

# STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross is an ancient spiritual practice that remains vital and important to this day. It imitates the practice of visiting the places of Jesus' Passion in the Holy Land by early Christian pilgrims. You are invited to visit the stations at home, using the following Woodcut prints © by Margaret Adams Parker. The meditations and prayers were written by Frank and Victoria Logue.



## Station 1

### Jesus Is Condemned to Death

Lord Jesus, crucified, have  
mercy on us! At the cross  
her station keeping,  
Stood the mournful Mot  
her weeping, Close to Je  
sus to the last.

## Meditation

Betrayed. Deserted. Alone.  
Jesus stands before an unj  
ust judge.  
Dry palm branches crackle und  
er the feet of the crowd.  
Soldiers rain down punches a  
nd crown him with thorns.  
Jesus is condemned to die.

## Station 2

### Jesus Takes up His Cross

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Through her heart, His sorrow sharing  
All His bitter anguish bearing,  
Now at length the sword has passed.

#### Meditation

Splinters. Heavy, rough wood. The scent of  
the hill country.  
A single beam laid across the back of a  
carpenter.  
The crowd jeers. The procession to the place  
of the skull begins.



## Station 3

### Jesus Falls the First Time

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
O, how sad and sore distressed  
Was that Mother highly blessed  
Of the sole-begotten One!

#### Meditation

Stumble.  
Waver. Collapse.  
Jesus' sweat mingles with dust as he falls to  
the earth.  
The weight of the sins of the world on his  
shoulders.  
Barely able to stand. He can not carry the  
cross without falling.

## Station 4

### Jesus Meets His Afflicted Mother

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Christ above in torment hangs,  
She beneath beholds the pangs,  
Of her dying, glorious Son.

#### Meditation

Mother and child. Madonna.  
Joseph has died. There is no angelic choir.  
No shepherds. No wise men.  
Gone are the gold, frankincense and myrrh.  
Mary sees her battered son through a veil of  
tears.



### Station 5

#### The Cross Is Laid on Simon of Cyrene

Jesus Christ, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Is there one who would not weep  
When in misery so deep  
Christ's dear Mother to behold?

#### Meditation

Stranger.  
Neighbor. Friend.  
Simon takes up your cross. In so doing takes  
up his own.  
Another innocent man joins the procession to  
Calvary.



### Station 6

#### A Woman Wipes the Face of Jesus

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Can the human heart refrain  
From partaking in her pain,  
In that Mother's pain untold?

#### Meditation

Cloth.  
Sweat. Blood. Icon.  
Legend tells of a woman wiping Jesus' face  
and gaining an image of Christ painted in his  
blood on her cloth.  
In relieving the suffering of others we, too,  
find the face of Jesus.

### Station 7

#### Jesus Falls a Second Time

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled,  
She beheld her tender child,  
All with bloody scourges rent.

#### Meditation

Oppressed.  
Afflicted. Silently suffering.  
Simon carries the cross, yet Jesus can not  
continue.  
He bears our infirmities and carries our sorrows.  
Crushed under their weight,  
Jesus falls once more.



## Station 8

### Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
For the sins of His own nation  
Saw Him hang in desolation  
Till His Spirit forth He sent.

#### Meditation

Tears.  
Wailing. Daughters. Mothers. Grief.  
Women beat their breasts and mourn openly,  
for the Son of Man, but his concern is for  
them and their children in the days of woe  
yet to come.



## Station 9

### Jesus Falls a Third Time

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
O thou Mother! Fount of love,  
Touch my spirit from above.  
Make my heart with thine accord.

#### Meditation

Brutalized.  
Dazed. Beyond strength.  
Now nearly on Calvary's broad summit, Jesus  
collapses.  
Poles long set into the ground are silhouetted  
against gray clouds.  
Impatiently, Jesus is pulled up and shoved  
angrily toward his death.

## Station 10

### Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Make me feel as thou hast felt;  
Make my soul to glow and melt  
With the love of Christ, my Lord.

#### Meditation

King of Glory. King of Peace.  
Stripped bare. The crown of thorns is all that  
remains.  
One possession remains—his life.  
Holding nothing back, Jesus offers that last gift.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS CONTINUED

### Station 11

#### Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Holy Mother, pierce me through!  
In my heart, each wound renew  
Of my Savior crucified.

#### Meditation

Cold steel. Warm flesh. Nails rip through  
tendon and muscle.  
Blood soaks into splintered wood.  
Jesus responds.  
"Father forgive them for they know not what  
they do."



### Station 12

#### Jesus Dies on the cross

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Let me share with thee His pain,  
Who for all our sins was slain,  
Who for me in torments died.

#### Meditation

Despised. Rejected. Eloi,  
Eloi, Lama sabachthani?  
My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?  
Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.  
From top to bottom the veil in the Temple is  
torn in two.

### Station 13

#### The Body of Jesus Is Placed in the Arms of his Mother

Lord Jesus, crucified, have mercy on us!  
Let me mingle tears with thee,  
Mourning Him who mourned for me,  
All the days that I may live.

#### Meditation

Mourning mother. Broken child.  
A sword of grief pierces her soul.  
Women surround her, but none can comfort her.  
Her name is bitterness.



#### Station 14

#### Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb

Jesus Christ, crucified, have mercy on us!  
By the cross with thee to stay,  
There with thee to weep and pray,  
Is all I ask of thee to give.

#### Meditation

Cold stone. A shroud. Darkness.  
Sabbath rest at last.  
The disciples gather in fear.  
A grain of wheat waits for spring.



#### The Lord's Prayer

from The New Zealand Prayer Book

Eternal Spirit,  
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and for ever. Amen.

#### Concluding Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion,  
cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the  
hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to  
the dead; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners  
everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live  
and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.