

BISTRICA'S WAY OF CROSS



Pilgrimage in Marija Bistrica became a richer experience in the 20th century with the construction of the monumental Way of the Cross. By visiting these Stations of the Cross, pilgrims have received an adequate place to reflect and pray.

The start of construction of the Way of the Cross was during World War II.

In this period, which can be considered the first phase of the establishment of the Way of the Cross, the planning was completed according to the original concept 'Crucifixion in the open 'or rather'... on the hill'. In 1941, only the first four Stations were constructed: 1st Pilate's condemnation of Jesus; 2nd Jesus Carries His Cross; 3rd Jesus Falls the First Time; 4th Jesus Meets His Mother. The sculptures, on large pedestals, are carved of marble and from a distance look like real scenes.

During the seventies and eighties, the work on the Way of the Cross was continued. Restoration of the old stations (1989) and erection of the other eleven (1977-1990) required 13 years. The activities were carried out under the auspices of the Archbishop's board and the Bistrica parish, while the artistic direction was the concern of Dr Antun Ivandija.

In the mid-80's (1984) the fountain with the statue of Mary was erected in the middle of the field from which one begins the uphill trek Way of the Cross. As with every active spring, the symbol of life and faith, the fountain soon became a favourite meeting point for pilgrims.

A significant common element of the sculptures of the Way of the Cross and the fountain in this the second phase of construction is the fact that all carry the author's signature.

As a whole, the monumental sculptural complex of the Way of the Cross is work of collective authors which has no comparison in Croatia. The authors are group amongst whom some names are part of the anthology of modern Croatian sculpture: Ante Orlić, Marija Ujević, Stanko Jancić, Krunoslav Bošnjak, Ante Starčević and Josip Poljan.



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ENGLISH





1ST STATION
PILATE'S
CONDEMNATION
OF JESUS

Carrara marble
workshop, 1941



6TH STATION
VERONICA
WIPES JESUS'
FACE

Josip Poljan,
1989.



11TH STATION
JESUS IS NAILED
TO THE CROSS

Stanko Jančić,
1978.



2ND STATION
JESUS CARRIES
HIS CROSS

Carrara marble
workshop, 1941



7TH STATION
JESUS FALLS
THE SECOND
TIME

Stanko Jančić,
1970.



12TH STATION
JESUS DIES
ON THE CROSS

Ante Orlić,
1977.



3RD STATION
JESUS FALLS
THE FIRST TIME

Carrara marble
workshop, 1941



8TH STATION
JESUS MEETS
THE WOMEN
OF JERUSALEM

Ante Starčević,
1990.



13TH STATION
JESUS IS TAKEN
DOWN FROM
THE CROSS

Ante Orlić i
Marija Ujević,
1977.



4TH STATION
JESUS MEETS
HIS MOTHER

Carrara marble
workshop, 1941



9TH STATION
JESUS FALLS
THE THIRD
TIME

Stanko Jančić,
1988.



14TH STATION
JESUS IS LAID
IN THE TOMB

Ante Orlić,
1979.



5TH STATION
SIMON HELPS
JESUS CARRY
HIS CROSS

Krunoslav Bošnjak,
1981.



10TH STATION
JESUS IS
STRIPPED

Ante Orlić,
1981.



15TH STATION
JESUS HAS
RISEN FROM
THE DEAD

Stanko Jančić,
1980.