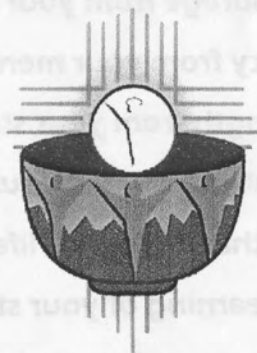


The Stations of the Cross



Corpus Christi
Catholic Church



OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

Your eternal love has gathered us together

To draw courage from your courage;

Mercy from your mercy;

And strength from your strength.

We thank you for your suffering

In that it gives us life.

Through learning of your struggles,

May we be able to endure through our own,

Knowing we have been redeemed by you, Jesus,

And your heavenly Father.

AMEN

Station Number I: Jesus is condemned to die

P: Jesus is whipped and forced to wear a crown of thorns. Pontius Pilate offers the crowd a choice of prisoners and they choose to free Barabbas. The crowd cheers as Pilate condemns Jesus to death on a cross.

G: As Jesus accepted his sacrifice, help me also to accept the sacrifices that I must make.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number II: Jesus takes up his cross

P: Although Jesus is already hurt and weak he takes up the heavy cross. He begins his final journey.

G: Jesus took up his burden although he was weak. Help me to be strong enough to bear my burdens.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number III: Jesus falls the first time

P: Surrounded by the jeering crowd and struggling on the rocky road, Jesus falls under the weight of the cross.

G: Even Jesus, the Son of God, was subject to human frailties. I am human and am not perfect. Help me to recover when I fall.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number IV: Jesus meets his mother

- P:** Upon meeting one another, they do not have to speak, for their looks tell all. Can you imagine seeing your mother hours before your death with both of you knowing what will happen? It has been said that it is harder for a child to die before the parents. What strength and courage it must have taken.
- G:** Give us the strength to face life's challenges with the courage that Jesus and his mother showed that day.
- P:** And like Jesus, carry on.
- G:** Amen.

Station Number V: Simon helps Jesus carry the cross

- P:** And as Jesus loses all his strength, a local person, Simon, is called to help Jesus carry the cross. Jesus is there to help us carry our cross in the same way, when we feel we have no more strength left.
- G:** When I feel like I have no strength to carry on, let me look to Jesus to help carry my cross.
- P:** And like Jesus, carry on.
- G:** Amen.

Station Number VI: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

- P:** As Jesus walks toward his death, sweat and blood blur his vision. Veronica emerges from the crowd to wipe the sweat from his brow.
- G:** As Veronica found it in her heart to help Jesus, let me find it in my heart to help those around me.
- P:** And like Jesus, carry on.
- G:** Amen.

Station Number VII: Jesus falls the second time

P: Jesus carries on again, bearing the weight of the heavy cross. Having carried the cross a long way, he collapses under the immense pressure.

G: Help me to rise again as Jesus did, as I bear my burdens.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number VIII: Jesus meets the women

P: The women give Jesus compassion and sympathy, but Jesus does not accept their pity. He only asks them to take sympathy toward their own families.

G: Help me to not pity myself, but turn my compassion toward others as Jesus did.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number IX: Jesus falls the third time

P: Under the weight of his sacrifice, Jesus falls yet again, showing the weakness of all humanity. With all hope gone, Jesus still bore the cross.

G: Help me to bear the crosses that I carry in my own life, not letting my flaws hold me back.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.



Station Number X: Jesus is stripped of his garments

P: Arriving at Mt. Golgotha, Jesus stands without protest as he is stripped of his clothes and his dignity, while soldiers gamble away his possessions.

G: Help me to not be attached to my possessions but to my faith.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number XI: Jesus is nailed to the cross

P: Even with the great pain Jesus has suffered, he has enough love to forgive those who do not know what they are doing.

G: Give me the tolerance and strength to forgive those who cause me pain through their ignorance and to keep my faith strong like Jesus, even at my darkest hour.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number XII: Jesus dies on the cross

P: After he speaks his last words, Jesus gives his soul to God. A Roman soldier thrusts his lance into Jesus' body, and immediately witnesses a miracle. The centurion says, "Truly this was the son of God".

G: As Jesus sacrificed himself for me, let me sacrifice myself for others.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen.

Station Number XIII: Jesus is taken down from the cross

P: Joseph of Arimathea, a member of the council who opposed the crowd's plan, asks Pilate for Jesus' body to give him an honorable burial.

G: Sometimes the right thing to do is not obvious.

Help me to have the strength to do what is right.

P: And like Jesus, carry on.

G: Amen

Station Number XIV: Jesus is laid in the tomb

P: Jesus is placed in the tomb by Joseph. The stone is rolled over the tomb, signifying the end of Jesus' sacrifice is the beginning of his resurrection.

G: Let me realize that the end to Jesus' sacrifice is the beginning of my salvation.

P: And with this knowledge, we will carry on.

G: Amen



CLOSING PRAYER

**Jesus, continue to give us courage to face our problems
as you did, with strength and wisdom.**

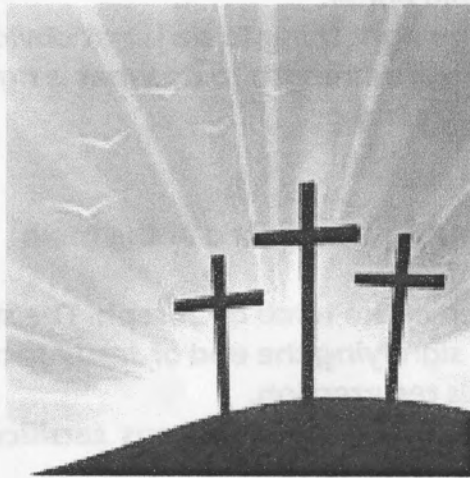
Though sinners, your death has redeemed us.

**We pray that we can be as forgiving as you were in your
time of suffering. We love you. Receive our prayers.**

In the Name of the Father, the Son,

And the Holy Spirit.

AMEN



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