

# GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION



## SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

**NB: The Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion will be live streamed from All Souls today at 3.00pm.**

*The celebration of the Passion of the Lord again has a particular significance because of the continuing global pandemic. On the day on which we celebrate the redeeming passion and death of Jesus Christ on the Cross, who like a slain lamb has taken upon himself the suffering and sin of the world, the Church raises her voice in prayer to God the Father almighty for all humanity, and in particular for those who suffer most, while she awaits in faith the joy of the resurrection of her Spouse.*

*The simplicity of this ancient liturgy focuses our attention upon the stark and profound fact of the death of Jesus on the Cross. The Church gathers today, however, not to mourn, but to celebrate Christ's life-giving Passion and to find strength and hope in the Tree of Life.*

***Mass is not celebrated today**, though during this liturgy Holy Communion is received under one kind from the sacrament reserved from the Mass of the Lord's Supper last night.*

*The liturgy consists of three parts:*

- ❖ The Liturgy of the Word, including Solemn Intercessions*
- ❖ The Veneration of the Holy Cross (this year from our places in silence)*
- ❖ Holy Communion*

### **Ideas for at home**

*If you do not follow the Celebration of the Lord's Passion online, you might read the scripture readings, pray the Solemn Intercessions and place a crucifix on a table for personal veneration. Other ideas are offered at the end of this document.*

## **COLLECT**

Remember your mercies, O Lord,  
and with your eternal protection sanctify your servants,  
for whom Christ your Son,  
by the shedding of his Blood,  
established the Paschal Mystery.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever.

Or:

O God, who by the Passion of Christ your Son, our Lord,  
abolished the death inherited from ancient sin  
by every succeeding generation,  
grant that just as, being conformed to him,  
we have borne by the law of nature  
the image of the man of earth,  
so by the sanctification of grace  
we may bear the image of the Man of heaven.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

## **FIRST READING** Isaiah 52:13-53:12

*The servant of the Lord, an expiatory Sacrifice.*

See, my servant will prosper,  
he shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights.

As the crowds were appalled on seeing him  
– so disfigured did he look  
that he seemed no longer human –  
so will the crowds be astonished at him,  
and kings stand speechless before him;  
for they shall see something never told  
and witness something never heard before:  
'Who could believe what we have heard,  
and to whom has the power of the Lord been revealed?'

Like a sapling he grew up in front of us,  
like a root in arid ground.

Without beauty, without majesty we saw him,  
no looks to attract our eyes;  
a thing despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering,  
a man to make people screen their faces;  
he was despised and we took no account of him.

And yet ours were the sufferings he bore,  
ours the sorrows he carried.  
But we, we thought of him as someone punished,  
struck by God, and brought low.  
Yet he was pierced through for our faults,  
crushed for our sins.  
On him lies a punishment that brings us peace,  
and through his wounds we are healed.

We had all gone astray like sheep,  
each taking his own way,  
and the Lord burdened him  
with the sins of all of us.  
Harshly dealt with, he bore it humbly,  
he never opened his mouth,  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter-house,  
like a sheep that is dumb before its shearers  
never opening its mouth.

By force and by law he was taken;  
would anyone plead his cause?  
Yes, he was torn away from the land of the living;  
for our faults struck down in death.  
They gave him a grave with the wicked,  
a tomb with the rich,  
though he had done no wrong  
and there had been no perjury in his mouth.

The Lord has been pleased to crush him with suffering.  
If he offers his life in atonement,  
he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life  
and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over  
he shall see the light and be content.  
By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,  
taking their faults on himself.

Hence I will grant whole hordes for his tribute,  
he shall divide the spoil with the mighty,

for surrendering himself to death  
and letting himself be taken for a sinner,  
while he was bearing the faults of many  
and praying all the time for sinners.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** 30(31):2,6,12-13,15-17,25

**R. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

In you, O Lord, I take refuge.  
Let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice, set me free,  
Into your hands I commend my spirit.  
It is you who will redeem me, Lord. **R.**

In the face of all my foes  
I am a reproach,  
an object of scorn to my neighbours  
and of fear to my friends. **R.**

Those who see me in the street  
run far away from me.  
I am like a dead man, forgotten in men's hearts,  
like a thing thrown away. **R.**

But as for me, I trust in you, Lord;  
I say: 'You are my God.  
My life is in your hands, deliver me  
from the hands of those who hate me. **R.**

Let your face shine on your servant.  
Save me in your love.'  
Be strong, let your heart take courage,  
all who hope in the Lord. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 4:14-16,5:7-9

*The Lord burdened him with the sins of all of us.*

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

During his life on earth, he offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Philippians 2:8-9

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

Christ was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high  
and gave him the name which is above all names.

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

### **The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ**

*Key: N. Narrator. ✕ Jesus. O. Other single speaker. C. Crowd, or more than one speaker.*

**N.** Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kedron valley. There was a garden there, and he went into it with his disciples. Judas the traitor knew the place well, since Jesus had often met his disciples there, and he brought the cohort to this place together with a detachment of guards sent by the chief priests and the Pharisees, all with lanterns and torches and weapons. Knowing everything that was going to happen to him, Jesus then came forward and said,

✕ Who are you looking for?

**N.** They answered,

**C.** Jesus the Nazarene.

**N.** He said,

✕ I am he.

**N.** Now Judas the traitor was standing among them. When Jesus said, 'I am he', they moved back and fell to the ground. He asked them a second time,

✕ Who are you looking for?

**N.** They said,

**C.** Jesus the Nazarene.

**N.** Jesus replied,

✕ I have told you that I am he. If I am the one you are looking for, let these others go.

**N.** This was to fulfil the words he had spoken, 'Not one of those you gave me have I lost.'

Simon Peter, who carried a sword, drew it and wounded the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

✕ Put your sword back in its scabbard; am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?

**N.** The cohort and its captain and the Jewish guards seized Jesus and bound him. They took him first to Annas, because Annas was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had suggested to the Jews, 'It is better for one man to die for the people.'

Simon Peter, with another disciple, followed Jesus. This disciple, who was known to the high priest, went with Jesus into the high priest's palace, but Peter stayed outside the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who was keeping the door and brought Peter in. The maid on duty at the door said to Peter,

**O.** Aren't you another of that man's disciples?

**N.** He answered,

**O.** I am not.

**N.** Now it was cold, and the servants and guards had lit a charcoal fire and were standing there warming themselves; so Peter stood there too, warming himself with the others.

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered,  
✘ I have spoken openly for all the world to hear; I have always taught in the synagogue and in the Temple where all the Jews meet together: I have said nothing in secret. But why ask me? Ask my hearers what I taught: they know what I said.

N. At these words, one of the guards standing by gave Jesus a slap in the face, saying,

O. Is that the way to answer the high priest?

N. Jesus replied,

✘ If there is something wrong in what I said, point it out; but if there is no offence in it, why do you strike me?

N. Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.

As Simon Peter stood there warming himself, someone said to him,

O. Aren't you another of his disciples?

N. He denied it, saying,

O. I am not.

N. One of the high priest's servants, a relation of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said,

O. Didn't I see you in the garden with him?

N. Again Peter denied it; and at once a cock crew.

They then led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the Praetorium. It was now morning. They did not go into the Praetorium themselves or they would be defiled and unable to eat the passover. So Pilate came outside to them and said,

O. What charge do you bring against this man?

N. They replied,

C. If he were not a criminal, we should not be handing him over to you.

N. Pilate said,

O. Take him yourselves, and try him by your own Law.

N. The Jews answered,

C. We are not allowed to put a man to death.

N. This was to fulfil the words Jesus had spoken indicating the way he was going to die.

So Pilate went back into the Praetorium and called Jesus to him, and asked,

O. Are you the king of the Jews?

N. Jesus replied,

✘ Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?

N. Pilate answered,

O. Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?

N. Jesus replied,

✘ Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.

N. Pilate said,

O. So you are a king, then?

N. Jesus answered,

✠ It is you who say it. Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.

N. Pilate said,

O. Truth? What is that?

N. and with that he went out again to the Jews and said,

O. I find no case against him. But according to a custom of yours I should release one prisoner at the Passover; would you like me, then, to release the king of the Jews?

N. At this they shouted:

C. Not this man, but Barabbas.

N. Barabbas was a brigand.

Pilate then had Jesus taken away and scourged; and after this, the soldiers twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him and saying,

C. Hail, king of the Jews!

N. and they slapped him in the face.

Pilate came outside again and said to them,

O. Look, I am going to bring him out to you to let you see that I find no case.

N. Jesus then came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said,

O. Here is the man.

N. When they saw him the chief priests and the guards shouted,

C. Crucify him! Crucify him!

N. Pilate said,

O. Take him yourselves and crucify him: I can find no case against him.

N. The Jews replied,

C. We have a Law, and according to that Law he ought to die, because he has claimed to be the Son of God.

N. When Pilate heard them say this his fears increased. Re-entering the Praetorium, he said to Jesus

O. Where do you come from?

N. But Jesus made no answer. Pilate then said to him,

O. Are you refusing to speak to me? Surely you know I have power to release you and I have power to crucify you?

N. Jesus replied,

✠ You would have no power over me if it had not been given you from above; that is why the one who handed me over to you has the greater guilt.

N. From that moment Pilate was anxious to set him free, but the Jews shouted,

C. If you set him free you are no friend of Caesar's; anyone who makes himself king is defying Caesar.

N. Hearing these words, Pilate had Jesus brought out, and seated himself on the chair of judgement at a place called the Pavement, in Hebrew Gabbatha. It was Passover Preparation Day, about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews,

O. Here is your king.



- N. They said,
- C. Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!
- N. Pilate said,
- O. Do you want me to crucify your king?
- N. The chief priests answered,
- C. We have no king except Caesar.
- N. So in the end Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

They then took charge of Jesus, and carrying his own cross he went out of the city to the place of the skull or, as it was called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified him with two others, one on either side with Jesus in the middle. Pilate wrote out a notice and had it fixed to the cross; it ran: 'Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews.' This notice was read by many of the Jews, because the place where Jesus was crucified was not far from the city, and the writing was in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. So the Jewish chief priests said to Pilate,

C. You should not write 'King of the Jews,' but 'This man said: "I am King of the Jews."'

- N. Pilate answered,
- O. What I have written, I have written.

N. When the soldiers had finished crucifying Jesus they took his clothing and divided it into four shares, one for each soldier. His undergarment was seamless, woven in one piece from neck to hem; so they said to one another,

- C. Instead of tearing it, let's throw dice to decide who is to have it.
- N. In this way the words of scripture were fulfilled:

They shared out my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my clothes.

This is exactly what the soldiers did.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother,

- ✠ Woman, this is your son.
- N. Then to the disciple he said,
- ✠ This is your mother.

N. And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said:

- ✠ I am thirsty.

N. A jar full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in the vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said,

- ✠ It is accomplished;
- N. and bowing his head he gave up his spirit.

*Here all kneel and pause for a short time.*

It was Preparation Day, and to prevent the bodies remaining on the cross during the sabbath – since that sabbath was a day of special solemnity – the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken away. Consequently the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with him and then of the other. When they came to Jesus, they found he was already dead, and so instead of breaking his legs one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance; and immediately there came out blood and water. This is the evidence of one who saw it – trustworthy evidence, and he knows he speaks the truth – and he gives it so that you may believe as well. Because all this happened to fulfil the words of scripture:

Not one bone of his will be broken;

and again, in another place scripture says:

They will look on the one whom they have pierced.

After this, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a disciple of Jesus – though a secret one because he was afraid of the Jews – asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission, so they came and took it away. Nicodemus came as well – the same one who had first come to Jesus at night-time – and he brought 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, following the Jewish burial custom. At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in this garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. Since it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was near at hand, they laid Jesus there.

## THE SOLEMN INTERCESSIONS

### I. For Holy Church

Let us pray, dearly beloved, for the holy Church of God, that our God and Lord be pleased to give her peace, to guard her and to unite her throughout the whole world and grant that, leading our life in tranquillity and quiet, we may glorify God the Father almighty.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in Christ revealed your glory to all the nations,  
watch over the works of your mercy,  
that your Church, spread throughout all the world,  
may persevere with steadfast faith in confessing your name.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### II. For the Pope

Let us pray also for our most Holy Father Pope N., that our God and Lord, who chose him for the Order of Bishops, may keep him safe and unharmed for the Lord's holy Church, to govern the holy People of God.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose decree all things are founded,  
look with favour on our prayers  
and in your kindness protect the Pope chosen for us,  
that, under him, the Christian people,  
governed by you their maker,  
may grow in merit by reason of their faith.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### **III. For all orders and degrees of the faithful**

Let us pray also for our Bishop N.,  
for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons of the Church  
and for the whole of the faithful people.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is sanctified and governed,  
hear our humble prayer for your ministers,  
that, by the gift of your grace,  
all may serve you faithfully.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### **IV. For catechumens**

Let us pray also for catechumens, including Euan,  
that our God and Lord  
may open wide the ears of their inmost hearts  
and unlock the gates of his mercy,  
that, having received forgiveness of all their sins  
through the waters of rebirth,  
they, too, may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who make your Church ever fruitful with new offspring,  
increase the faith and understanding of catechumens,  
that, reborn in the font of Baptism,  
they may be added to the number of your adopted children.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## **V. For the unity of Christians**

Let us pray also for all our brothers and sisters who believe in Christ,  
that our God and Lord may be pleased,  
as they live the truth,  
to gather them together and keep them in his one Church.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who gather what is scattered  
and keep together what you have gathered,  
look kindly on the flock of your Son,  
that those whom one Baptism has consecrated  
may be joined together by integrity of faith  
and united in the bond of charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## **VI. For the Jewish people**

Let us pray also for the Jewish people,  
to whom the Lord our God spoke first,  
that he may grant them to advance in love of his name  
and in faithfulness to his covenant.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who bestowed your promises on Abraham and his descendants,  
graciously hear the prayers of your Church,  
that the people you first made your own  
may attain the fullness of redemption.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## **VII. For those who do not believe in Christ**

Let us pray also for those who do not believe in Christ,  
that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit,  
they, too, may enter on the way of salvation.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant to those who do not confess Christ  
that, by walking before you with a sincere heart,  
they may find the truth  
and that we ourselves, being constant in mutual love  
and striving to understand more fully the mystery of your life,  
may be made more perfect witnesses to your love in the world.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## **VIII. For those who do not believe in God**

Let us pray also for those who do not acknowledge God,  
that, following what is right in sincerity of heart,  
they may find the way to God himself.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
who created all people  
to seek you always by desiring you  
and, by finding you, come to rest,  
grant, we pray,  
that, despite every harmful obstacle,  
all may recognize the signs of your fatherly love  
and the witness of the good works  
done by those who believe in you,  
and so in gladness confess you,  
the one true God and Father of our human race.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## **IX. For those in public office**

Let us pray also for those in public office,  
that our God and Lord may direct their minds and hearts according to his will  
for the true peace and freedom of all.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
in whose hand lies every human heart  
and the rights of peoples,  
look with favour, we pray,  
on those who govern with authority over us,  
that throughout the whole world,  
the prosperity of peoples,  
the assurance of peace,  
and freedom of religion  
may through your gift be made secure.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## **IX b. For the afflicted in time of pandemic** (*intention added for this year by the Holy See*)

Let us pray also for all those who suffer  
the consequences of the current pandemic,  
that God the Father may grant health to the sick,  
strength to those who care for them,  
comfort to families  
and salvation to all the victims who have died.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
only support of our human weakness,  
look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition  
of your children who suffer because of this pandemic;  
relieve the pain of the sick,  
give strength to those who care for them,  
welcome into your peace those who have died and,  
throughout this time of tribulation,  
grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love.  
Through Christ our Lord. **R/. Amen.**

**X. For those in tribulation**

Let us pray, dearly beloved,  
to God the Father almighty,  
that he may cleanse the world of all errors,  
banish disease, drive out hunger,  
unlock prisons, loosen fetters,  
granting to travellers safety, to pilgrims return,  
health to the sick, and salvation to the dying.

*Prayer in silence. Then the Priest says:*

Almighty ever-living God,  
comfort of mourners, strength of all who toil,  
may the prayers of those who cry out in any tribulation  
come before you,  
that all may rejoice,  
because in their hour of need  
your mercy was at hand.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**



## PRAYERS IN VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



*Ecce lignum Crucis,  
in quo salus mundi pependit.  
Venite, adoremus*

Behold the wood of the Cross  
on which hung the salvation of the world.  
Come, let us adore!

### **ANTIPHON**

*Crucem Tuam*

We adore your Cross, O Lord,  
we praise and glorify your holy Resurrection,  
for behold, because of the wood of a tree  
joy has come to the whole world.

May God have mercy on us and bless us;  
may he let his face shed its light  
upon us and have mercy on us.

We adore your Cross, O Lord,  
we praise and glorify your holy Resurrection,  
for behold, because of the wood of a tree  
joy has come to the whole world.

## THE REPROACHES

*Popule Meus*

My people, what have I done to you?  
Or how have I grieved you?  
Answer me!

Because I led you out of the land of Egypt,  
you have prepared a Cross for your Saviour.

Hagios o Theos,  
Holy is God,  
Hagios Ischyros,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Hagios Athanatos, eleison himas.  
Holy and Immortal One, have mercy on us.

Because I led you out through the desert forty years  
and fed you with manna and brought you into a land of plenty,  
you have prepared a Cross for your Saviour.

Hagios o Theos,  
Holy is God,  
Hagios Ischyros,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Hagios Athanatos, eleison himas.  
Holy and Immortal One, have mercy on us.

What more should I have done for you and have not done?  
Indeed, I planted you as my most beautiful chosen vine  
and you have turned very bitter for me,  
for in my thirst you gave me vinegar to drink  
and with a lance you pierced your Saviour's side.

Hagios o Theos,  
Holy is God,  
Hagios Ischyros,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Hagios Athanatos, eleison himas.  
Holy and Immortal One, have mercy on us.

## II

I scourged Egypt for your sake with its firstborn sons,  
and you scourged me and handed me over.

My people, what have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved you?

Answer me!

I led you out from Egypt as Pharaoh lay sunk in the Red Sea,  
and you handed me over to the chief priests.

My people, what have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved you?

Answer me!

I opened up the sea before you,  
and you opened my side with a lance.

My people, what have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved you?

Answer me!

I went before you in a pillar of cloud,  
and you led me into Pilate's palace.

My people, what have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved you?

Answer me!

I fed you with manna in the desert,  
and on me you rained blows and lashes.

My people, what have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved you?

Answer me!

I gave you saving water from the rock to drink,  
and for drink you gave me gall and vinegar.

My people, what have I done to you?

Or how have I grieved you?

Answer me!

I struck down for you the kings of the Canaanites,  
and you struck my head with a reed.

My people, what have I done to you?  
Or how have I grieved you?  
Answer me!

I put in your hand a royal sceptre,  
and you put on my head a crown of thorns.

My people, what have I done to you?  
Or how have I grieved you?  
Answer me!

I exalted you with great power,  
and you hung me on the scaffold of the Cross.

My people, what have I done to you?  
Or how have I grieved you?  
Answer me!



## CRUX FIDELIS

Faithful Cross the Saints rely on,  
Noble tree beyond compare!  
Never was there such a scion,  
Never leaf or flower so rare.  
Sweet the timber, sweet the iron,  
Sweet the burden that they bear!

Sing, my tongue, in exultation  
Of our banner and device!  
Make a solemn proclamation  
Of a triumph and its price:  
How the Saviour of creation  
Conquered by his sacrifice!

Faithful Cross the Saints rely on,  
Noble tree beyond compare!  
Never was there such a scion,  
Never leaf or flower so rare.

For, when Adam first offended,  
Eating that forbidden fruit,  
Not all hopes of glory ended  
With the serpent at the root:  
Broken nature would be mended  
By a second tree and shoot.

Sweet the timber, sweet the iron,  
Sweet the burden that they bear!

Thus the tempter was outwitted  
By a wisdom deeper still:  
Remedy and ailment fitted,  
Means to cure and means to kill;  
That the world might be acquitted,  
Christ would do his Father's will.

Faithful Cross the Saints rely on,  
Noble tree beyond compare!  
Never was there such a scion,  
Never leaf or flower so rare.

So the Father, out of pity  
For our self-inflicted doom,  
Sent him from the heavenly city  
When the holy time had come:  
He, the Son and the Almighty,  
Took our flesh in Mary's womb.

Sweet the timber, sweet the iron,  
Sweet the burden that they bear!

Hear a tiny baby crying,  
Founder of the seas and strands;  
See his virgin Mother tying  
Cloth around his feet and hands;  
Find him in a manger lying  
Tightly wrapped in swaddling-bands!

Faithful Cross the Saints rely on,  
Noble tree beyond compare!  
Never was there such a scion,  
Never leaf or flower so rare.

So he came, the long-expected,  
Not in glory, not to reign;  
Only born to be rejected,  
Choosing hunger, toil and pain,  
Till the scaffold was erected  
And the Paschal Lamb was slain.

Sweet the timber, sweet the iron,  
Sweet the burden that they bear!

No disgrace was too abhorrent:  
Nailed and mocked and parched he died;  
Blood and water, double warrant,  
Issue from his wounded side,  
Washing in a mighty torrent  
Earth and stars and oceantide.

Faithful Cross the Saints rely on,  
Noble tree beyond compare!  
Never was there such a scion,  
Never leaf or flower so rare.

Lofty timber, smooth your roughness,  
Flex your boughs for blossoming;  
Let your fibres lose their toughness,  
Gently let your tendrils cling;  
Lay aside your native gruffness,  
Clasp the body of your King!

Sweet the timber, sweet the iron,  
Sweet the burden that they bear!

Noblest tree of all created,  
Richly jewelled and embossed:  
Post by Lamb's blood consecrated;  
Spar that saves the tempest-tossed;  
Scaffold-beam which, elevated,  
Carries what the world has cost!

Faithful Cross the Saints rely on,  
Noble tree beyond compare!  
Never was there such a scion,  
Never leaf or flower so rare.

Wisdom, power, and adoration  
To the blessed Trinity  
For redemption and salvation  
Through the Paschal Mystery,  
Now, in every generation,  
And for all eternity. Amen.

## STABAT MATER

*Stabat Mater Dolorosa is considered one of the seven greatest Latin hymns of all time. It is based upon the prophecy of Simeon that a sword was to pierce the heart of Christ's mother, Mary (Lk 2:35).*

*STABAT Mater dolorosa  
iuxta Crucem lacrimosa,  
dum pendebat Filius.*

At the Cross her station keeping,  
stood the mournful Mother weeping,  
close to Jesus to the last.

*Cuius animam gementem,  
contristatam et dolentem  
pertransiit gladius.*

Through her heart, His sorrow sharing,  
all His bitter anguish bearing,  
now at length the sword has passed.

*O quam tristis et afflicta  
fuit illa benedicta,  
mater Unigeniti!*

O how sad and sore distressed  
was that Mother, highly blest,  
of the sole-begotten One.

*Quae maerebat et dolebat,  
pia Mater, dum videbat  
nati poenas inclyti.*

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

*Quis est homo qui non fleret,  
matrem Christi si videret  
in tanto supplicio?*

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



*Quis non posset contristari  
Christi Matrem contemplari  
dolentem cum Filio?*

Can the human heart refrain  
from partaking in her pain,  
in that Mother's pain untold?

*Pro peccatis suae gentis  
vidit Iesum in tormentis,  
et flagellis subditum.*

Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled,  
she beheld her tender Child  
All with bloody scourges rent:

*Vidit suum dulcem Natum  
moriendo desolatum,  
dum emisit spiritum.*

For the sins of His own nation,  
saw Him hang in desolation,  
Till His spirit forth He sent.

*Eia, Mater, fons amoris  
me sentire vim doloris  
fac, ut tecum lugeam.*

O thou Mother! fount of love!  
Touch my spirit from above,  
make my heart with thine accord:

*Fac, ut ardeat cor meum  
in amando Christum Deum  
ut sibi complaceam.*

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

*Sancta Mater, istud agas,  
crucifixi fige plagas  
cordi meo valide.*

Holy Mother! pierce me through,  
in my heart each wound renew  
of my Saviour crucified:

*Tui Nati vulnerati,  
tam dignati pro me pati,  
poenas mecum divide.*

Let me share with thee His pain,  
who for all my sins was slain,  
who for me in torments died.

*Fac me tecum pie flere,  
crucifixo condolere,  
donec ego vixero.*

Let me mingle tears with thee,  
mourning Him who mourned for me,  
all the days that I may live:

*Iuxta Crucem tecum stare,  
et me tibi sociare  
in planctu desidero.*

By the Cross with thee to stay,  
there with thee to weep and pray,  
is all I ask of thee to give.

*Virgo virginum praeclara,  
mihi iam non sis amara,  
fac me tecum plangere.*

Virgin of all virgins blest!,  
Listen to my fond request:  
let me share thy grief divine;

*Fac, ut portem Christi mortem,  
passionis fac consortem,  
et plagas recolere.*

Let me, to my latest breath,  
in my body bear the death  
of that dying Son of thine.

*Fac me plagis vulnerari,  
fac me Cruce inebriari,  
et cruore Filii.*

Wounded with His every wound,  
steep my soul till it hath swooned,  
in His very Blood away;

*Flammis ne urar succensus,  
per te, Virgo, sim defensus  
in die iudicii.*

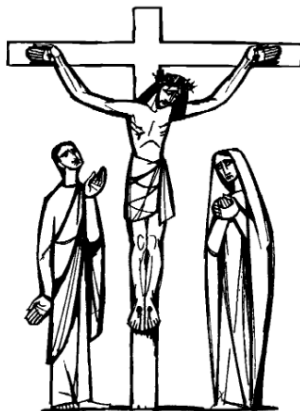
Be to me, O Virgin, nigh,  
lest in flames I burn and die,  
in His awful Judgment Day.

*Christe, cum sit hinc exire,  
da per Matrem me venire  
ad palmam victoriae.*

Christ, when Thou shalt call me hence,  
by Thy Mother my defence,  
by Thy Cross my victory;

*Quando corpus morietur,  
fac, ut animae donetur  
paradisi gloria. Amen.*

While my body here decays,  
may my soul Thy goodness praise,  
safe in paradise with Thee. Amen.



## O Sacred Head surrounded

O sacred head, surrounded  
by crown of piercing thorn!  
O bleeding head, so wounded,  
so shamed and put to scorn!  
Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee,  
the glow of life decays;  
yet angel-hosts adore thee,  
and tremble as they gaze.

Thy comeliness and vigour  
is withered up and gone,  
and in thy wasted figure  
I see death drawing on.  
O agony and dying!  
O love to sinners free!  
Jesu, all grace supplying,  
turn thou thy face on me.

In this thy bitter passion,  
good Shepherd, think of me  
with thy most sweet compassion,  
unworthy though I be:  
beneath thy cross abiding  
for ever would I rest,  
in thy dear love confiding,  
and with thy presence blest.



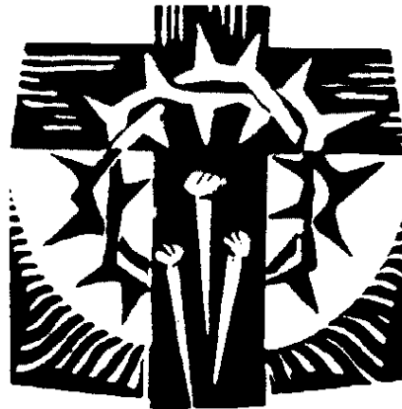
## When I survey the wondrous cross

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.



## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who have restored us to life  
by the blessed Death and Resurrection of your Christ,  
preserve in us the work of your mercy,  
that, by partaking of this mystery,  
we may have a life unceasingly devoted to you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## **PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

May abundant blessing, O Lord, we pray,  
descend upon your people,  
who have honoured the Death of your Son  
in the hope of their resurrection:  
may pardon come,  
comfort be given,  
holy faith increase,  
and everlasting redemption be made secure.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## FURTHER DEVOTIONS AT HOME

### **Stations of the Cross**

*Some reflections for these can be found at:*

<https://mycatholic.life/catholic-prayers/stations-of-the-cross/> (inserted below)

Stations of the Cross as composed by Saint Alphonsus Liguori.

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/stations-of-the-cross-12706>

The Stations of the Cross, which follow the path of Christ from Pontius Pilate's praetorium to Christ's tomb are a popular devotion in parishes during Lent. In the 16th century, this pathway was officially entitled the "Via Dolorosa" (Sorrowful Way) or simply Way of the Cross or Stations of the Cross.

<https://www.jesuit.org.uk/stations-cross>

Stations of the Cross from the Jesuits in Britain.

## Stations of the Cross as composed by Saint Alphonsus Ligouri

### Opening Prayer

My Lord, Jesus Christ,  
You have made this journey  
to die for me with unspeakable love;  
and I have so many times ungratefully abandoned You.  
But now I love You with all my heart;  
and, because I love You,  
I am sincerely sorry for ever having offended You.  
Pardon me, my God,  
and permit me to accompany You on this journey.  
You go to die for love of me;  
I want, my beloved Redeemer,  
to die for love of You.  
My Jesus, I will live and die always united to You.

*At the cross her station keeping  
Stood the mournful Mother weeping  
Close to Jesus to the last*



## The First Station: Pilate Condemns Jesus to Die



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world.** (Rise)

V: Consider how Jesus Christ, after being scourged and crowned with thorns, was unjustly condemned by Pilate to die on the cross. (Kneel)

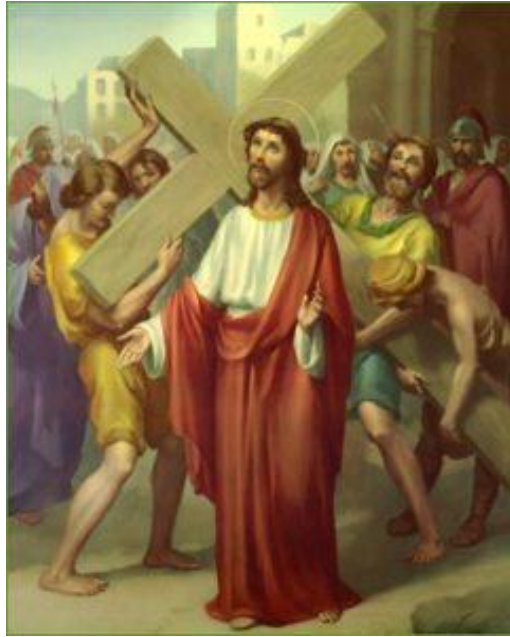
**R: My adorable Jesus, it was not Pilate;  
no, it was my sins that condemned You to die.  
I beseech You, by the merits of this sorrowful journey,  
to assist my soul on its journey to eternity.**

**I love You, beloved Jesus;  
I love You more than I love myself.  
With all my heart I repent of ever having offended You.  
Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Through her heart, His sorrow sharing  
All His bitter anguish bearing  
Now at length the sword has passed*

## The Second Station: Jesus Accepts His Cross



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider Jesus as He walked this road with the cross on His shoulders, thinking of us, and offering to His Father in our behalf, the death He was about to suffer. (Kneel)

**R: My most beloved Jesus,  
I embrace all the sufferings You have destined for me until death.  
I beg You, by all You suffered in carrying Your cross,  
to help me carry mine with Your perfect peace and resignation.**

**I love You, Jesus, my love;  
I repent of ever having offended You.  
Never let me separate myself from You again.  
Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*O, how sad and sore depressed  
Was that Mother highly blessed  
Of the sole Begotten One*

### The Third Station: Jesus Falls the First Time



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider the first fall of Jesus. Loss of blood from the scourging and crowing with thorns had so weakened Him that He could hardly walk; and yet He had to carry that great load upon His shoulders. As the soldiers struck Him cruelly, He fell several times under the heavy cross. (Kneel)

**R: My beloved Jesus, it was not the weight of the cross but the weight of my sins which made You suffer so much. By the merits of this first fall, save me from falling into mortal sin.**

**I love You, O my Jesus, with all my heart; I am sorry that I have offended You. May I never offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Christ above in torment hangs  
She beneath beholds the pangs  
Of her dying, glorious Son*

## The Fourth Station: Jesus Meets His Afflicted Mother



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how the Son met his Mother on His way to Calvary. Jesus and Mary gazed at each other and their looks became as so many arrows to wound those hearts which loved each other so tenderly (Kneel)

**R: My most loving Jesus, by the pain You suffered in this meeting grant me the grace of being truly devoted to Your most holy Mother. And You, my Queen, who was overwhelmed with sorrow, obtain for me by Your prayers a tender and a lasting remembrance of the passion of Your divine Son.**

**I love You, Jesus, my Love, above all things. I repent of ever having offended You. Never allow me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Is there one who would not weep,  
'whelmed in miseries so deep  
Christ's dear Mother to behold.*

## The Fifth Station: Simon Helps Jesus Carry the Cross



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how weak and weary Jesus was. At each step He was at the point of expiring. Fearing that He would die on the way when they wished Him to die the infamous death of the cross, they forced Simon of Cyrene to help carry the cross after Our Lord. (Kneel)

**R: My beloved Jesus I will not refuse the cross as Simon did: I accept it and embrace it. I accept in particular the death that is destined for me with all the pains that may accompany it. I unite it to Your death and I offer it to You. You have died for love of me; I will die for love of You and to please You. Help me by Your grace.**

**I love You, Jesus, my Love; I repent of ever having offended You. Never let me offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Can the human heart refrain  
From partaking in her pain  
In that Mother's pain untold?*

## The Sixth Station: Veronica Offers Her Veil to Jesus



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

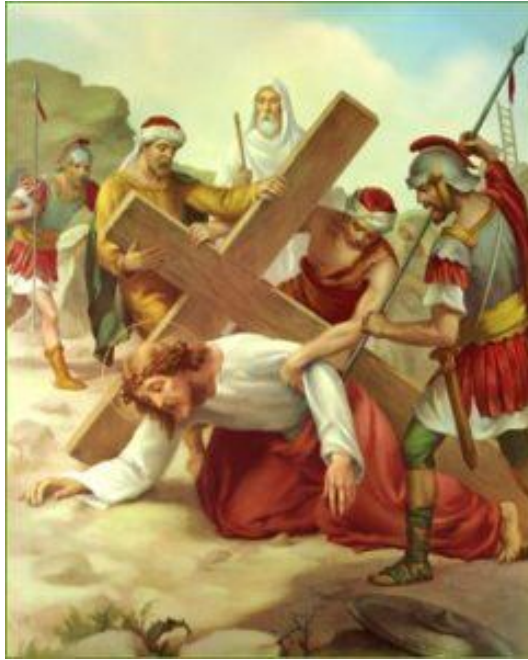
V: Consider the compassion of the holy woman, Veronica. Seeing Jesus in such distress, His face bathed in sweat and blood, she presented Him with her veil. Jesus wiped His face, and left upon the cloth the image of his sacred countenance. (Kneel)

**R: My beloved Jesus, Your face was beautiful before You began this journey; but, now, it no longer appears beautiful and is disfigured with wounds and blood. Alas, my soul also was once beautiful when it received Your grace in Baptism; but I have since disfigured it with my sins. You alone, my Redeemer, can restore it to its former beauty. Do this by the merits of Your passion; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled  
She beheld her tender Child  
All with bloody scourges rent.*

## The Seventh Station: Jesus Falls the Second Time



**V:** We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R:** Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)

**V:** Consider how the second fall of Jesus under His cross renews the pain in all the wounds of the head and members of our afflicted Lord. (Kneel)

**R:** My most gentle Jesus, how many times You have forgiven me; and how many times I have fallen again and begun again to offend You! By the merits of this second fall, give me the grace to persevere in Your love until death. Grant, that in all my temptations, I may always have recourse to You.

**I love You, Jesus, my Love with all my heart; I am sorry that I have offended You. Never let me offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*For the sins of His own nation  
Saw Him hang in desolation  
Till His spirit forth He sent.*

## The Eighth Station: Jesus Speaks to the Women



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how the women wept with compassion seeing Jesus so distressed and dripping with blood as he walked along. Jesus said to them, "Weep not so much for me, but rather for Your children." (Kneel)

**R: My Jesus, laden with sorrows, I weep for the sins which I have committed against You because of the punishment I deserve for them; and, still more, because of the displeasure they have caused You who have loved me with an infinite love. It is Your love, more than the fear of hell, which makes me weep for my sins.**

**My Jesus, I love You more than myself; I am sorry that I have offended You. Never allow me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*O sweet Mother! Fount of Love,  
Touch my spirit from above  
Make my heart with yours accord.*



## The Ninth Station: Jesus Falls the Third Time



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how Jesus Christ fell for the third time. He was extremely weak and the cruelty of His executioners was excessive; they tried to hasten His steps though He hardly had strength to move. (Kneel)

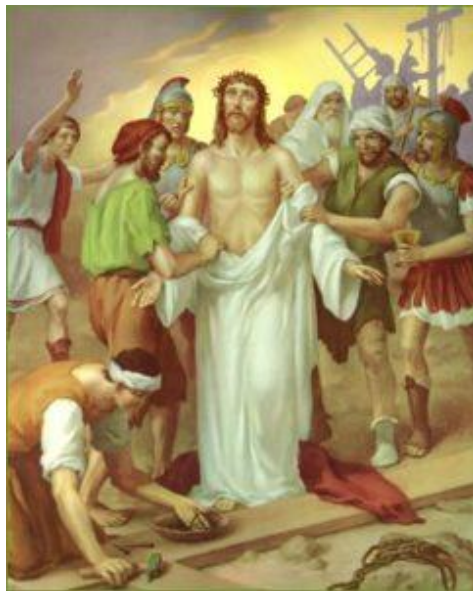
**R: My outraged Jesus, by the weakness You suffered in going to Calvary, give me enough strength to overcome all human respect and all my evil passions which have led me to despise Your friendship.**

**I love You, Jesus my Love, with all my heart; I am sorry for ever having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Make me feel as You have felt  
Make my soul to glow and melt  
With the love of Christ, my Lord.*

## The Tenth Station: Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how Jesus was violently stripped of His clothes by His executioners. The inner garments adhered to his lacerated flesh and the soldiers tore them off so roughly that the skin came with them. Have pity for your Savior so cruelly treated and tell Him: (Kneel)

**R: My innocent Jesus, by the torment You suffered in being stripped of Your garments, help me to strip myself of all attachment for the things of earth that I may place all my love in You who are so worthy of my love.**

**I love You, O Jesus, with all my heart; I am sorry for ever having offended You. Never let me offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Holy Mother, pierce me through  
In my heart each wound renew  
Of my Saviour crucified.*

## The Eleventh Station: Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

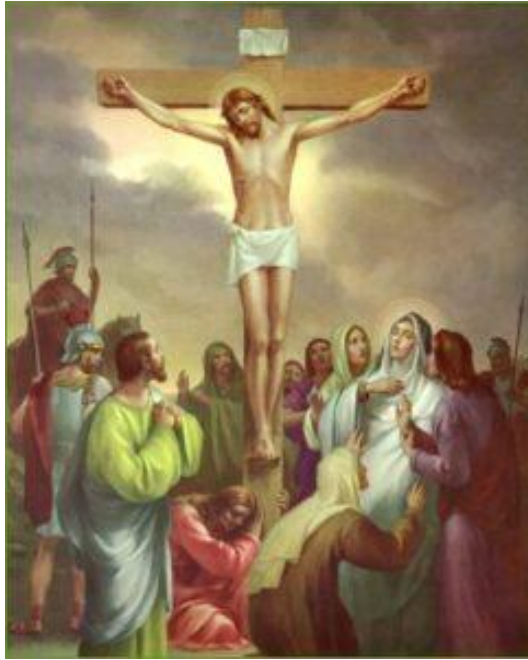
V: Consider Jesus, thrown down upon the cross, He stretched out His arms and offered to His eternal Father the sacrifice of His life for our salvation. They nailed His hands and feet, and then, raising the cross, left Him to die in anguish. (Kneel)

**R: My despised Jesus, nail my heart to the cross that it may always remain there to love You and never leave You again. I love You more than myself; I am sorry for ever having offended You. Never permit me to offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Let me share with you His pain,  
Who for all our sins was slain,  
Who for me in torments died.*

## The Twelfth Station: Jesus Dies Upon the Cross



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how Your Jesus, after three hours of agony on the cross, is finally overwhelmed with suffering and, abandoning Himself to the weight of His body, bows His head and dies. (Kneel)

**R: My dying Jesus, I devoutly kiss the cross on which You would die for love of me. I deserve, because of my sins, to die a terrible death; but Your death is my hope. By the merits of Your death, give me the grace to die embracing Your feet and burning with love of You. I yield my soul into Your hands. I love You with my whole heart. I am sorry that I have offended You. Never let me offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Let me mingle tears with thee  
Mourning Him who mourned for me,  
All the days that I may live.*

## The Thirteenth Station: Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how, after Our Lord had died, He was taken down from the cross by two of His disciples, Joseph and Nicodemus, and placed in the arms of His afflicted Mother. She received Him with unutterable tenderness and pressed Him close to her bosom. (Kneel)

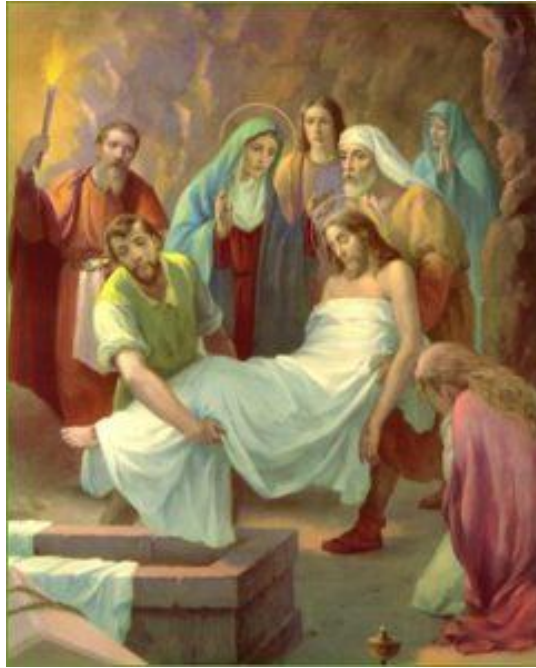
**R: O Mother of Sorrows, for the love of Your Son, accept me as Your servant and pray to Him for me, and You, my Redeemer, since you have died for me, allow me to love You, for I desire only You and nothing more.**

**I love You, Jesus my Love, and I am sorry that I have offended You. Never let me offend You again. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*By the cross with you to stay  
There with you to weep and pray  
Is all I ask of you to give.*

## The Fourteenth Station: Jesus Is Placed in the Sepulchre



V: We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. (Genuflect)

**R: Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world. (Rise)**

V: Consider how the disciples carried the body of Jesus to its burial, while His holy Mother went with them and arranged it in the sepulchre with her own hands. They then closed the tomb and all departed. (Kneel)

**R: Oh, my buried Jesus, I kiss the stone that closes You in. But You gloriously did rise again on the third day. I beg You by Your resurrection that I may be raised gloriously on the last day, to be united with You in heaven, to praise You and love You forever. I love You, Jesus, and I repent of ever having offended You. Grant that I may love You always; and then do with me as You will.**

**(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)**

*Virgin of all virgins blest!  
Listen to my fond request:  
Let me share your grief divine.*

### **Prayer to Jesus Christ Crucified**

My good and dear Jesus,  
I kneel before You,  
asking You most earnestly  
to engrave upon my heart  
a deep and lively faith, hope, and charity,  
with true repentance for my sins,  
and a firm resolve to make amends.  
As I reflect upon Your five wounds,  
and dwell upon them  
with deep compassion and grief,  
I recall, good Jesus,  
the words the Prophet David spoke  
long ago concerning Yourself:  
“They pierced My hands and My feet;  
they have numbered all My bones.”

## The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary

1. The Agony of Jesus in the Garden
2. Jesus is scourged at the Pillar
3. Jesus is crowned with Thorns
4. Jesus is Crucified
5. Jesus dies on the Cross

*In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

*O God come to my aid;  
O Lord, make haste to help me.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.*

At the beginning of each decade, announce the "mystery" to be contemplated, for example, the first sorrowful mystery is "The Agony in the Garden".

After a short pause for reflection, recite the "Our Father", ten "Hail Marys" and the "Glory be to the Father".

*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. Amen.*

*Hail Mary, Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

### **After the final decade**

*Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy; hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.*



# A Scriptural Rosary: The Sorrowful Mysteries

## Introduction

We turn to the Lord, who knows our suffering and longs to give us his comfort and peace. Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured.

Isaiah 53:4a

*Apostles' Creed*

*I believe in God,  
the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
He descended into hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of Saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.*

While we thought of him as stricken,  
as one smitten by God and afflicted.

Isaiah 53:4b

*Our Father...*

Because God did not make death,  
nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living.

Wisdom 1:13

*Hail Mary ...*

For he fashioned all things that they might have being;  
and the creatures of the world are wholesome,  
Wisdom 1:14a

*Hail Mary ...*

And there is not a destructive drug among them  
nor any domain of the nether world on earth,  
Wisdom 1:14b

*Hail Mary ...*

For justice is undying.  
Wisdom 1:15

*Glory Be...*

## **First Sorrowful Mystery: The Agony in the Garden**

Then going out [Jesus] went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him.

Luke 22:39

*Our Father...*

When he arrived at the place he said to them, "Pray that you may not undergo the test."

Luke 22:40

*Hail Mary ...*

After withdrawing about a stone's throw from them and kneeling, he prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done."

Luke 22:41-42

*Hail Mary ...*

And to strengthen him an angel from heaven appeared to him.

Luke 22:43

*Hail Mary ...*

He was in such agony and he prayed so fervently that his sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground.

Luke 22:44

*Hail Mary ...*

The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Matthew 26:41b

*Hail Mary ...*

I cry aloud to God,  
cry to God to hear me.

Psalm 77:2

*Hail Mary ...*

On the day of my distress I seek the Lord;  
by night my hands are raised unceasingly;  
I refuse to be consoled.

Psalm 77:3

*Hail Mary ...*

My eyes cannot close in sleep;  
I am troubled and cannot speak.

Psalm 77:5

*Hail Mary ...*

In the night I meditate in my heart;  
I ponder and my spirit broods:

Psalm 77:7bc

*Hail Mary ...*

Has God's love ceased forever?  
Has the promise failed for all ages?

Psalm 77:9

*Hail Mary ...*

Has God forgotten mercy,  
in anger withheld compassion?

Psalm 77:10

*Glory Be...*

## Second Sorrowful Mystery: The Scourging at the Pillar

Pilate addressed them a third time, "What evil has this man done? I found him guilty of no capital crime."

Luke 23:22a

*Our Father...*

"Therefore I shall have him flogged and then release him."

Luke 23:22b

*Hail Mary ...*

With loud shouts, however, they persisted in calling for his crucifixion, and their voices prevailed.

Luke 23:23

*Hail Mary ...*

The verdict of Pilate was that their demand should be granted.

Luke 23:24

*Hail Mary ...*

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged.

John 19:1

*Hail Mary ...*

So he released the man who had been imprisoned for rebellion and murder, for whom they asked, and he handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they wished.

Luke 23:25

*Hail Mary ...*

How lonely she is now,  
the once crowded city!

Lamentations 1:1a

*Hail Mary ...*

Widowed is she  
who was mistress over nations.  
Lamentations 1:1b

*Hail Mary ...*

The princess among the provinces  
has been made a toiling slave.  
Lamentations 1:1c

*Hail Mary ...*

Bitterly she weeps at night,  
tears upon her cheeks.  
Lamentations 1:2a

*Hail Mary ...*

With not one to console her  
of all her dear ones.  
Lamentations 1:2b

*Hail Mary ...*

Her friends have all betrayed her  
and become her enemies.  
Lamentations 1:2c

*Glory Be...*

### **Third Sorrowful Mystery: The Crowning with Thorns**

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the praetorium and gathered the whole cohort around him.

Matthew 27:27

*Our Father...*

They stripped off his clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about him.

Matthew 27:28

*Hail Mary ...*

Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head, and a reed in his right hand.

Matthew 27:29a

*Hail Mary ...*

And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Matthew 27:29b

*Hail Mary ...*

They spat upon him and took the reed and kept striking him on the head.

Matthew 27:30

*Hail Mary ...*

And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him off to crucify him.

Matthew 27:31

*Hail Mary ...*

Lord, my God, I call out by day;  
at night I cry aloud in your presence.

Psalms 88:2

*Hail Mary ...*

You plunged me into the bottom of the pit,  
into the darkness of the abyss.

Psalm 88:7

*Hail Mary ...*

All day I call on you, Lord;  
I stretch out my hands to you.

Psalm 88:10bc

*Hail Mary ...*

Why do you reject me, Lord?  
Why hide your face from me?

Psalm 88:15

*Hail Mary ...*

All the day they surge round like a flood;  
from every side they close in on me.

Psalm 88:18

*Hail Mary ...*

Because of you companions shun me;  
my only friend is darkness.

Psalm 88:19

*Glory Be...*



## **Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: The Carrying of the Cross**

As they led [Jesus] away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus.

Luke 23:26

*Our Father...*

A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him.


Luke 23:27

*Hail Mary ...*

Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children.

Luke 23:28

*Hail Mary ...*

"The days are coming when people will say,  Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed."

Luke 23: 29

*Hail Mary ...*

"At that time people will say to the mountains, 'Fall upon us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!'"

Luke 23:30

*Hail Mary ...*

"For if these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?"

Luke 23:31

*Hail Mary ...*

[Jesus said,] "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Mark 8:34

*Hail Mary ...*

This, rather, is the fasting that I wish:  
releasing those bound unjustly,  
untying the thongs of the yoke;  
Setting free the oppressed,  
breaking every yoke.

Isaiah 58:6

*Hail Mary ...*

Sharing your bread with the hungry,  
sheltering the oppressed and the homeless.

Isaiah 58:7ab

*Hail Mary ...*

Clothing the naked when you see them,  
and not turning your back on your own.

Isaiah 58:7cd

*Hail Mary ...*

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your wound shall quickly be healed.

Isaiah 58:8ab

*Hail Mary ...*

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer,  
you shall cry for help, and he will say: Here I am!

Isaiah 58:9ab

*Glory Be...*

## **Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion**

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left.

Luke 23:33

*Our Father...*

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

Luke 23:34

*Hail Mary ...*

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Luke 23:42

*Hail Mary ...*

And about three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Matthew 27:46

*Hail Mary ...*

Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

Luke 23:46

*Hail Mary ...*

And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

John 19:30b

*Hail Mary ...*

Do not hide your face from me;  
do not repel your servant in anger.  
You are my help; do not cast me off;  
do not forsake me, God my savior!

Psalms 27:9

*Hail Mary ...*

But I believe I shall enjoy the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.

Psalm 27:13

*Hail Mary ...*

Wait for the Lord, take courage;  
be stouthearted, wait for the Lord!

Psalm 27:14

*Hail Mary ...*

But the souls of the just are in the hand of God,  
and no torment shall touch them.

Wisdom 3:1

*Hail Mary ...*

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
and their passing away was thought an affliction.

Wisdom 3:2

*Hail Mary ...*

But they are in peace.

Wisdom 3:3b

*Glory Be...*

## Conclusion

"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life."

John 12:24-25

*Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy; hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.*