

18TH CENTURY FRENCH RELIGIOUS OIL PAINTING FIRST STATION OF THE CROSS

$1,600

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Crafted in France circa 1780, this antique religious oil on canvas painting depicts the First Station of the Cross, “Jesus Is Condemned to Death.” The devotional artwork portrays Christ standing before Pontius Pilate, surrounded by Roman soldiers and attendants, as the Roman governor delivers the judgment that leads to the Crucifixion.

The composition features Jesus wearing a crown of thorns, dressed in a soft pink robe with a flowing blue mantle, his hands bound before him. To the right, Pontius Pilate is seated in an elaborate red and green robe, holding a document, while an attendant stands nearby beside a basin, referencing Pilate's symbolic washing of his hands. A Roman soldier stands behind Christ, and additional figures complete the dramatic biblical scene. The artist's use of rich reds, blues, and earth tones brings warmth and depth to the composition.

The painting is presented in its original black painted wooden frame with a contrasting gilt inner border, typical of traditional ecclesiastical artwork. The antique painting is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, with a beautiful aged patina that enhances its historic character.

The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Via Crucis or Way of Sorrows, consist of fourteen devotional scenes illustrating Christ's Passion, from his condemnation by Pontius Pilate to his burial. Traditionally displayed along the walls of Catholic churches and chapels, these paintings encouraged prayerful meditation, particularly during Lent and Holy Week.

A meaningful example of 18th-century French religious art, this painting would make a distinguished addition to a private chapel, library, study, or collection of ecclesiastical antiques.

Dimensions: 27"W x 32"H.

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