

ALL SAINTS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Good Friday, 12:00 Noon

“It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.” Lamentations 3:26

Opening Devotions

Leader In the Name of God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader Lord, have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer *said in unison*

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Leader We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All **In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.**

Leader Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Assist us mercifully with your help, O God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The First Station

Jesus is Condemned to Death

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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. (Mark 14:61-64)

Leader God did not spare God's own Son:
All **But delivered him up for us all.**
Leader Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Leader Who, in this world, has the moral authority to condemn another human being to die?
Who among us will not die?
Knowing that we shall all die, how then do we choose to live?
A period of silence is kept.

The Second Station

Jesus Carries the Cross

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

And Pilate said to the Jewish leadership, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross. (John 19:14-17)

Leader The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:
All **For the transgression of my people was he stricken.**
Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Leader What cross are we called to carry?
What crosses have we turned from?
A period of silence is kept.

The Third Station

Jesus Falls the First Time

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you.” (John 15:18-20)

Leader Surely he has borne our griefs:
All **And carried our sorrows.**
Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Leader Day after day, what do we stumble and fall over?
How does our community, our world, stumble and fall?

A period of silence is kept.

The Fourth Station

Jesus Meets His Mother

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Now there were standing by the cross of Jesus 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 near, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. (John 19:25-27)

Leader A sword will pierce your own soul also:
All **And fill your heart with bitter pain.**
Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who willed that in the passion of your Son a sword of grief should pierce the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary his mother: Mercifully grant that your Church, having shared with her in his passion, may be made worthy to share in the joys of his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Leader When we meet the one who gave us life, what does She see?
What wounds are evident?
What dreams have been met?
What hopes have been set aside?

A period of silence is kept.

The Fifth Station

Simon Helps Carry the Cross

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

And when they had mocked Jesus, they took the purple cloak off and put his own clothes on him and they led him out to be crucified. Then they forced a certain passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, coming from the country, to take up his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, a name meaning "the place of the skull." (Mt. 15:20-22)

Leader Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me;

All **Cannot be my disciple.**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Loving God, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Leader Who journeys with us, silent, yet present?

From where does our help come?

A period of silence is kept.

The Sixth Station

Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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. There were many who were astonished at him so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. (Isaiah 53:2b-3; 52:14; 53:5)

Leader Restore us, O God of hosts:

All **Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain, Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader What small way do we give comfort?

How do we lend dignity, hope, to the ones in pain?

A period of silence is kept.

The Seventh Station

Jesus Falls the Second Time

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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 transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:4-6)

Leader He was oppressed and afflicted,

All **Yet he did not open his mouth.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Leader How many times has Christ fallen for our lives?

How often have we fallen and struggled to our feet again?

A period of silence is kept.

The Eighth Station

Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were 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." (Luke 23:27-28)

Leader Those who sowed with tears:

All **Will reap with songs of joy.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Teach your Church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children's children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader Where is there hope in our world?

The holocaust, the middle east, the south side,
the west side, the pain, the poverty;
where is there hope in our midst?

A period of silence is kept.

The Ninth Station

Jesus Falls the Third Time

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

My soul clings to the dust; revive me according to your word. When I told of my ways, you answered me; teach me your statutes. Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works. My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word. (Psalm 119:25-28)

Leader The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
All **The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?**
Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Leader How often have we been overwhelmed with physical exhaustion,
feeling as if we are unable to carry on?
Over and over again, the cycle of poverty continues, our sisters and brothers fall. Are they lost?

A period of silence is kept.

The Tenth Station

Jesus is Stripped of His Clothing

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots. (Matthew 27:33-35)

Leader They gave me gall to eat:
All **And when I was thirsty, they gave me vinegar to drink.**
Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of this present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader Who has dignity in our world? Must we buy it?
We, who stand and watch as the poor are ignored
Do we bow our heads and turn away?
Do we lift our eyes and stare?

A period of silence is kept.

The Eleventh Station

Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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." (Luke 23:33-34a)

Leader They pierce my hands and my feet:

All **They stare and gloat over me.**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched our your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

Leader Where are our lives free from violence?

Do our actions multiply or divide the pain of this world?

A period of silence is kept.

The Twelfth Station

Jesus Dies on the Cross

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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 with a loud voice, said, "It is finished. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 23:44-46, John 19:30b)

Leader Christ for us became obedient unto death:

All **Even death on a cross.**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

Leader What words can be said in the face of death?

A period of silence is kept.

The Thirteenth Station Jesus is Taken Down From the Cross

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

But when the soldiers came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission. (John 19:33-34, 38a)

Leader Mary's tears run down her cheeks:
All **And she has none to comfort her.**
Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sin of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

Leader What happens when hope dies?
To whom shall we run?
To whom shall we cling?

A period of silence is kept.

The Fourteenth Station Jesus is Placed in the Tomb

Leader We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
All **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Joseph of Arimathea took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.

Leader You will not abandon me to the grave:
All **Nor let your holy One see corruption.**
Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day: Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Leader And so we wait.
We wait.
We wait and wonder if we will ever again feel the presence of our God?

The Concluding Prayer *said in unison*

All **Jesus, Savior of the world, come to us in your mercy:
we look to you to save and help us.**

**By your cross and your life laid down
you set your people free:
we look to you to save and help us.**

**When they were ready to perish
you saved your disciples:
we look to you to come to our help.**

**In the greatness of your mercy loose us from our chains:
forgive the sins of all your people.**

**Make yourself known
as our Savior and mighty deliverer:
save and help us that we may praise you.**

**Come now and dwell with us, Lord Jesus Christ:
hear our prayer and be with us always.
Amen.**