

The Seventh Station

JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

Station Site: Station 2 – Jesus Takes Up His Cross

Leader: We praise you, Jesus, and give you thanks!

People: By your cross and resurrection you have set us free!

Lector: A reading from the Gospel of John. (Jn 19:16b–17)

Then [Pilate] handed [Jesus] over to [the Jews] to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

All Kneel

Leader: Jesus, like Isaac carrying the wood to the mountain, you set out with the wood of the cross. But unlike him you will not ask your Father where the lamb is, because you know you are the lamb of the sacrifice. You now begin your journey with the cross.

People: O Jesus, you carry a cross, which is given unjustly. You willingly bear the burden of our sinfulness and accept the cross of our guilt. There is no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. We love you, Jesus; help us to show this love in our lives.

All Stand

Leader: Lord have mercy.

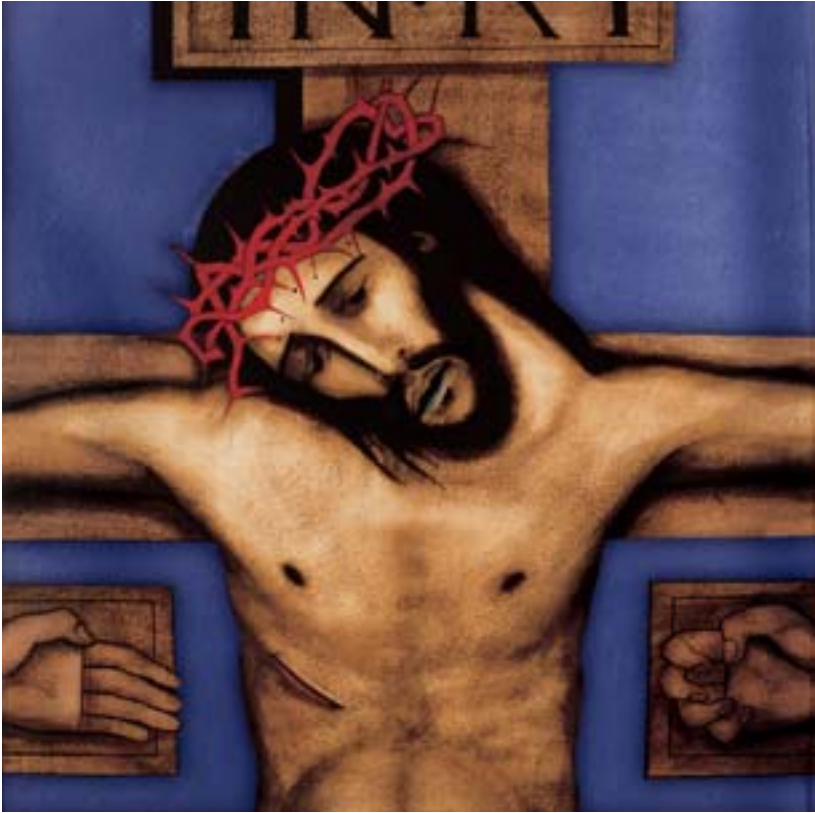
People: Lord have mercy.

Leader: Christ have mercy.

People: Christ have mercy.

Leader: Lord have mercy.

People: Lord have mercy.



The Tenth Station

JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

Station Site: Station 11 – Jesus Is Crucified

Leader: We praise you, Jesus, and give you thanks!

People: By your cross and resurrection you have set us free!

Lector: A reading from the Gospel of Luke. (Lk 23:33–38)

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the People stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

All Kneel

Leader: Jesus, your suffering continues as nails are driven into your hands and feet and taunting jeers are hurled at your body imprisoned on the cross. Yet to those who mock and challenge you, you offer no reproach, only forgiveness and compassion for them in their ignorance.

People: O Jesus, how often we have acted as if the way of the cross were unnecessary and too difficult. We believe we know a better way, a way worn down by the crowd. We find that path goes nowhere. Forgive us; we do not know what we are doing. We love you, Jesus; by your wounds heal us.

All Stand

Leader: Lord have mercy.

People: Lord have mercy.

Leader: Christ have mercy.

People: Christ have mercy.

Leader: Lord have mercy.

People: Lord have mercy.



The Twelfth Station

JESUS CARES FOR HIS MOTHER

Station Site: Station 4 – Jesus Meets His Mother

Leader: We praise you, Jesus, and give you thanks!

People: By your cross and resurrection you have set us free!

Lector: A reading from the Gospel of John. (Jn 19:25–27)

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

All Kneel

Leader: Jesus, you give your mother to the disciple you love. Even as you face death, you entrust those whom you love most into each other's care. Your dying is marked by giving, and by concern for the ones who remain. You do not leave us as orphans, you have promised your Spirit to your church, and at the cross the church is born.

People: O Jesus, help us see that we are the disciples you love, and you have given Mary, your mother, to us, too. We pray that we might allow the Spirit to give us life as sisters and brothers joined in mutual care. We love you, Jesus; bind us as one.

All Stand

Leader: Lord have mercy.

People: Lord have mercy.

Leader: Christ have mercy.

People: Christ have mercy.

Leader: Lord have mercy.

People: Lord have mercy.