

Ecce Homo



Stations of the Cross

Windows from
Our Lady of Mt Carmel
Parish Church
Coorparoo

Adapted from prayers
by John Peterson

Station 1 Jesus is judged



So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters, the *Praetorium* in Latin), and they called together the whole court. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.

Mark 15:15-17

Leader: We pray...

- for politicians, statespersons, government officials, leaders, that they may seek the common good—peace, equity and justice;
- for judges and magistrates, that they may administer true justice impartially and with mercy;
- for those who have power of life and death over others;
- for every occasion when human beings use their skill to hurt and kill.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray ...

ALL: For those condemned to death for whatever reason;
for those imprisoned, lawfully and unlawfully, justly and unjustly;
for those serving very long or indeterminate sentence;
for ourselves...
when we judge others, and for those we condemn;
when we stand judged or condemned, rightly or wrongly;
that we may know the witness and humility of Christ.

Ostinato Refrain (J. Berthier, Taizé):

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Station 2

Jesus receives his cross

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.



John 19:16b-17

Leader: We pray for all law enforcement officers and those required to impose punishment.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

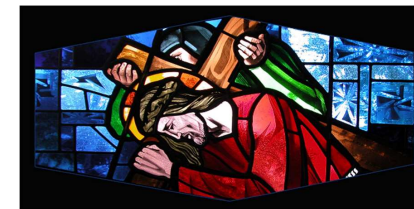
Leader: Let us pray ...

ALL: For those who mock and torment others and for those who are mocked and tormented;
for all victims of violence and those who commit violence against others;
for those who live under military rule or occupation;
for ourselves...
when we mock, insult or hurt others;
when we ourselves are hurt or put down;
that any suffering we may have to endure may be fruitful
for ourselves and for others as was Christ's suffering;
and that we may be preserved from indifference to the sufferings of others.

Station 3

Jesus falls for the first time

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.



Isaiah 53:4

Leader: We pray...

- for those who are weak and in pain, especially those living with incurable diseases;
- for those who experience physical exhaustion;
- for those who are weak and sick with hunger;
- for those suffering the weakness of advanced age;
- for those facing failure.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who care for the physically weak, the sick, the elderly;
for doctors and nurses, social workers, counsellors, hospital workers and families;
for ourselves...
when we face sickness, physical weakness, tiredness and exhaustion;
when we experience failure;
that we may know the power of Christ's experience on the cross.

Station 4 Jesus meets his mother

"This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."



Luke 2:34b-35

Leader: We pray in thanksgiving...

- for the example, love and prayers of Mary, the Mother of our Lord;
- for our own mothers and fathers, naming them now in our hearts before God... in thanksgiving for all the love and joy that they have brought to us, and in sorrow for all the ways in which we may have hurt them;
- for all who have been "mothers" and "fathers" to us and who still are;
- for those living on this side of the narrow curtain of death, and those who have died and are living beyond it.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those to whom we are mother and father physically, spiritually, by adoption, or personally, that they may grow in wisdom and stature and in favour with God, with themselves and with others; for ourselves...
as children and as parents, that we may know the love, commitment and gentleness of Mary and of Jesus, our Lord, in all our relationships;
and that we, like Mary, may treasure all these things in our hearts.

Station 5 Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.



Luke 23:26

Leader: We pray in gratitude that it was an African who helped Jesus on the way to Calvary...

- for all peoples of Africa;
- for the newly emerging and developing nations, in Africa, Asia and in others parts of the world;
- for those nations and people still seeking freedom and independence;
- for international understanding and cooperation to foster mutual respect and security between nations.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who suffer because of colour, race or creed;
for the removal of all barriers of resentment and prejudice between peoples;
for ourselves...
in deepest thanksgiving that God finds us lovable,
that God gave Jesus Christ so that we may have eternal life;
that we may be free from all prejudice based on sex, race, colour, religion or social or economic status;
and be freed from self-love and selfishness in giving, serving, affirming and nurturing others.

Station 6 Veronica wipes Jesus' brow

He had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity,
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Isaiah 53:2b-3



Leader: We pray in thanksgiving...

- for all who see with God's eyes and who recognise love and beauty where we may see only ugliness and squalor;
- for every act and occasion of compassion and caring.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those in our world today suffering pain, deprivation and degradation;
for all who have the courage to love and show compassion;
for ourselves...
that our eyes may be opened to see beauty where God sees beauty...
that we may be given a heart open to compassion and hands ready to comfort and console;
that others may see in us a true icon of God.

Station 7 Jesus falls a second time

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness: by his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 2:24



Leader: We pray in humility and gratitude...

- for God's mercy and forgiveness, that mercy may always temper justice;
- for heads of state, members of parole boards and those who have responsibility for showing official mercy;
- for all who seek pardon and mercy.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who suffer mental weakness and fatigue;
for those who are mentally ill, anxious, lonely or distressed;
for those suffering from senility;
and that whenever we see someone in pain we may recognise Christ in them and Christ in us.

Station 8 Jesus talks to the weeping women

A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

"Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say 'Blessed are the barren, and those wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains 'Fall on us' and to the hills 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Luke 23:27-31



Station 9 Jesus falls a third time

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet is without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:15-16



Leader: We pray...

- for all women everywhere, especially for those who have to watch husbands, sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, friends or lovers go to war;
- for those women who have suffered violence in their lives and for those whose children have been the victims of violence and sexual abuse;
- for women of Jerusalem today: Jews, Christians, Muslims, Palestinians, Arabs, Israelis, Armenians and others;
- and for the women we know in our lives and who are standing beside us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: In penitence and sorrow for each time right is obscured by might;
for every time the powerful are given undue respect while the weak
and powerless, the poor and dispossessed are ignored and
repressed;
we pray for the liberation of women and for liberation of men;
for ourselves...
that we love and respect those who are oppressed and know Christ's
dignity when we are made to suffer indignity.

Leader: We pray...

- for those who experience weakness and failure;
- for those who know what it is to lose their faith;
- for those who have lost hope in this world or the next;
- for those who are at the very limits of their mental, physical, spiritual or moral strength.

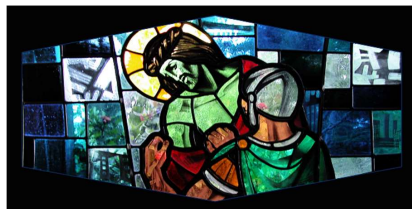
Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who counsel the despairing or suicidal;
for chaplains and those who minister in prisons;
for ourselves...
when we know moral failure;
when everything and everyone seems to be against us and hope
flees;
that we may remember Jesus waiting for crucifixion and know his
patience, presence and resolve.

Station 10 Jesus is stripped of his garments



When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfil what scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothes they cast lots."

John 19:23-24

Leader: We pray at the tenth station...

- for those who are exposed to ridicule who are shamed, humiliated, degraded;
- for all victims of abuse—for women who are raped and for children who are victims of violence and sexual abuse.

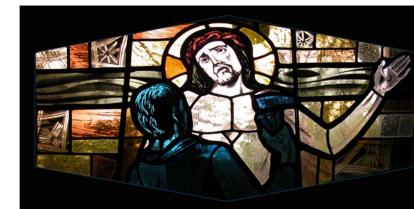
Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who expose, shame, humiliate and degrade others,
by word or action or simply by their thoughts;
for those who degrade or exploit others racially, sexually,
intellectually, or economically;
for ourselves...
when we are ashamed or abused,
that we may find healing and have nothing to hide.

Station 11 Jesus is crucified



Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

Matthew 27:39-40

Leader: We pray in awe and gratitude as we stand before the mystery of the cross...

- here we know that God loved the world so much that God gave his Son to this kind of suffering and this kind of death;
- that Jesus accepted this suffering and death out of love for us so that we may share his risen life;
- we acclaim Jesus as the Christ, fountain of our salvation and healing.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

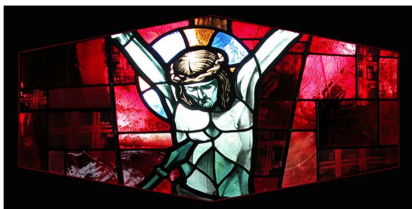
Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who would destroy that which is good, that which is sacred, beautiful and true;
for every attempt to suppress the truth and the good news of Christ crucified and for all who are persecutors of Christ's church and God's children in the world;
for those who are persecuted or oppressed for any reason;
for ourselves...
when we are called to account for our faith,
that we may understand and incorporate into our lives the Way of the Cross, allowing sin, suffering and death to be broken on the rock of love, and refusing to retaliate with evil against evil.

Station 12

Jesus dies on the cross

The Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he had breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"



Mark 15:37-39

Leader: We pray...

- for the dying;
- for ourselves, in our last days, in our last hour;
- in gratitude that because of the loneliness of Jesus on the cross no one need ever die alone or without hope.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who care for the dying: their families, friends, nurses, doctors, counsellors and the communion of saints;
for all in hospices for the dying;
for all persons who have died, whoever they may be,
that they may know Jesus and share his risen and eternal life.

Ostinato Refrain (J. Berthier, Taizé):

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Station 13

Jesus is taken down from the cross

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of some Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths; according to the custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.



John 19:38-42

Leader: We pray...

- for the dead, especially those we have known and loved, remembering them in our hearts;
- for those who have influenced us for good.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray...

ALL: For those who mourn;
for those who care for the bereaved;
for the healing of pain and grief;
for ourselves...
whenever we eat the bread and drink the cup of salvation;
in thanksgiving that Jesus Christ gave his body to be broken for us
and his blood to be shed for us;
that we may be enabled and strengthened by his Spirit to give
ourselves to be broken and poured out for others,
for the sanctification of the whole of God's creation.

Station 14 Jesus' body is placed in the tomb

So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there sitting opposite the tomb.



Matthew 27:59-61

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, we come to confess our feelings:

ALL: We come with anxiety and sorrow, with hope and expectation.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, we come to the lonely cross:

ALL: We see you stripped, we see you murdered, we see you deserted.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, we come to the empty tomb:

ALL: We remember how we treated our parents, friends, neighbours, our Lord, and we are sorry.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, when we come to the empty tomb:

ALL: We see a hungry world before us, the pain of starving children, the guilt of war on our hands, the terror of friends without rights, the suffering Earth being abused, and we know that we share in these evils.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, when we come to the empty tomb:

ALL: We see inside ourselves and we cannot escape what we are, people caught in our own selfish love, our cold hypocrisy, our depressions, our loneliness, and our frustrations.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, when we come to the empty tomb:

ALL: We face you as never before, as the one forgotten, as the one opposed, as the one pushed aside, as the one left out.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, we come to the empty tomb:

ALL: To confess our guilt, our pain, our emptiness, and to look for hope from you.

Concluding Prayer Resurrection

Leader: But it is also at the empty tomb that we receive our healing:
People of God, why do you seek the living among the dead?

ALL: Because we are afraid, we are uncertain and we are uncomfortable here.

Leader: Do not be afraid, for he has risen from the dead, he has broken through the tomb, he has come back to life, and he is here among us now.

People of God, why do you seek the living among the dead?

ALL: Because we feel guilty, we feel lonely, and we feel lost for we deserted that man.

Leader: Do not carry your guilt any longer, for he has broken the guilt himself. He has buried it in his grave, he has lifted it to his cross, and he is here among us now.

People of God, why do you seek the living among the dead?

ALL: Because our wounds are deep, we have torn away from that man, we have broken with him and with our brothers and sisters.

Leader: Do not dwell on your wound for he has risen to heal you, he has risen to forgive you, he has risen to change you all, and bind us all together.

People of God, he is not here; he is risen!

ALL: Yes, he is risen!

Leader: He is risen! Alleluia!

ALL: And he is here! Alleluia!

Leader: O God, send down your abundant blessing upon us, your people, who devoutly recall the death of your Son in the hope of the resurrection. Grant us pardon; bring us comfort. May our faith grow stronger and our eternal salvation be assured. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen!

