

Stations of the Cross



Good Shepherd Parish

Wayland, MA

Opening Reading and Prayer

(stand)

Mark 14:32-36

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not I want, but what you want."

All:

Almighty Father, accept our prayer of thanksgiving for your beloved Son, our Savior and Lord. As we travel this road of his sacred Passion, we ask you to watch over us, that all we say or do may be in union with him, Christ, our Redeemer.

All sing:

(v.1) At the cross her station keeping
stood the mournful Mother weeping,
close to Jesus to the last.

First Station: Jesus is condemned to death

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Mark 14:61-64

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus said, "I am; and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death.

All:

Jesus, it was our sins, not the high priest, or the Jews, or Pilate, that condemned you to death. Help us, as we continue down this journey, to turn away from our failings, our transgressions, and our offenses against you. Lead us on the way to eternity, and grant that we never cease to love you.

All sing:

(v.2) Through her heart, his sorrow sharing,
all his bitter anguish bearing,
now at length the sword has passed.

Second Station: Jesus takes up his Cross

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

John 19:14-17

Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. Pilate said to the Jews, "Here is your king!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your king?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." Then they handed him over to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is Golgotha.

All:

Jesus, you gave yourself for us. As the prophet wrote, you were not rebellious. You did not turn back. You gave your back to those who beat you, your cheeks to those who plucked out your beard. You did not hide your face from insult and spitting. Thank you, Jesus, for your sacrifice, for taking up the cross, for showing your love for us. Help us to understand the depths of your love.

All sing:

(v.3) O how sad and sore distressed
was that Mother highly blest
of the sole begotten One!

Third Station: Jesus falls the first time

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Isaiah 53:1-3

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

All:

Jesus, your humanity came through. Your limbs failed you, and you fell. Yet then you rose and carried on. Lord, strengthen us in our humanity, that we can remain faithful to our baptismal promises. And when we do fall, help us to rise and carry on the road with you.

All sing:

(v.4) Christ above in torment hangs,
she beneath beholds the pangs
of her dying, glorious Son.

Fourth Station: Jesus meets his mother

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

John 19:25-27

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister Mary, the wife of Clopas; and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

All:

Jesus, you showed your love for Mary, your mother, caring for her even while on the cross. And Mary, the mother of God, showed her devotion and love: with him to the end. Jesus, help us to show that compassion and love to our mothers and fathers, even to the end. Mary, as you did for your son, pray for us, now and at the hour of our death.

All sing:

(v.5) Is there one who would not weep,
whelmed in miseries so deep,
Christ's dear Mother to behold?

Fifth Station: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Mark 15:20-22

After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passerby, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. It was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha.

All:

Even as Jesus struggled with the weight of the cross, assistance came to him through a stranger, a man from the fields. Simon, the outsider, helped bear the struggles of us all. Lord, grant us the clarity to see the needs of the stranger, so that we might help bear another's struggles.

All sing:

(v.6) Can the human heart refrain
from partaking of her pain,
in that Mother's pain untold?

Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Matthew 25:37-40

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me."

All:

Veronica saw and touched the face of God when she wiped the brow of Jesus. Lord, grant us the compassion to see the face of God in every human being, especially in the weak and vulnerable, the hungry, the thirsty, the prisoners, the sick, the broken among us. Help us to act like Veronica, caring for those in need.

All sing:

(v.7) Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled,
she beheld her tender child,
all with bloody scourges rent.

Seventh Station: Jesus falls the second time

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgression, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep had gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

All:

**Lord, as the pain of the wounds and the wood increased, again your limbs failed you.
Again you fell. We identify you with those who are suffering at this time, our
intentions for which we pray.**

(Please add your own intentions in silence.)

All sing:

(v.8) For the sins of his own nation
saw him hang in desolation
'til his spirit forth he sent.

Eighth Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Luke 23:27-28

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were the women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

All:

Beloved Jesus, with tears of pity the women of Jerusalem turned their eyes to you, broken, bruised, and beaten, along the road to Calvary. You reminded them not of your sacrifice, but of their pain, their struggle. Deepen our faith, we beg you, and let us weep for our sisters and brothers who are suffering, for our own intentions, and for those in the world needing our compassion.

All sing:

(v.9) O thou Mother! Font of love,
touch my spirit from above.
Make my heart with thine accord.

Ninth Station: Jesus falls the third time

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Isaiah 53:7-10

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep before its shearers is silent; so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him in infirmity.

All:

Almighty God, you permitted your son to be weakened, broken, and crushed, so that he might rise from the dead freed from the ravages of sin. Along the road, we have looked at him through the eyes of the mother, the stranger, the comforter, the sufferer, and the mourner. As we complete his journey, grant us the wisdom from each view, that all paths lead towards you, O Lord.

All sing:

(v.10) Make me feel as thou hast felt;
make my soul to glow and melt
with the love of Christ, my Lord.

Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped of his clothes

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

John 19:23-24

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the Scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

All:

Jesus, you endured the indignities of the priests and the people, condemnation, and the burden of the cross. Then came another: to be stripped, to stand fully exposed to the crowd, bleeding and bare. You took this shame at Calvary, so that we might be spared the shame at judgment. We thank you, Jesus, and ask you to help us remember the depths you travelled for us.

All sing:

(v.11) Holy Mother, pierce me through,
in my heart each wound renew
of my Savior crucified.

Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Luke 23:33-34

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

All:

They had pierced your hands and feet, Lord. Yet even then you found the strength to forgive, even as the nails drove into your flesh. Grant us that forgiveness, Lord, when we sin, when we turn away, when we pierce our relationship with you. Grant us that forgiveness, Lord.

All sing:

(v.12) Let me share with thee his pain,
who for all my sins was slain,
who for me in torment died.

Twelfth Station: Jesus dies on the cross

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Luke 23:44-46

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

All (from the Reproaches on Good Friday):

O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me, O answer me.

I led you from slavery to freedom, but you handed me over to the high priest. O my people, what have I done to you?

I bore you up with manna, but you struck me down and scourged me. O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me, O answer me!

I raise you to the height of majesty, but you have raised me high on a cross. O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me, O answer me!

**Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal one,
have mercy on us.**

(v. 13) Let me mingle tears with thee,
mourning him who mourned for me,
all the days that I may live.

Thirteenth Station: Jesus is taken down from the cross

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Mark 15:42-45

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph.

All:

Beloved Savior, you humbled yourself on the cross, breaking your body, descending into death, so that the Father might restore you to a hundred-fold in the glorious resurrection. Help us, we beg you, to act like Joseph, to give generously of ourselves in service to you, while we await the day of our resurrection.

All sing:

(v. 14) By the cross with thee to stay;
there with thee to weep and pray,
all I ask of thee to give.

Fourteenth Station: Jesus is laid in the tomb

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

John 19:39-42

Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

All:

Lie down and sleep in peace for a little while, dear Lord, and then wake for an everlasting reign. All our treasure, all our life is lodged with you. When our turn comes to die, grant, sweet Lord, that we may sleep calmly, too, the sleep of the just. And let us remember those with you now, in the kingdom. Let your mercy shine upon them, Lord.

All sing:

(v.15) Virgin of all Virgins best!
Listen to my fond request:
let me share thy grief divine.

Fifteenth Station: The resurrection of Jesus

(kneel)

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

Because by your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

(stand)

Mark 16:1-6

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him."

All:

Christ, you arose from the tomb to the eternal throne, heaven, the new Jerusalem. The river of the water of life flows through the holy city, and nothing accursed will be found there anymore. You will reign forever and ever. Watch over us, that have travelled the road of your Passion, that all we say and do may be in union with you, Christ, our Redeemer.

Were You There?

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

