutillio Grande was shot and killed. This made Archbishop Romero more determined to speak out.

We think of all of the places in the world where people are suffering.
We pray to God for peace and justice.



Station 4

As the violence continued in El Salvador, Romero continued to speak out. Every Sunday his sermon was broadcast by radio. Oscar had death threats made against him.

He said, “In the name of God, and in the name of this suffering people whose cries rise to heaven more loudly each day, I beg you, I implore you, I order you, in the name of God, stop the repression!”

The next day, Archbishop Romero was shot and killed as he said Mass.

‘This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.’ John 15: 12-13

We spend a moment in silence.



Station 5

In 2015 Pope Francis announced that Oscar Romero was a martyr for the faith. In 2018 he recognised Oscar Romero as a Saint.



Lord Jesus,

Your servant St Oscar Romero
lived his life as a model of love and faith
and died at the altar, celebrating Mass.

Help us to follow his example of love for the poor and oppressed.
Let us remember his message of peace and reconciliation, justice and mercy.

Give us courage to speak out against injustice,
wherever we see it in the world.

We ask this in your name, Lord.

Amen

St Oscar Romero, Pray for us