



STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Preparatory Prayer

All together: Dear Jesus, I adore You. / I love You / and thank You for dying on the cross for me. / I wish I could always think of You / and remember all that You have done. / But I get so busy / with lessons and play and other things / that often I forget. / I am so sorry, dear Jesus.

Today I want to follow You / up the hill of Calvary / and to understand a little better / at each station / all that it cost You / to make me God's child. / If I had been the only person in the world / You would have been willing to suffer / in just the same way.

How You must love me, dear Jesus! / Thank You for loving me so much. / Please teach me every day / to love You more and more.

Song: Come faithful Christians, join in meditation
Jesus is judged now through false accusation.
Pilate condemns Him with two felons shameless,
Our Savior blameless.

Station 1- Jesus is Condemned to Death

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Jesus stood before Pilate. Jesus was alone. Jesus had done only good things in life. Jesus had to be put to death.
The procession was ready. The gates were opened.
The soldiers lead the way. Jesus followed.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, you stood all alone before Pilate. Nobody speaks up for you. Nobody defends you. Sometimes I feel alone. Sometimes I feel afraid. Sometimes I feel like I am treated unfairly. Help me to accept unfairness and not complain. Help me pray for those who have hurt me.

Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.

Almighty Father, many times people don't seem to understand me. Sometimes they are unfair. You accept me when I make mistakes. Help me to accept others when they make mistakes. Help me to forgive as Jesus did. This I ask through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Have mercy on us o Lord

All: Have mercy on us

Song: Christ takes the cross now, mankind's soul embracing,
That wayward souls, each by His steps retracing
Might through His passion, sign of Christ oblation,
Find their salvation.

Station 2 - Jesus Bears His Cross

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

The people wanted to crucify Jesus. Pilate did not want to crucify Him. He tried everything he could think of to change the crowd's mind but nothing worked. He washed his hands in front of the crowd saying, "This is a righteous man." He gave Jesus to the soldiers to be crucified.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, you carried your cross. You knew it wouldn't be easy, but you carried it just the same. Sometimes I get upset with the troubles that I have. Sometimes I get upset when people ask me to do things for them. I don't want to carry my cross. Give me the courage to carry my cross as You did.

Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.

Almighty Father, Jesus carried His cross without complaint. When I am tempted to complain, help me to remember Jesus and the cross He carried for me. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord

All: Have mercy on us

Song: Under the burden He grows weak, unsteady;
Jesus is falling; mankind must stand ready,
Ready to help Him, soothe the fallen Victim
When we afflict Him.

Station 3 - Jesus Falls a First Time

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

The procession moves out of the city gate. Jesus was unsteady on his feet. The soldiers were pushing Him.

Jesus is tired. He can hardly carry the cross. He fell.

The soldiers yanked him up. The procession is moving again.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, Sometimes I don't pay attention to what I should be doing. When things get hard for me, sometimes I give up. Your cross was so heavy. It was hard for you. You never gave up. You fell, but you got up and moved on. Help me to get up when I fall and keep moving.

Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.

Almighty Father, I know there are many times when I give up before I should. When I fall, help me get up again and keep going.

This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord

All: Have mercy on us

Song: Mary meets Jesus, doomed to crucifixion.

How deep their anguish, painful their affliction,

Bearing their crosses; Son and loving mother

Facing each other.

Station 4 - Jesus Meets His Mother

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Mary sees the procession moving through the streets. She sees. She hurries to Him. There he was in front of her. The cross was so

heavy, he was trembling. His body was bleeding. His mother tries to get closer to him. He tries to get closer to his mother but the soldiers pushed him away.

The procession moves on

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, Help me to see those around me who love me.

Help me to understand that I need them as much as they need me.

Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.

Almighty Father, When I feel alone, help me to remember to turn to my parents for help and most of all, You. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord

All: Have mercy on us

Song: Simon of Cyrene now the cross is bearing;

Helping the Savior, in His burden sharing.

Pray that we also turn from Jesus never,

But aid Him ever.

Station 5 - Jesus is Helped by Simon

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

The soldiers saw that Jesus was weak. They were afraid that he might not make it to the place where he was to be crucified. The soldiers see Simon of Cyrene. A soldier pushes Simon toward Jesus telling him to carry the cross. Simon saw Jesus was bruised and bleeding and quickly picked up the cross. He carried it for Jesus. They moved on with Jesus following Simon.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, Sometimes I pretend not to hear when my parents call me. I leave when I know others could use my help. You gave help to everyone. When you needed help, you accepted it. Help me to give and accept help.

Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.

Almighty Father, Help me to be a friend to friendless. Help me to help the needy. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord

All: Have mercy on us

Song: Saintly Veronica, now her Jesus meeting,
Wipes His face gently; bitterly is weeping.
Face of our Savior on her veil imprinted
Through love unstinted.

Station 6 - Jesus and Veronica

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Veronica steps towards Jesus with a wet cloth. She wanted to comfort Jesus in any way she could. She gently wiped his face. The soldiers roughly pushed her back. They continued along their way.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, There are times when I see someone that is being picked on. There are times when I see someone that is sad. Just as Veronica wiped Your face to comfort you, help me to always help others in whatever way I can.

Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.

Almighty Father, Help me to see the needs of others. Remind me to be helpful, even if I am not asked. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord

All: Have mercy on us

Song: See the dear Lord showing His exhaustion;
As the cross presses heavily upon Him.
Blood flows so freely; see the Savior languish;
He falls in anguish.

Station 7 - Jesus Falls a Second Time

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Jesus is getting more tired. Jesus is getting weaker.
Jesus falls. Jesus struggles to get up. He tries until He makes it to his feet. He moves on.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, You didn't give up. Sometimes when things get hard for me, it's hard to keep trying. I want to quit. When things get hard for me, help me to get up and keep going as you did.
Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.
Almighty Father, Help me to keep trying when things get hard and when I fall. Help me to not give up. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord
All: Have mercy on us

Song: Seeing the women deep in lamentation,
Jesus in pity speaks in consolation.
Lord pray we now, in ev'ry future morrow
Comfort our sorrow.

Station 8 - Jesus Speaks to the Women

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Meditation

Jesus could hear the crying of the women in the crowd.
He knew they were sad. He stopped and talked to them.
Even at this terrible time, Jesus was not thinking of himself, he was thinking of all of us.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, You stopped to help those in need. I get selfish at times and think only of myself. Help me to reach out to others as you did. Help me to see the needs of others and put their needs above mine.
Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things. Almighty Father, help me to not be hurtful or selfish. Help me to see the needs others have even when I have problems of my own. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord
All: Have mercy on us

Song: Once more He falls, His cross its toll is taking;
Three times He fell, His heart and body aching.
Jesus now grovels in the dust, so lowly;
God's Son most holy.

Station 9 - Jesus Falls a Third Time

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world

Meditation

Jesus continues walking, tired, in pain, and pushed by the soldiers.
Jesus falls once more. They laugh at him.
He gets up, steadies himself and walks the last few yards to - The Place of the Skull.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, help me to see that nothing is greater than You. Nothing is greater than Your love for me. Help me to see that with Your help, I can do it. Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things. Almighty Father, Thank you for sending Jesus to us. Help me to always follow Him. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord
All: Have mercy on us

Song: See the dear Lord, Who clothed this earth in splendor,
Who bathed the heav'ns in starlight calm and tender,
Stripped of His garments, mocked in cruel fashion;
Lord of compassion.

Station 10 - Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world

Meditation

Jesus arrives at the Place of Skull. The soldiers remove his clothes, tossing them in a heap. The soldiers didn't know what to do with his clothes. They decided to throw dice for them.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, You set an example of truth, humility and love. Help me to set a good example for others to follow.
Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.
Almighty Father, Help me to always be respectful and follow the examples of Jesus. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord
All: Have mercy on us

Song: So to complete our Lord's most holy passion,
They wound His body in most grievous fashion.
Callous tormentors, to the cross they nail Him.
Our blameless Victim.

Station 11 - Jesus is Nailed to The Cross

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world

Meditation

The soldiers grab Jesus and lie him face up on the cross stretching his arms. They hold His wrist and hand to the wood. They drive the nail with a hammer. They do the same with the other arm. Raising His Knees so that His feet would lie flat, they hammer. It was done, Jesus was nailed to the cross.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, Sometimes I say or do hurtful things to others. You stretched Your arms of love on the cross. Help me to bring Your love to others and cause them no hurt.
Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.
Almighty Father, Help me to follow your Son and make His Hands bleed no more through my fault. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord
All: Have mercy on us

Song: Raised is His cross in view of all the scornful,
Bearing the King of pain, a sight so mournful.
True God, true man, death's lonely keeping;
Mourn Him with weeping.

Station 12 - Jesus Dies on the Cross

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world

Meditation

As Pilate had ordered, a soldier placed, above Jesus' head, a notice reading 'Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews' The cross was hoisted into place.
Mary and John, stayed at the foot of the cross and prayed.
Jesus looked down and said to his mother "Dear woman, here is your son" and to John "Here is your mother"
Even at this terrible time, he was taking care of his mother.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, death is hard for us to understand. Remind us always that faith will carry us through our losses.
Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things.
Almighty Father, Help me to understand Jesus' death. Help me to understand the love Jesus has for me. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord
All: Have mercy on us

Song: Time to remove His wounded, lifeless body:
Mary receives Him, Son so pure and holy.
Her arms embrace Him; she is filled with grieving,
And barely living.

Station 13 - Jesus is Taken Down from The Cross

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world

Meditation

Sabbath was rapidly approaching and the crucified ones had to be taken down before the beginning of the Sabbath celebrations. A soldier pierced the side of Jesus with his spear to be sure that he was dead. The crowd hurried to their homes before the beginning of Sabbath or they'd be excluded from the celebration. Mary stayed under the cross with her Son. Two men came to the soldiers with orders from Pilate, Jesus was gently removed from the cross. Mary held Jesus. She didn't want to give Him up but she had to. She kissed Him and gave Him to the guards.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, how bad was your death but how gently you were removed from the cross. Help me to treat others kindly always. Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things. Almighty Father, Help me to be a kinder, gentler person. Help me to always see the good in others This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Have mercy on us o Lord
All: Have mercy on us

Song: Christ's broken body in the tomb is buried.
May he for ever in our hearts be carried.
Each heart in sorrow, open wide your portal
For God immortal.

Station 14 - Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Priest: We adore you, O Christ and we bless you

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world

Meditation

People had returned to their homes for the Sabbath. John, Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, and Mary, went from Calvary to Jesus' burial tomb. Joseph and John carried Jesus into the tomb. They laid him on the rock bench in the burial chamber. The men moved a big boulder in front of the entrance to block it.

Prayer – All together

Dear Jesus, Help me to carry on Your work. Mary, help me to see Jesus in all things. Almighty Father, Thank you for sending Jesus. Help me to be like Jesus. Help me to share my life and love more fully. This I ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory be to the Father ...

P: Soul of Chris, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, fill me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. Good Jesus, hear me. Within your wound hide me. May I not be separated from you. Defend me from the malicious one. In the hour of my death call me. And bid me come to you. That with your saints I may praise you for ever. Amen.

All sing three times: Lord for us your wound were suffered
O my Jesus have mercy on us.

Let us pray:

P: Almighty God, loving Father, help us through the Stations, to understand and to appreciate what Jesus did for us. Through a constant memory of His Passion, may we let live and reign in us the love of Him who died for love if us. May that divine love so change us that, through us, Jesus Christ may be seen

once more walking the face of the earth. We ask this through
Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

All: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit