

Stations of the Cross

St Bride's West Kilbride | St Peter in Chains Ardrossan



“The Cross of Christ contains all the love of God, his immeasurable mercy.”



INTRODUCTION

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader:

May the grace of God, so rich in mercy and boundless in compassion,
be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

(we pray together)

Mary, my Mother, you were the first to live the Way of the Cross. You felt every pain and every humiliation. You were unafraid of the ridicule heaped upon you by the crowds. Your eyes were ever on Jesus and His Pain.

Take my hand as I make this Way of the Cross. Inspire me with those thoughts that will make me realise how much He loves me. Give me light to apply each station to my daily life and to remember my neighbour's needs in the Passion of Christ. Obtain for me the grace to understand the mystery, the wisdom and the Divine love as I go from scene to scene. Grant that my heart, like yours, may be pierced through by the sight of His sorrow and the misery and that I may determine never to offend Him again. What a price He paid to cover my sins, to open the gates of heaven for me and to fill my soul with His own Spirit. Sweet Mother, let us travel this way together and grant that the love in my poor heart may give you some slight consolation. Amen.



✠ JESUS BEFORE PILATE

STATION I

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

Early in the morning Jesus was taken from Caiaphas' house to the governor's palace. The Jewish authorities did not go inside the palace, for they wanted to keep themselves ritually clean, in order to be able to eat the Passover meal. Pilate went back into the palace and called Jesus. "Are you the king of the Jews?" he asked him. Jesus said, "My kingdom does not belong to this world; if my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish authorities. No, my kingdom does not belong here!" *John 18: 28, 33-37*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ JESUS CARRIES HIS CROSS

STATION II

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

The Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law. He will be put to death, but three days

later he will be raised to life.” And he said to them all, “If you want to come with me, you must forget yourself, take up your cross every day, and follow me. For if you want to save your own life, you will lose it, but if you lose your life for my sake, you will save it. *Luke 9: 22-24*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ **JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME**

STATION III

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

Come to me all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and I will give you rest. For the load I give you is easy, and the load I put on you is light. *Matthew 11: 28-30*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ **JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER**

STATION IV

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother, “This child is chosen by God for the destruction and salvation of many in Israel. He will be a sign from God which many people will speak against and so reveal their secret thoughts. And sorrow, like a sharp sword will break your own heart” *Luke 2: 34-35*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ JESUS IS HELPED BY SIMON

STATION V

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

On the way they met a man named Simon, who was coming into the city from the country, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross. They took Jesus to a place called Golgotha, which means "The Place of the Skull."

Mark 15: 21-22

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ VERONICA WIPES JESUS' FACE

STATION VI

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror. Then we shall see face to face. What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete-as complete as God's knowledge of me. Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope, and love; and the greatest of these is love. *I Corinthians 13: 12-13*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ JESUS FALLS FOR THE SECOND TIME

STATION VII

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

Our High Priest is not one who cannot feel sympathy for our weaknesses. On the contrary, we have a High Priest who was tempted in every way that we are, but did not sin. Let us have confidence, then, and approach God's throne, where there is grace. There we will receive mercy and find grace to help us just when we need it. *Hebrews 4: 15-16*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ **JESUS SPEAKS TO THE WOMEN**

STATION VIII

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

A large crowd of people followed him; among them were some women who were weeping and wailing for him. Jesus turned to them and said, "Women of Jerusalem! Don't cry for me, but for yourselves and your children. For the days are coming when people will say, 'How lucky are the women who never had children, who never bore babies, who never nursed them!' That will be the time when people will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Hide us!' For if such things as these are done when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" *Luke 23: 27-31*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ **JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME**

STATION IX

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

Many will give up their faith at that time, they will betray one another and hate one another. Then many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.

Such will be the spread of evil that many people's love will grow cold. But whoever hold out to the end will be saved. *Matthew 24: 10-13*

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

STATION X

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

They crucified him and then divided his clothes among them by throwing dice. After that they sat there and watched him. Above his head they put the written notice of the accusation against him: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then they crucified two bandits with Jesus, one on his right and the other on his left. People passing by shook their heads and hurled insults at Jesus: "You were going to tear down the Temple and build it back up in three days! Save yourself if you are God's Son! Come on down from the cross!"

Matthew 27: 35-40

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

STATION XI

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

Then Pilate's soldiers took Jesus into the governor's palace, and the whole company gathered around him. They stripped off his clothes and put a scarlet robe on him. Then they made a crown out of thorny branches and placed it on his head, and put a stick in his right hand; then they knelt before him and made fun of him. "Long live the King of the Jews!" they said.

Matthew 27: 27-30

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

STATION XII

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

At noon the whole country was covered with darkness, which lasted for three hours. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why did you abandon me?" Some of the people there heard him and said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah!" One of them ran up with a sponge, soaked it in cheap wine, and put it on the end of a stick. Then he held it up to Jesus' lips and said, "Wait! Let us see if Elijah is coming to bring him down from the cross!"

Mark 15: 33-36

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✠ JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

STATION XIII

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

The two men took Jesus' body and wrapped it in linen cloths with the spices according to the Jewish custom of preparing a body for burial. There was a garden in the place where Jesus had been put to death, and in it there was a new tomb where no one had ever been buried. Since it was the day before the Sabbath and because the tomb was close by, they placed Jesus' body there.

John 19: 40-42

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)



✦ JESUS IS BURIED IN THE TOMB

STATION XIV

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and praise you.

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

Reading

When it was evening, a rich man from Arimathea arrived; his name was Joseph, and he also was a disciple of Jesus. He went into the presence of Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate gave orders for the body to be given to Joseph. So Joseph took it, wrapped it in a new linen sheet, and placed it in his own tomb, which he had just recently dug out of solid rock. Then he rolled a large stone across the entrance to the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there, facing the tomb. "Take a guard," Pilate told them; "go and make the tomb as secure as you can." So they left and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and leaving the guard on watch.

Matthew 27: 57-61, 65-66

Leader:

Let us pray: Lord let your mercy be upon us as we place our trust in you.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
(three times)

FINAL REFLECTION FROM POPE FRANCIS

What was a simple act of love - going to the tomb - has turned in to an event, a truly life-changing event. Nothing remains as it was before, not only in the lives of those people, but also in our own lives and in the history of humankind. Jesus is not dead, he is alive. He does not simply return to life; rather he is life itself, because he is the Son of God, the living God. Jesus no longer belongs to the past, but lives in the present and is projected towards the future. *(Pope Francis, Homily, Easter Vigil, March 30, 2013)*

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Glory be to the Father...

Blessing...

