

Stations of the Cross

For centuries, Christian pilgrims to Jerusalem have retraced the *Via Dolorosa*, the route along which Jesus carried his cross to his death. As they did so, they would stop at certain points or “stations” to recall and meditate on events surrounding the crucifixion. In the Middle Ages churches developed the practice of using painted or sculpted Stations of the Cross to create a symbolic journey for worshippers who were unable to make the pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

This custom is continued here each year as part of our worship during Holy Week, but people use the Stations of the Cross at any time as a focus for private prayer and reflection.

The Stations begin on the right-hand wall near the font and prayer chapel. You are welcome to borrow a Bible from the bookshelf by the prayer chapel if you wish to read the suggested passages of scripture as you follow our Lord’s journey to Calvary.

Please return this leaflet and the Bible, if you borrowed one, when you have finished your prayers.



1: Jesus is condemned to death

Mark 15: 1-5,11-15

Prayer

For those on trial this week and for those appointed to judge them:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



5: Simon helps Jesus to carry his cross

Mark 15:21

Prayer

For a willingness to serve you,
in friends and in strangers,
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



2: Jesus takes up his cross

Mark 15: 16-20

Prayer

For those appointed to keep public order, and for those tempted to abuse their power:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



6: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

Matthew 25:35-36,40

Prayer

For those whose faces we wipe and
for those who wipe away our tears:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



3: Jesus falls the first time

Isaiah 53:1

Prayer

For those who are tired or in pain:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



7: Jesus falls the second time

Isaiah 53:7

Prayer

For those who today
will struggle and fall:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



4: Jesus meets his mother

Luke 2:22,25,34,35

Prayer

For parents whose children are in
pain or in trouble:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



8: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Luke 23:27,28

Prayer

For those who live in places of conflict
and danger; for peacemakers and
peacekeepers in every land:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



9: Jesus falls the third time

Isaiah 53:4-5

Prayer

For those whom I love, for those whom I struggle to love, for those who find me difficult:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



14: Jesus is laid in the tomb

Mark 15:46-47

Prayer

For all who are waiting.
For all who are longing for light:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



10: Jesus is stripped of his clothes

Mark 15:22-24

Prayer

For those deserted by friends, for those who are alone and vulnerable:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

How do you capture joy in a single image?

15: The resurrection

Mark 16: 1-7

Meditation

We go on our way and Jesus goes ahead of us. We do not need to be afraid for Jesus is risen. God is love – and love is more powerful than fear or death or evil, and we are greatly loved. And we are grateful. Thanks be to God for redeeming the world in love. Amen



11: Jesus is nailed to the cross

Luke 23:35,49

Prayer

For the depth of your love for us, we thank you.
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

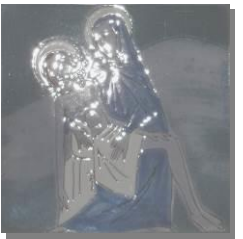


12: Jesus dies on the cross

Luke 23:44-46

Prayer

For all who have died today, for all who love them and will miss them:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



13: Jesus is taken down from the cross

Mark 15:42--46

Prayer

For our families and friends who have died, for ourselves as we carry their stories:
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.



Acknowledgement

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