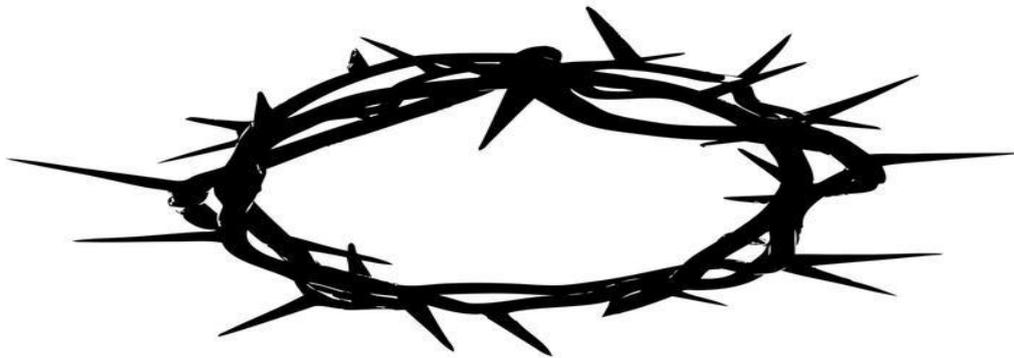


Stations of the Cross Good Friday 2021



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Stations of the Cross on Good Friday



The Church meditates upon fourteen special events that happened to Jesus on his way to Calvary – these fourteen events are called the Stations of the Cross. The object of the Stations of the Cross is to help each of us identify with the scenes of the suffering of Jesus. In Jerusalem the route Jesus travelled to Calvary is called the Via Dolorosa.

Tradition has it that Mary the mother of Jesus would visit daily the scenes of the Passion along the way of the Via Dolorosa. A short time later – the first Christians started to go on pilgrimage to the Jerusalem and would follow this route as part of their pilgrimage.

Through the Stations of the Cross we enter into the fullness of his Passion and Death. By means of praying the Stations of the Cross we recall the events, and the actions of those in authority, that brought about the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Today, we unite ourselves with Mary whose ‘soul was pierced’, the women of Jerusalem, Simon of Cyrene, and Joseph of Arimathea who journeyed with Christ to the very end.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,
fill our hearts with the light of your Spirit,
so that by following you on your final journey
we may come to know the price of our Redemption
and become worthy of a share
in the fruits of your Passion, Death and Resurrection.
You who live and reign for ever and ever.
R. *Amen.*

The Stations of the Cross compiled by Fr Charles Kiely 2021 ©

1st Station – Jesus is condemned to death.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

‘What is your judgement?’ They answered, He deserves death.’

Reflection:

We all do it, make judgements about practically everything. The judgement of Jesus by Caiphas and indeed Pontus Pilate is that of the world. Jesus, though innocent, was falsely accused and unjustly judged to death on the cross.

Lord, many times we can be misunderstood. When we are falsely accused, Lord give us the strength to bear the injustices with patience as our way of following You.

**‘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!**

2nd Station – Jesus takes up His Cross.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

‘Jesus was led away, carrying the cross by himself.’ (Jn 19:17)

Reflection:

To be a follower of Jesus is to embrace the Cross of ridicule, abuse, hostility, and rejection. As Jesus accepted his Cross, so may our Cross in Life become the means to show our family and society God walks with each of us.

There are so many times and occasions in life when we are faced with family challenges and worries.

May we accept these trials with courage and patience, trusting in the goodness of God, who accepted death on a cross.

**‘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!**

3rd Station – Jesus falls for the first time.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

‘Jesus suffered outside the gate to sanctify his people with his blood.’ (Heb 13:12)

Reflection:

Jesus falls the first time under the weight of the heavy cross. When we stumble and fall he understands how we feel. When we turn to Him, he will not fail us. No matter how heavy the cross of life is, may we never lose hope.

**‘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!**

4th Station – Jesus meets his Mother Mary.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'For the Lord will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places.' (Isaiah 51:3)

Reflection:

Mary grieved and cried on seeing her Son Jesus being led to his crucifixion. The words of Simeon many years earlier that 'a sword will pierce you own soul too' is surely whispering and echoing in her ear at this moment. Mary sheds tears today, soon she will shed tears of joy at his Resurrection.

**'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!**

5th Station – Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the Cross.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'They meet a Cyrenean named Simon. This man they pressed to carry the cross.' (Mt 27:32)

Reflection:

Simon is dragged from the crowd to help carry the cross of Jesus. Despite the yoke being easy and the burden light, the heavy cross gets more and more difficult on the road to Calvary. With the weight of the cross Jesus becomes weaker and stumbles under the cross. We too can stumble in pain and hardship. May we be blessed with a circle of friends who love and care for us and to help us carry our crosses in life. May we feel Simon who helps carry the cross of Jesus.

**'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!**

6th Station – Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'As often as you did it for one of the least of these, you did it to me.' (Mt 25:40)

Reflection:

It is our natural instinct is to help another who is going through pain? That pain is often seen on our faces. The painful expression is a reminder of what it means to be human. All too often there is a Veronica there with a kind word, a listening ear, a hand of support as a means to wipe our face.

Veronica appears time and time again in our lives - may the imprint of our face find its way to the heart of Jesus.

**'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!**

7th – Jesus falls for the second time.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak.' (Isaiah 35:3)

Reflection:

Jesus falls for the second time under the weight of the cross. We too fall, falter, and fail. Life is not easy, society doesn't make it easy for us. We often can fall again and again.

Give each of us courage when we failure presses heavily on us and stretch out your hand to lift us up.

**'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!**

8th Station – The women of Jerusalem meet Jesus.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'Do not weep for me, but for yourselves and for your children.' (Lk 23:28)

Reflection:

Throughout his life and ministry, Jesus empathised with the sufferings of so many that he came in contact with. Jesus in his encounters with the downtrodden gave them hope.

The message of Christ is one of life. May we continue to be witnesses to the life Christ in our homes, parish community, the workplace, in schools, universities and in society.

**'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!**

9th Station – Jesus falls for the third time.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'Be not far from me for I am in distress; be near, for I have no one to help me.' (Ps 22:12)

Reflection:

The road to the hill of Calvary gets increasingly difficult. The weight of the cross gets heavier and more difficult to carry. Surely – as his body gets weaker we ask how long more will this go on for? Yet, Jesus continues to carry the cross despite the third fall.

Life can be so hard at times. There are so many pressures that present themselves day in day out. Despite it all we have to keep going.

**'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!

10th Station – Jesus is stripped of his garments.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'They divided up His garments by rolling dice for them to see what each should take.' (Mk 15:24)

Reflection:

Jesus is stripped of his dignity, his respect and his rights – he is practically naked and vulnerable before his people.

In society help us to cloth all with whom we encounter with our love and respect. Lord clothe us with your love

**'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!**

11th Station – Jesus is nailed to the Cross.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

‘With Him they crucified two criminals, one at His right and one at His left.’ (Mk 15:27)

Reflection:

In life we can be nailed to the cross – that can be in the form of illness, pain and suffering. In that reality- Jesus shares with us the pain of suffering. Through his suffering we are reminded to help those in pain - to help give them hope and love. We can do this with our time and support.

**‘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!**

12th Station – Jesus dies on the Cross.



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

'Then Jesus uttering a loud cry, breathed His last Eloi Eloi, lama sabachtani.' (Mk 15:37)

Reflection:

There will be a moment in time when we will close our eyes to this world, and open them to life with the Father in heaven. Death comes to visit us all. Death is part of being human. Death calls us from this world to the eternal vision of Christ. Help us to appreciate our lives, so we can be prepared when God calls us home.

**'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!**

13th Station – Jesus is taken down from the Cross



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

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

And a sword will pierce through your own soul (Lk 2:35)

Reflection:

Jesus' death is the final proof of His humanity. Unless he was human, he could not have died. "Ours were the sufferings he bore." As we reflect we recount how brutally Jesus was put to death, now he is gently taken down from the Cross and placed in his mother's arms

O Mary, as you took your dead son from the cross, may your strength be our strength, may your tears and prayers be our tears and prayers. 'Pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.'

**'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!**

14th Station – Jesus is laid in the tomb.



V/. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you!

R/. Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world!

'Joseph of Arimathea laid Him in a tomb, and rolled a stone across the entrance.' (Mk 15:46)

Reflection:

Joseph of Arimathea laid Him in a tomb, and rolled a stone across the entrance. At rest in the tomb, Jesus awaits his Resurrection. Jesus spent his life on earth doing good, preaching and helping others – yet in his final hours he was abandoned. May our lives be inspired by Jesus' life on this earth and may we never be abandoned.

**'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!**

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
You were drawn by the Father
from the darkness of death
to the light of a new life in glory.
Grant that the sign of the empty tomb
may speak to us and to future generations
and become a wellspring of living faith,
Generous love,
and unshakable hope.
To you, O Jesus, whose presence, hidden and victorious,
fills the history of the world,
be honour and glory forever – Amen.



For the video version of these Stations of the Cross please check our Parish Website and
FaceBook Page on www.olcmayfield.ie