

Stations of the Cross



Gathering

Gracious God

Jesse Manibusan



Lead us Lord, in-to the des-ert; lead us through the wil-der-ness. Through this
jour - ney we will fol - low, for we long to see your face. Gra - cious God,
— mer-cy is your name. Re-deem - ing love, — you give you life a-way.
— Gra-cious God, — we bless your ho-ly name; re-ceive - ing love,
— we give our lives a - way. —

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Opening Prayer (Clergy)

† God our Father, we gather to remember the journey of your Son for us. We retrace the steps he took on that road to Calvary to bring to us your saving love. May our prayerful celebration of these stations deepen within our hearts the love Jesus has poured out into our hearts. We make this prayer through Him who has died to save us, **Amen.**

Station 1 Jesus is Condemned to Death



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

R. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: When it was morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate, the governor.

Then Judas, his betrayer, seeing that Jesus had been condemned, deeply regretted what he had done. He returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? Look to it yourself." *Matthew 27: 1 - 4*

ALL: Jesus had prayed in the garden to let this cup pass. But he accepted the will of the Father because he would not let his dream of peace and unity die. Now alone and betrayed, he continued to say to the Father, "Here I am."

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** All powerful and eternal God, you have given as a model to us Christ your Son, our Savior, who became man and was humiliated unto death on the cross: grant that we may always keep present before us the lesson he taught us by his Passion, so that we may share in the glory of his resurrection. **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 2 Jesus Takes Up His Cross



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

R. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the praetorium and gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped off his clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about him. Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head, and a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat upon him and took the reed and kept striking him on the head. 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: 27*

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† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** O God, through the sufferings of your only-begotten Son, you have crushed the pride of the ancient enemy: grant us the grace to remember with great devotion all He has suffered for us, so that we may accept the gift of forgiveness He has won for us. We ask this through your only-begotten Son who lives and reigns with you forever and ever, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

**Through her heart, His sorrow sharing,
All His bitter anguish bearing,
Now at length the sword had pass'd.**

Station 3 Jesus Falls the First Time



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

R. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Jesus, the cross you have been carrying is very heavy. You are becoming weak and almost ready to faint, and you fall down. Nobody seems to want to help you. The soldiers are interested in getting home, so they yell at you and try to get you up and moving again.

As a child, sometimes I start to do something, but then get tired of it. I hurry to get finished and sometimes don't do my work well. Sometimes I don't pay attention to what I should be doing. When things get hard for me, sometimes I give up.

As an adult, I sometimes put things off. I give up too easily, and sometimes don't do my work as well as I know I can.

ALL: My Jesus, the heavy burden of my sins is on you, and bears you down beneath the cross. I loathe them, I detest them; I call on you to pardon them; may your grace aid me never more to commit them. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** O LORD Jesus Christ, grant that now and in the hour of our death we may obtain the favor of your mercy through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Your Mother, whose soul was pierced with a sword of sorrow in the hour of your Passion; we ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

**Oh, how sad and sore distress'd, Was that Mother highly blest
of the sole-begotten One!**

Station 4 Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother



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

℞. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted and you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” Luke 2: 34 – 35

ALL: Jesus most suffering, Mary Mother most sorrowful, if, by my sins, I caused you pain and anguish in the past, by God's assisting grace it shall be so no more; rather be you, my love henceforth till death. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** O LORD Jesus Christ, grant that now and in the hour of our death we may obtain the favor of your mercy through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Your Mother, whose soul was pierced with a sword of sorrow in the hour of your Passion, who lives and reigns forever and ever, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

**Holy Mother pierce me through;
In my heart each wound renew
Of my Savior crucified.**

Station 5 Simon Helps Jesus Carry the Cross



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

R. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: As they led him 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

ALL: As an adult, sometimes I try to do as little as I can and still get by. Others might need my help, but I ignore their needs. Even when I'm asked to help, I sometimes claim to be too busy.

My Jesus, blest three times was Simon who aided you to bear the cross. Blest too shall I be, if I aid you to bear the cross, by patiently bowing my neck to the crosses you shall send me during life. My Jesus, give me grace to do so. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** LORD, you are the strength of those who hope in you. Listen favorably to our prayers since human weakness can do nothing without your help. May your grace assist us in the keeping of your commandments and in pleasing you by our desires and our actions. We ask this through your only-begotten Son who lives and reigns with you forever and ever, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 6 Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus



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

℞. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Since for your sake I bear insult, and shame covers my face, I have become an outcast to my brothers, a stranger to my mother's sons.
Psalm 69: 8 – 9

ALL: Your image was impressed on Veronica's heart as she reached out to you in your sorrow. May we be ready to embrace one another in our pain and sorrow and recognize Christ in that suffering. May His image be the mark of our lives and service. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** Omnipotent and eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and support of those in trouble, listen to the pleading of suffering humanity so that all peoples may rejoice in having received the help of your mercy in all their needs, through Christ our LORD,
Amen.

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 7 Jesus Falls the Second Time



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

R. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: This is the second time you have fallen on the road. As the cross grows heavier and heavier, it becomes more difficult to get up. But you continue to struggle and try until you're up and walking again. You don't give up.

All: As a child, sometimes things get me down. Others seem to find things easier to do or to learn. Each time I fail, I find it harder to keep trying.

As an adult, sometimes I think I should know more than I do. I become impatient with myself and find it hard to believe in myself when I fail. It is easy to despair over small things, and sometimes I do.

Help me when things seem difficult for me. Even when it's hard, help me get up and keep trying as you did. Help me do my best without comparing myself with others. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** O God our help, look upon us so that we who are oppressed by the weight of our sins may, through your mercy, serve you in freedom of spirit, through Christ our LORD, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 8 Jesus Speaks to the Weeping Women



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

℞. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children, for indeed, 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: 27 – 29

ALL: We stand together with the weeping women; weeping not just for Jesus, but weeping for all our many brothers and sisters who are suffering unjustly in a broken and evil world. May our tears lead us into action for justice and peace for all.

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** O God, you choose rather to be merciful than to be angry with those who hope in you. Grant that we may truly grieve for the evil we have done; and so deserve to obtain the grace of your consolation, through Jesus Christ our LORD, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 9 Jesus Falls the Third Time



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

R. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Jesus, your journey has been long. You fall again beneath your cross. You know your journey is coming to an end. You struggle and struggle. You get up and keep going.

All: As a child, sometimes I fail time and time again. I find it hard to get along with others, sometimes I'm not honest, sometimes I'm lazy. I'm tempted to stop trying. It's just too hard sometimes.

As an adult, I often feel I should have conquered my weaknesses by now. I become discouraged when I'm confronted by the same problems over and over again. Sometimes I get weary.

Help me think of the cross you carried. Help me continue to hope that I can make the changes in my life I need to. You didn't give up. I can have the strength to get up again as well. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** O LORD, may our human weakness be sustained by your merciful help, so that while our human nature is frail, it may be strengthened by your divine clemency, through Christ our LORD, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

**O thou Mother! Fount of love! Touch my spirit from above;
Make my heart with thine accord.**

Station 10 Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments



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

R. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Jesus is stripped of his garments. Clothing gives a man his social position; it gives him his place in society, it makes him someone. His public stripping means that Jesus is no longer anything at all, he is simply an outcast, despised by all alike. The moment of the stripping reminds us of the expulsion from Paradise: God's splendor has fallen away from man, who now stands naked and exposed, unclad and ashamed. And so Jesus once more takes on the condition of fallen man. Stripped of his garments, he reminds us that we have all lost the "first garment" that is God's splendor. (CNA Catholic News Agency)

ALL: Jesus permitted himself to be despoiled of his garments on Calvary in order to teach us to renounce our own will when it is not conformable to the will of the Father. He wants us to strip ourselves of earthly affection and all inordinate love of the things of this world, so that we may clothe ourselves with the virtues of Christ. (Saint Paul of the Cross)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** You protect those who hope in you, LORD; without you there is no strength, no holiness. Extend your mercy ever more and more to us; that drawn by you, we may use the good things of this world only in passing and not lose the treasures of heaven, through Christ our LORD, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 11 Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross



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

℞. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." With him they crucified two revolutionaries, one on his right and one on his left. Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross."

Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes, mocked him among themselves and said, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also kept abusing him. *Mark 15: 22 – 32*

ALL: (SUNG)

WERE YOU THERE

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?

Text: 10 10 10; Spiritual: *Old Plantation Hymns*, Boston, 1899. Music: WERE YOU THERE; Spiritual: *Old Plantation Hymns*, Boston, 1899.

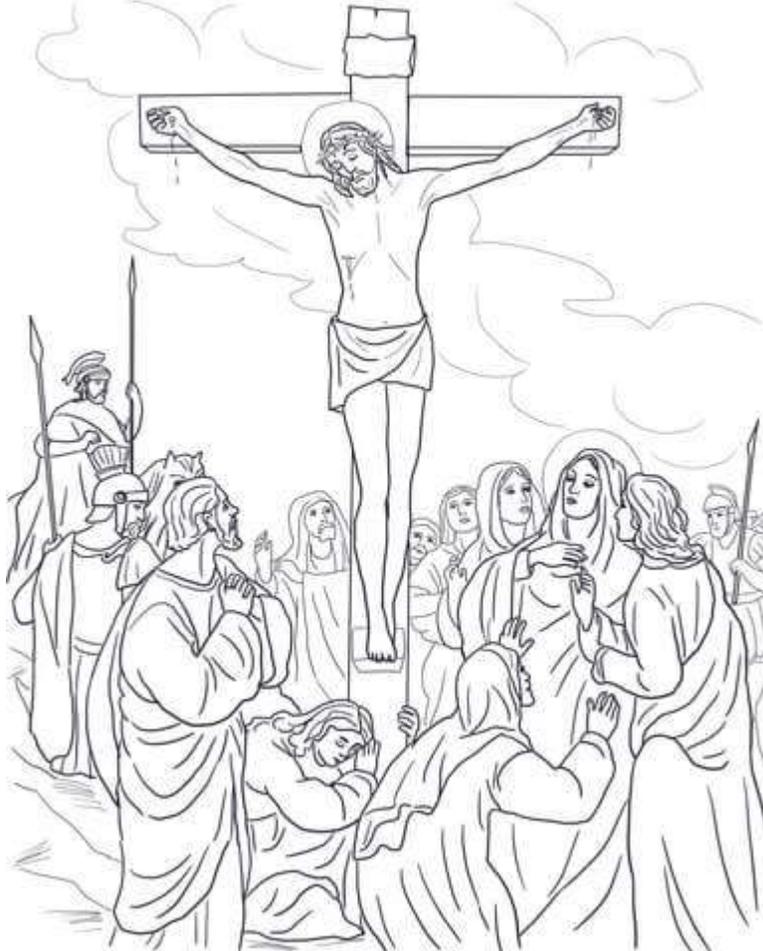
Leader: The journey with the cross would now lead to being nailed to its wood; what unbelievable pain there must have been. Scourged, mocked and now nailed, He is our brother and Savior forever. May the pain of that Passion lead us to be faithful in serving our God and one another. Let us be the hands and feet of Christ ready to serve others. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** LORD, be appeased by our prayers and graciously conform our will to your own, even when it wishes to rebel against you, through Christ our LORD, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 12 Jesus Dies on the Cross



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

℞. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Clergy: At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah."

One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

Mark 15: 33 - 37

Station 13 Jesus is Taken From the Cross



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

℟. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: When it was already evening, since it was the day of preparation, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the council, who was himself awaiting the kingdom of God, came and courageously went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was amazed that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. And when he learned of it from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. Mark 15: 42 -45

ALL: If we go to the crucifix, we find our Mother of Sorrows, for where the Mother is, there also is the Son. Dear Mother, what sorrow you experienced in receiving your dead Son into your arms! We beseech you, Holy Mother, grant that the Passion of our LORD may be for us a fountain of sorrow, of pardon, of love and of life. (Catholic Online)

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** O LORD, Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who at the sixth hour ascended the gibbet of the cross for the redemption of the world and shed your precious blood for the remission of our sins, grant, we humbly beseech you, that after our death we may enter with joy the gates of Paradise to be with You who lives and reigns forever and ever, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

Station 14 Jesus is Laid in the Tomb



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

℞. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom. Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried. So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day; for the tomb was close by. John 19: 39 - 42

ALL: (SUNG) WERE YOU THERE

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?

Text: 10 10 10; Spiritual; *Old Plantation Hymns*, Boston, 1899. Music: WERE YOU THERE; Spiritual; *Old Plantation Hymns*, Boston, 1899.

† **(Clergy) Let us pray:** LORD God, you willed that we should be baptized into the death of your Son, Jesus our Savior. Grant us sincere repentance, so that passing with him through death, we may be reborn into the joy of newness of life. We ask this through Him who died, was buried, and rose again for us, Jesus Christ, our LORD, **Amen.**

The LORD's Prayer / The Hail Mary / Glory be to the Father...

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

† **Concluding Prayer**

(Clergy) Let us pray: Hear the prayers of your people, O God, who have walked in faith, hope and love, this way of the cross. Keep us faithful to Christ's sacred passion, as we pray, fast and share what we have with the poor. Stir up within the hearts of those to be baptized the desire to carry Christ's cross with your church. May the entire world know of your saving deeds. We ask this through Christ our LORD, **Amen.**

† **The LORD be with you,**

○ And with your spirit.

† **May Almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,**

○ Amen

† **Our service has ended, go in peace.**

○ Thanks be to God.

We Remember

Refrain: We remember how you loved us to your death, and still we celebrate, for you are with us here; and we believe that we will see you when you come in your glory Lord. We remember, we celebrate, we believe.

1. Here, a million wounded souls are yearning just to touch you and be healed. Gather all your people, and hold them to your heart.

Marty Haugen, b. 1950. © 1980 GIA Publications, Inc.

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