

The Way of the Cross
For Good Friday

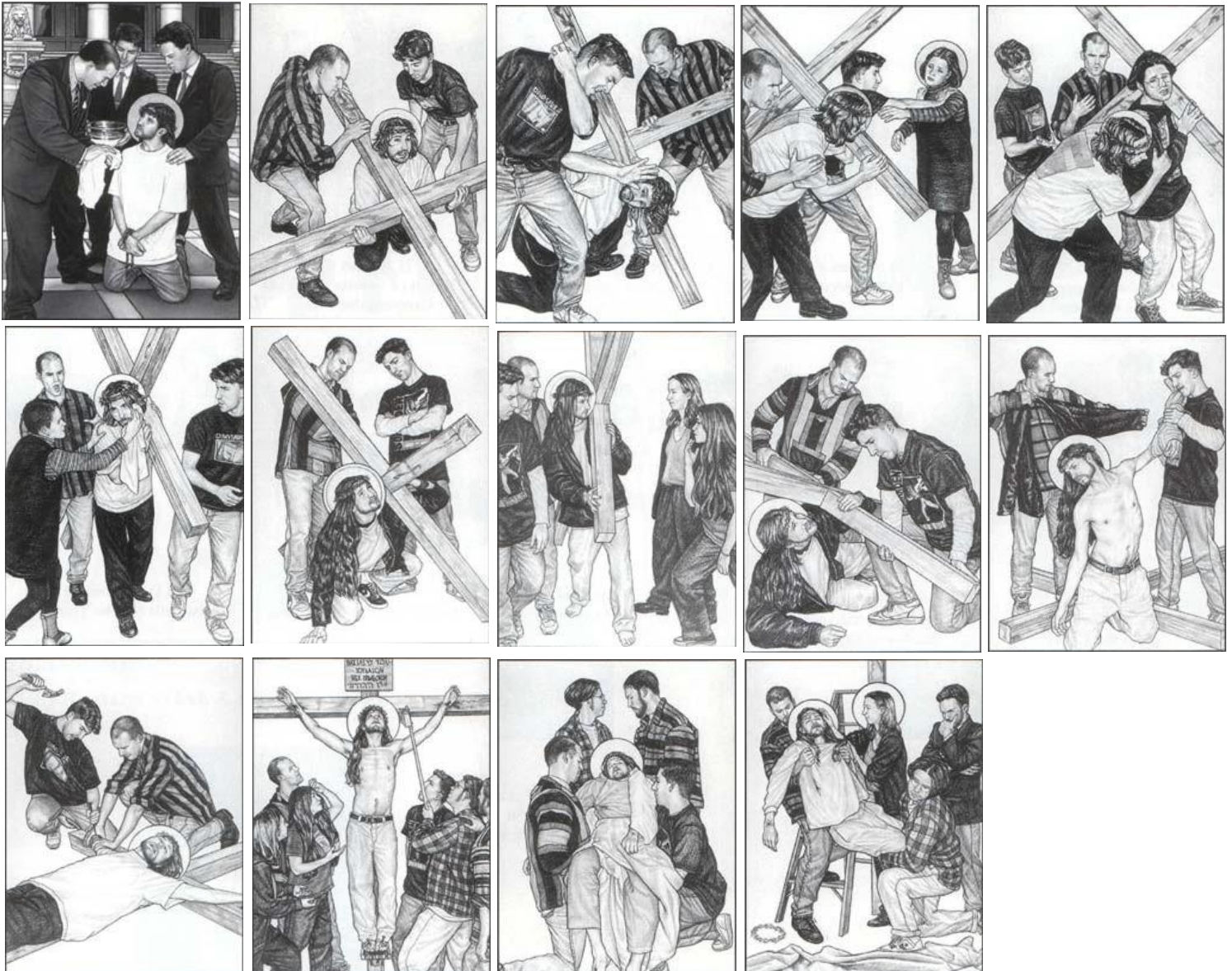


Stations of the Cross

These are depictions of 14 incidents in the Gospel accounts of Jesus' death from Pilate's house to being placed in the tomb. They are used for the service called the Way of the Cross, which visits each station in turn with a brief reading, response, collect and on some occasions, a meditation. This is particularly appropriate for Good Friday and all Fridays in Lent.

During the late Middle Ages, when the Turkish occupation of the Holy Land prevented pilgrims from visiting its sacred sites, the faithful made a custom of making simple replicas of those sacred sites in Europe, where they could come to pray. Medieval Christians sought more details about the Passion of the Lord, beyond what was provided by the succinct stories of the gospels. They turned to the writings of the mystics and the apocryphal gospels for more information about the last hours of Jesus. From these sources came the meeting of Jesus and his Mother, the story of Veronica, and the various falls of Jesus, which became part of the Stations of the Cross. One of the most popular of these "pilgrimages at home" was to pray the stations of the cross, which were erected in imitation of the stations (or stopping places of prayer) on the street in Jerusalem that led from the judgment hall of Pilate to Calvary. By the end of the sixteenth century the present fourteen stations became the standard for this devotion. Only recently has a fifteenth station been added: "The Resurrection." The Stabat Mater often accompanies the way of the cross. The fifteenth station is not visited during the season of Lent.

Please join us in meditation as we follow Christ's journey from Gabbatha (the stone pavement) where Jesus was condemned, to Golgotha (skull hill) where He was crucified, and onward to His resurrection.



As you say the opening devotions, consider the world God sent his Son to save.

Consider that in our world today, more than one billion of God's children live in intense and debilitating poverty. More than 15,000 children die each day from AIDS, Tuberculosis, or Malaria. There are more than 100 million orphans in the developing world. Large segments of God's creation live without access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation, or educational services. Debilitating conflict rages across the globe from Darfur in the Sudan to Iraq to the Holy Land.

In Jesus' first public sermon, he described his vocation by quoting Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Is not Jesus' vocation also the vocation of the Church? How are we as believers called to live into that vocation?

At Baptism, and whenever we renew our Baptismal vows, we promise to "strive for justice and peace." Sharing this witness with the leaders of our governments and communities is one way in which Christians can live out the vocation that Isaiah and Jesus commended to us. To learn how you can get involved, join the Episcopal Public Policy Network at www.episcopalchurch.org/eppn/.

1. O Je - sus — scourged, de - rid - ed, mocked, up
 2. The sol - diers — spat up - on His face, His
 3. His strength gave — out, He tried in vain, Gol -
 4. He came up — from Cy - re - ne When the

1. Cal - va - ry's hill did tread; But un - der — load of
 2. rai - ment — did they strip; And thus — ex - posed to
 3. go - tha — to as - cend; And so — it — was that
 4. sol - diers — him did seize; He was — com - pelled to

1. splin - t'ry — wood He fell up - on his head.
 2. com - mon — gaze He suf - fered — 'neath the whip.
 3. Si - mon — blest Be - came our — Lord's dear friend.
 4. bear — the — cross and so Je - sus did please.

5. His muscular frame bore Christ's own Tree
 Along the Sacred Way;
 "O Jesus, who will die for me
 I'll follow Thee away."

6. O Simon, joyful crucifer
 Before the throne of grace:
 Pray that we who shall bear His cross
 May see Him face to face.

The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.

The Way of the Cross

Opening Devotions

Officiant +In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

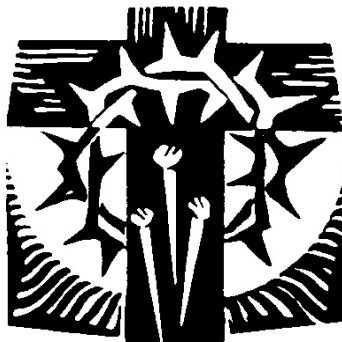
People **In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.**

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The procession goes to the First Station as we sing "Stabat Mater."

**At the cross her vigil keeping,
Stood the mournful mother weeping,
Where he hung, the dying Lord:**



First Station - Jesus is condemned to death

The First Station commemorates Jesus being sentenced to death before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. As you say this devotion, meditate upon all those throughout God's creation who are sentenced to die each day because of extreme poverty. The many facets of extreme poverty include income poverty, hunger, conflict, disease, environmental degradation, a lack of basic human rights, and structural barriers to justice such as crushing debt burdens throughout the developing world.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) recognize that just as humanity is fundamentally interconnected, so is the phenomenon of global poverty and the responses to it. The world has been slow to embrace the MDGs – which envision cutting extreme poverty in half by 2015 – but there is still time. The world possesses the resources, strategies, and capacity to eradicate extreme poverty. It has yet to build the political will.

To learn more about the MDGs and what you can do, visit Episcopal Relief and Development's website on the MDGs: www.er-d.org/mdg/. Commit to praying for the fulfillment of the MDGs.

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

Officiant As soon as it was morning, the chief priests, with the elders and scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation; and they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him to Pilate. And they all condemned him and said, "He deserves to die." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified. (*Paraphrase of Mark 14:53-15:15*)

V. God did not spare his own Son:
R. But delivered him up for us all. (*Romans 8:32*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen. (*Collect for Monday in Holy Week*)

Officiant and People
***Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.***

"Stabat Mater" verse 2
***May we feel no bitter hatred,
When we too are persecuted,
Left alone to walk with you.***



Second Station - Jesus takes up his Cross

Jesus, who willingly took up the Cross for humanity's sake, also commanded us to take up our own crosses and follow him.

Taking up our own crosses and giving ourselves in self-sacrificial love to help bear the burden of others is the model of vocation that God gave us in his Son. In a world where so many starve for daily bread, this vocation of sacrifice can be seen as amplifying the ancient imperative of God spoken through Isaiah: "If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, your light shall rise in the darkness. You shall be called repairer of the breach, restorer of streets to live in." As you meditate upon the Second Station, consider the starving of the world, and the vast gap between the hungry and those who have plenty.

To learn how you can participate and help make a difference, visit www.bread.org.

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

Officiant Jesus went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter; and like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing. (*Paraphrase of John 19:7*)

V. The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:
R. For the transgression of my people was he stricken. (*Isaiah 53:6-8*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen. (*Collects for Fridays*)

Officiant and People
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

"Stabat Mater" verse 3
**Now the Cross as Jesus bore it,
Has become for us who share it,
The jeweled Cross of Victory.**



Third Station - Jesus falls the first time

Tradition holds that Jesus stumbled and fell three times along his road to Crucifixion, crushed by the heavy load of the Cross but willing to continue so that humanity would be spared the burden of its weight.

As you pray this station, meditate upon the crushing burdens that today afflict God's creation, and how those burdens prevent humanity's full flourishing in the peace and freedom God intends for us. One such burden is the reality of crushing debt in the developing world. Many impoverished countries are repaying enormous sums of debt, often acquired by past corrupt regimes or through predatory lending practices from the world community in the Cold War era. These annual debt-service payments to wealthy international creditors hinder poor nations' ability to spend on the health, education and well-being of their people. As an example, the U.S. will contribute more than \$4 billion to the fight against HIV/AIDS globally this year. The countries that will benefit most from that \$4 billion will pay more than \$9 million in debt service.

To learn more – and find out what you and your faith community can do – visit Jubilee USA, of which The Episcopal Church is a member, at www.jubileeusa.org.

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

Officiant Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped; but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and was born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker, for he is the Lord our God.
(Paraphrase of Philippians 2:6-8)

V. Surely he has borne our griefs:
R. And carried our sorrows. *(Isaiah 53:4)*

Officiant Together, let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(Collect 4th Sunday after Epiphany)*

Officiant and People
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

“Stabat Mater” verse 4
Weakened, prodded, cursed, and fallen,
His whole Body bruised and swollen,
Jesus tripped and lay in pain.



Fourth Station - Jesus meets his afflicted mother

As the burden of the Cross becomes heavier, Jesus meets his Mother, the one whom the Church through the centuries has called the Theotokos, or "God-bearer," because when the angel of God appeared to her to announce that she would give birth to the Incarnate Word, Mary submitted graciously and without hesitation. After the angel departed from her, Mary sang a song about God's kingdom, and in it, told us how different a world modeled after God's will – rather than our own – would look. In that world, God "has put down the mighty from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; He has filled the hungry with good things, but the rich he has sent away empty."

Though Christians have been singing Mary's song, the Magnificat, every day at Evening Prayer for centuries, her vision of a world ordered after God's will remains sorely unrealized in our own midst. One example is the devastating irony that the world's richest countries tend to be the least generous in the amount they invest in economic development for poor countries each year. The United States – the world's most prosperous nation – gives a smaller percentage of its annual budget to development aid than any other industrialized nation.

To become part of the movement to change this, join The One Campaign, of which The Episcopal Church is a member, at www.one.org.

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

Officiant To what can I liken you, to what can I compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem? What likeness can I use to comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.
(Paraphrase of Lamentations 2:13)

V. A sword will pierce your own soul also:
R. And fill your heart with bitter pain. *(Luke 2:35)*

Officiant Together, let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who willed that in the passion of your Son a sword of grief should pierce the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary his mother: Mercifully grant that your Church, having shared with her in his passion, may be made worthy to share in the joys of his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

(Collect for the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows)

Officiant and People
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

"Stabat Mater" verse 5
***Jesus met his grieving Mother,
She who made the Lord our brother;
Now the sword her heart has pierced.***



Fifth Station - The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene

The Gospel tells us that as the weight of Jesus' Cross grew, the Roman soldiers compelled a man named Simon to step in and carry the Cross for a time.

As you meditate upon the Fifth Station, consider the various weights placed upon God's children each day, and the fact that often, others have to help carry the load. For example, in much of the developing world, the fees for basic primary and secondary education are so great that families have to choose which child, if any, can attend school. Disproportionately, those who are short-changed are girls, who then stay at home and help their mothers in long days of crushing labor. These young children bear burdens in place of others in their family, often – like Simon of Cyrene – with very little choice.

To learn more about how school fees and other barriers to education hurt the world's children – and what can be done to change this reality – visit Global Action for Children, a nationwide coalition of which the Episcopal Church is a member, at www.globalactionforchildren.org.

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

People ***Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

Officiant As they led Jesus away, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross to carry it behind Jesus. “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (*Paraphrase of Luke 23:26*)

V. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me:

R. Cannot be my disciple. (*Luke 14:27*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. (*Prayer for Social Justice—Book of Common Prayer*)

Officiant and People
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

“*Stabat Mater*” verse 6
Simon stopped in hesitation,
Not foreseeing his proud station,
Called to bear the Cross of Christ.



Sixth Station - A woman wipes the face of Jesus

Ancient Christian tradition holds that along the Way of the Cross, a woman offered Jesus a towel to wipe his face, and on that towel, the image of his face was left. Thus, tradition has called the woman St. Veronica, from the Latin Vera Icon, or "true icon." In the legend of St. Veronica, Christians see the belief that the true icons of the world are those who offer themselves in the humble service of others.

Today, along the real Way of the Cross in Jerusalem, Israelis and Palestinians continue to be enmeshed in conflict that robs all of the people of the Holy Land of the peace and security God intends for them. News accounts often are filled with stories of those at the extremes who see violence and division as the only way forward. In reality, great majorities of the people of the Holy Land – Jews, Muslims, and Christians – are dedicated to a peaceful and reconciled future. These are the "true icons" of the Holy Land today. People of faith around the world should stand in solidarity with them, using our voices, actions and prayers to fulfill the Psalmist's cry: "O pray for the peace of Jerusalem."

To learn what you can do, visit Churches for Middle East Peace, of which The Episcopal Church is a member, at www.cmep.org.

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

People ***Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

Officiant We have seen him without beauty or majesty, with no looks to attract our eyes. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of men. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed. (*Paraphrase Isaiah 53:3-5*)

V. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts:

R. Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. (*Psalm 80:19*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Collect for the Last Sunday after the Epiphany—Transfiguration Sunday*)

Officiant and People

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

"Stabat Mater" verse 7

***Brave but trembling came the woman,
None but she would flaunt the Roman,
Moved by love beyond her fear.***



Seventh Station - Jesus falls a second time

Jesus falls a second time. His burden is becoming overwhelming, but he continues to march forward to Calvary, the point of our redemption.

As you meditate upon the Seventh Station, contemplate the will to survive and march forward among the one billion of God's children who live on less than a dollar a day. Consider the life of an impoverished family in Vietnam. A dollar a day might buy a third of a pound of rice and a third of a pound of beans. Tomatoes, onions, flour, sugar, soap and other staples might have to wait until money can be saved. There is no electricity, clean water, or sanitation. Hunger tears at adults and children alike as a persistent, never-absent part of life. And yet, people march forward because they have no other choice.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) represent a recognition that the horror of crippling poverty can be alleviated only through partnerships between rich and poor nations that seek to lift the barriers that perpetuate inequality. Rich nations are called to help build a "global partnership for debt, aid, and trade." To learn more about building this global partnership, and how you can get involved, visit DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, Africa) at www.data.org.

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

Officiant Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. For the transgression of my people was he stricken. (*Paraphrase of Isaiah 53:4-7*)

V. But as for me, I am a worm and no man:
R. Scorned by all and despised by the people. (*Psalm 22:6*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen. (*Collect for Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday*)

Officiant and People
Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

"Stabat Mater" verse 8
**Prostrate on the dust he crumbled,
Flogged in body he resembled,
All our neighbors poor and scorned.**



Eighth Station - Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Jesus, as continues to bear the weight of the Cross, stops to speak to the women of Jerusalem, the ones who so often bear the burdens of wisdom and well-being for their families and communities.

The status of women around the world is critical to the eradication of poverty and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Education, civic empowerment, and access to health services for women are important MDG targets that affect not just women themselves, but also their families and communities. Among the most critical health services for women in the developing world is family planning, which gives women and their families the ability to plan and space births, thereby promoting maternal health, reducing child mortality, and allowing for a family's economic survival.

International funding for family-planning programs lags severely behind need, however. In particular, the United States has eliminated or greatly reduced much of its support for these vital programs in recent years. To learn about and help support a new proposal to put America back on the right track – the “Focus on Family Health Worldwide Act” – visit the Episcopal Public Policy Network at www.episcopalchurch.org/eppn/.

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

Officiant There followed after Jesus a great multitude of the people, and among them were women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.” (*Paraphrase of Luke 23:27-31*)

V. Those who sowed with tears:
R. Will reap with songs of joy. (*Psalm 126:5*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

Teach your Church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children's children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Officiant and People
***Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.***

“Stabat Mater” verse 9
***May our sympathy for Jesus
Turn to those who here now need us,
May we see Christ bruised in them.***



Ninth Station - Jesus falls a third time

The weight of the Cross finally has overtaken Jesus as he falls a third time, barely able to drag his body along the ground as he approaches Golgotha.

As you meditate upon the Ninth Station, contemplate the toll that crushing disease has on God's children around the world. Imagine the tens of millions in sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia who have been infected with HIV/AIDS or Malaria, who know that treatments for their diseases exists but that they will never be able to afford them. Contemplate the burdens they bear as they – like Jesus -- move closer to death yet still are bound to move forward with the daily rhythms of their lives, supporting their children and families. They know that if they die, the burden will only shift to those children who will join the swelling ranks of orphans in the developing world.

To learn how you can help, visit Friends of the Global Fight at www.theglobalfight.org.

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

Officiant I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath; he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light. He has besieged me and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me dwell in darkness like the dead of long ago. Though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer. He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes. "Remember, O Lord, my affliction and bitterness, the wormwood and the gall!" (*Paraphrase Lamentations 3:1-19*)

V. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:

R. And like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth. (*Isaiah 53:7*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. (*Eucharistic Proper Preface for Tuesday in Holy Week*)

Officiant and People
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

"Stabat Mater" verse 10
**Jesus fell again in weakness,
Stumbling as we do, to lead us,
Through our sorrow and our pain.**



Tenth Station - Jesus is stripped of his garments

In a final act of humiliation before being lifted up on the Cross, the Roman soldiers strip Jesus of his garments and divide them amongst themselves.

As you meditate upon Christ's humiliation, consider the many acts of humiliation endured daily by God's people who live in poverty. Among the greatest humiliations is the inability to provide for one's self, family, and community as a result of unfair international barriers to trade. Like debt relief and development aid, fair-trade policy is an essential pillar of the Millennium Development Goals. Whereas debt relief and development aid are, by nature, intermediary steps to lift certain structural barriers from impoverished people, fair trade is a lasting measure to allow disempowered people to build a better future for themselves.

To learn more about what makes trade fair, and how you can get involved, visit the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops at www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/tradebackground.htm.

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

People ***Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

Officiant When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And they divided his garments among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill the scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing."
(Paraphrase Matthew 27:33-35)

V. They gave me gall to eat:

R. And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink. *(Psalm 69:21)*

Officiant Together, let us pray. *(Silence)*

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Eucharistic Proper Preface for Wednesday in Holy Week)

Officiant and People
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

"Stabat Mater" verse 11

***Stripped and jeered by his own nation,
Jesus stood in desolation,
Giving all He had to give.***



Eleventh Station - Jesus is nailed to the Cross

“And I, when I am lifted up from the Cross, will draw all people to myself.” To Christians, these words of Jesus from the Gospel of John speak of the power of the cross to contain and enfold all the horror, pain and grief of the world in God’s uncompromising and enduring embrace of love. The Cross is not merely our redemption, but also our reconciliation and restoration to God and to one another in Christ.

As you meditate upon the Crucifixion at the Eleventh Station, consider how we are called to the ministry of reconciliation in our own lives. Consider how all of the problems which afflict humanity – poverty, conflict, disease, injustice – might be combated by building partnerships of reconciliation between nations and peoples. Humanity is fundamentally interconnected; we are, as St. Paul tells us, all limbs and members of the same body. Thus, when one part of the body suffers we all suffer.

To learn more about the principle of interconnectedness – and how partnerships of reconciliation can help bring healing to humanity – visit the UN’s Millennium Project at www.unmillenniumproject.org.

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

People ***Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

Officiant When they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him; and with him they crucified two criminals, one on the right, the other on the left, and Jesus between them. And the scripture was fulfilled which says, “He was numbered with the transgressors.” (Luke 23:33)

V. They pierce my hands and my feet:

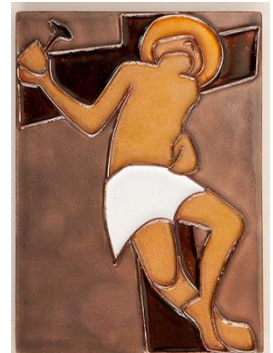
R. They stare and gloat over me. (Psalm 22:16-17)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (Silence)

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.
(Collect for Morning Prayer—Book of Common Prayer)

Officiant and People
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

“Stabat Mater” verse 12
Pierced the hands that blessed and cured us,
Pierced the feet that walked to free us,
Walked the hill of Calvary.



Twelfth Station - Jesus dies on the Cross

“Through Christ,” St. Paul tells us, “God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things whether in heaven or on earth by making peace through the Blood of the Cross.”

Despite God’s passionate desire for reconciliation and peace through the Blood of the Cross, humanity at the beginning of the 21st Century remains torn by conflict, strife, and war. Few nations have suffered more than the Sudan, which – while just emerging from 21 years of civil war between the north and the south – is now embroiled in government-sponsored genocide against the people of Darfur in the west.

Recently, the Archbishop of Canterbury traveled to the Sudan and then came to Washington, where he shared his reflections on the needs of the Sudanese people with U.S. policymakers. To read more about this, visit www.needlink.org. Then, to get involved with the movement to bring peace to Darfur, visit www.savedarfur.org.

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

People ***Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

Officiant When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, “It is finished!” And then, crying with a loud voice, he said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” And he bowed his head, and handed over his spirit. *(Paraphrase of John 19:26-30)*

V. Christ for us became obedient unto death:

R. Even death on a cross. *(Philippians 2:8)*

Officiant Together, let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns now and for ever. Amen. *(Collect for Easter Day)*

Officiant and People

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

“Stabat Mater” verse 13
***Life eternal, death defiant, Bowed
his head the world was silent,
Through his death came life anew.***



Thirteenth Station - The body of Jesus is placed in the arms of his mother

Removed from the Cross, the lifeless body of Jesus is returned to the arms of his Mother, the one who cradled him in her arms at Bethlehem on the night of his birth. The face of the Blessed Virgin Mary is covered in grief, a mother's heart broken by the humiliating death of her beloved Son.

As you meditate upon the imagery of Station Thirteen, and Mary's love for her Son, consider the love of parents for their children all throughout the world. Consider the burden, the heartbreak, and the suffering endured by parents in the developing world as they see their children die because of disease, malnutrition, conflict, or child trafficking.

To learn more about the challenges facing children in the developing world – and how you can help – visit the U.S. Coalition for Child Survival at www.child-survival.org.

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

People ***Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

Officiant All you who pass by, behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow. My eyes are spent with weeping; my soul is in tumult; my heart is poured out in grief because of the downfall of my people. “Do not call me Naomi (which means Pleasant), call me Mara (which means Bitter); for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.”
(Paraphrase of Lamentations 1:12 and Ruth 1:20)

V. Her tears run down her cheeks:

R. And she has none to comfort her. *(Lamentations 1:2)*

Officiant Together, let us pray. *(Silence)*

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen. *(A Collect for Fridays—Book of Common Prayer)*

Officiant and People
Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

“Stabat Mater” verse 14

***Stunned and stricken, Mary, Mother, In
your arms was placed our brother,
“Full of grace” now filled with grief.***



Fourteenth Station - Jesus is laid in the tomb

At the end of the story of Good Friday, nothing but death remains. Humanity has brought God's Son to the tomb, sealing him behind an immovable stone. But to God, through whom all things are possible, no barrier is immovable. Through the sacrifice and death of Christ, even death itself is no longer a barrier to life for the children of God. And thus, the burial rite in the Book of Common Prayer tells us, "Even at the grave, we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!"

As you meditate upon Jesus in the tomb, consider that the Church – the Body of Christ in the world – is called by God to carry forward Christ's reconciling sacrifice by helping bring life even in the midst of death. One way we do this is through fidelity to our Baptismal covenant, in which we promise to "strive for justice and peace, and respect the dignity of every human being."

To get involved with The Episcopal Church's ministry of public advocacy, visit the Church's Office of Government Relations and join the Episcopal Public Policy Network at www.episcopalchurch.org/eppn.

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

Officiant When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb. (*Paraphrase of Matthew 27:57-60*)

V. You will not abandon me to the grave:
R. Nor let your holy One see corruption. (*Psalm 16:10*)

Officiant Together, let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day: Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant and People
***Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.***

"Stabat Mater" verse 15
***Jesus, Lord, your gift accepted, In
three days you resurrected,
You did first what we should do.***



Opening Hymn

Hymnal 473

Descant



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain



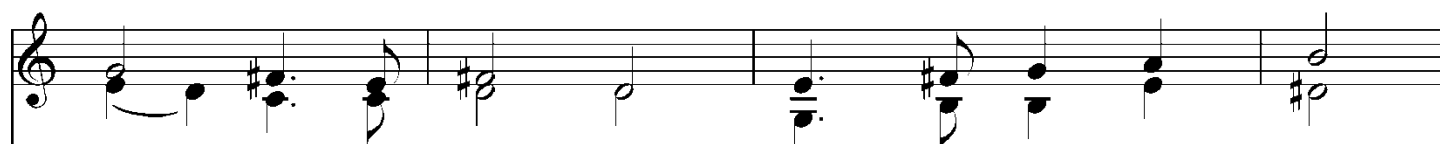
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim



till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Repeat Refrain



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.



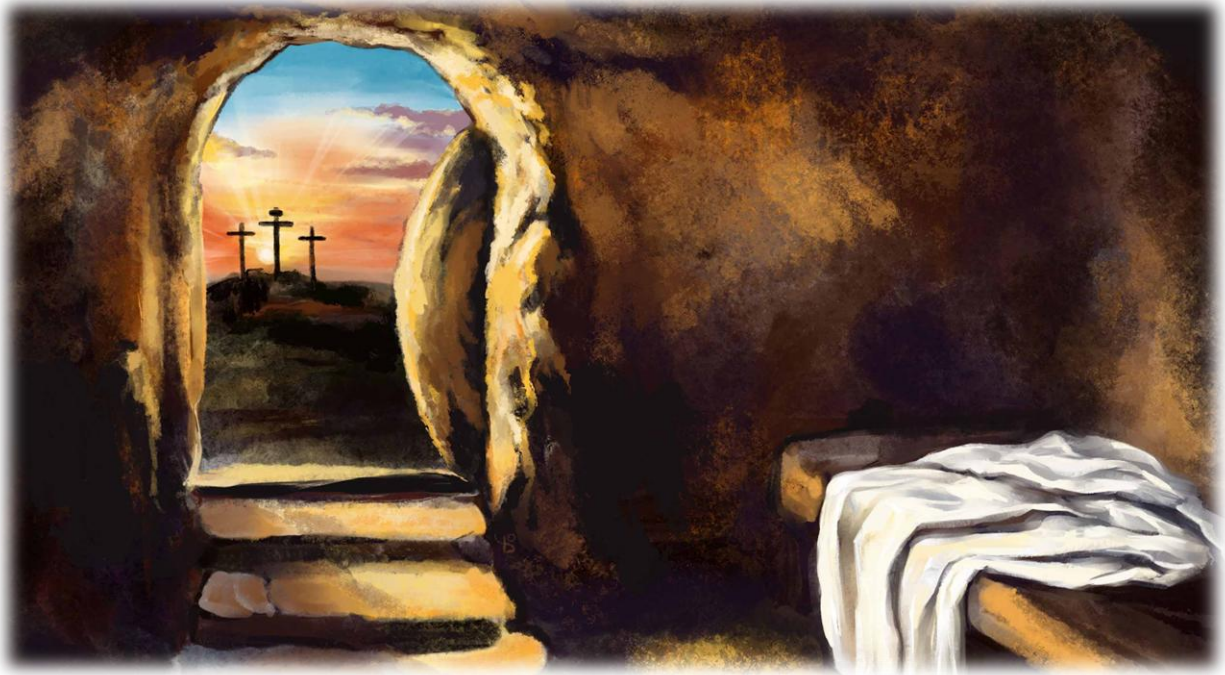
Concluding Prayers before the Altar

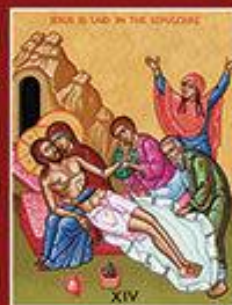
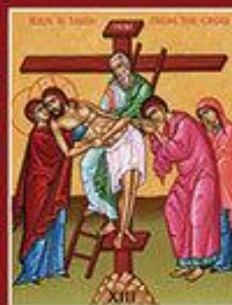
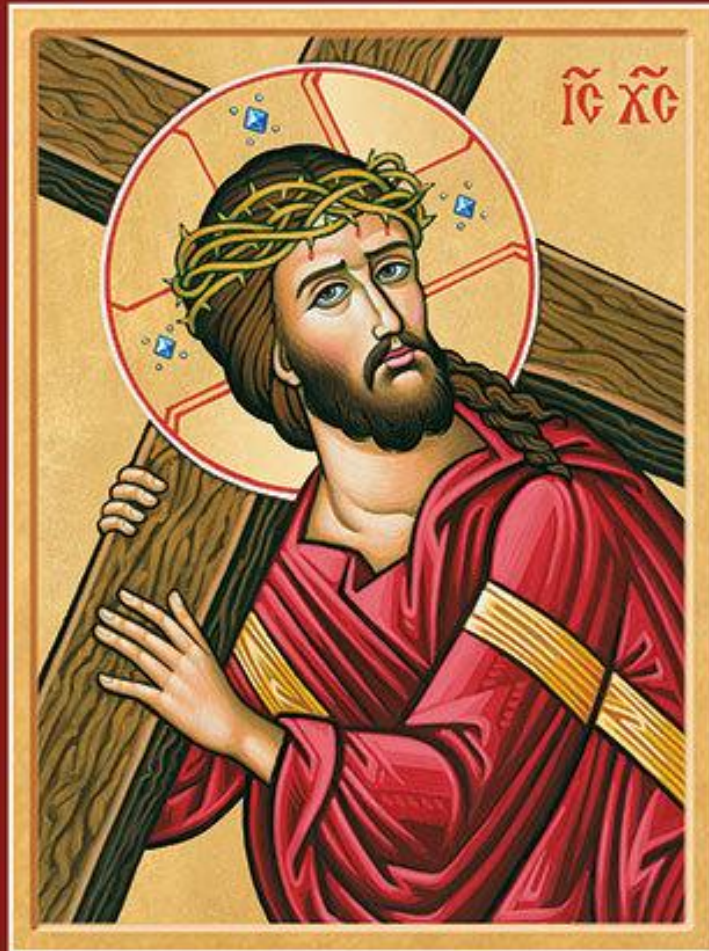
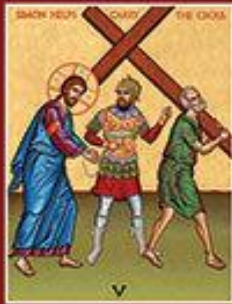
Officiant Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:
People ***Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.***

Officiant Together, let us pray. *(Silence)*

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; and we pray that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Officiant To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. ***Amen.***







A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

40 Main Street, P.O. Box 887
Westhampton Beach, New York 11978
Phone: 631.288.2111
www.stmarkswhb.org

Church Services

Saturdays 5:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist
Sundays 9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist in the church (Livestreamed)
The first "Sunday" of each month Healing & Anointing will be included in both services.

Thursday Services

11:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing in Fr. Chris' Office
8:00 PM Compline via zoom

Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

All Members of Saint Mark's are Ministers of the Church!

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano – *Bishop of Long Island*
The Rt. Rev. GERALYN WOLF – *Assisting Bishop*
The Rt. Rev. William Franklin – *Assisting Bishop*

The Very Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski

Rector of Saint Mark's

Priest-in-Charge of the Church of the Atonement, Quogue

Dean of the Peconic Deanery

Email: chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org

Cell: 410-253-3664

The Rev. Dr. Anne Gavin Ritchie – *Priest-in-Residence*

Stephen Hunt – *Director of Music*

Kate Gabrielsen – *Parish Administrator*

Chris Adams – *Facilities Manager*

Rosanna Davis – *Director of St. Mark's Bright Beginnings Preschool*

Tom Horan – *Warden*

Steve DeCaro – *Warden*

Vestry Members:

(Class of 2026) Rich Caccavano, Marjorie Kulesa, Steve Turner

(Class of 2027) Diane Feil, John Kern, Sandy Wyman

(Class of 2029) Tom Hadlock, Madeline Glover, Norma-Jeanne Okula

Thomas Simson – *Treasurer*

Carol Fitton – *Clerk of the Vestry*

