

Opening Prayer

We adore you, Oh Christ, and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world

First Station: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane (olive-press), and He told His disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” And taking with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee [James and John], He began to be grieved and greatly distressed. Then He said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, so that I am almost dying *of sorrow*. Stay here and stay awake *and* keep watch with Me.”

And after going a little farther, He fell face down and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible [that is, consistent with Your will], let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.” And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “So, you *men* could not stay awake *and* keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep *actively* watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” **(Matthew 26:36-41) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us your strength and wisdom,
that we may seek to follow your will in all things
Lord Jesus, help us walk in your steps.

Second Station: Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, is Arrested

And at once, while He was still speaking, Judas [Iscaiot], one of the twelve [disciples], came up, and with him a crowd of men with swords and clubs, *who came* from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders [of the Sanhedrin]. Now the betrayer had given them a signal, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the one; seize Him and lead Him away safely [under guard].” When Judas came, immediately he went up to Jesus and said, “Rabbi (Master!)” and he kissed Him [forcefully]. They laid hands on Him and seized Him. **(Mark 14: 43-46) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us the courage of our convictions that our lives may faithfully reflect the good news you bring.

Third Station: Jesus is Condemned by the Sanhedrin

When day came, the Council of the elders of the people (Sanhedrin, Jewish High Court) assembled, both chief priests and scribes; and they led Jesus away to the council *chamber*, saying, “If You are the Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed), tell us.” But He said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe [what I say], and if I ask a question, you will not answer. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” And they all said, “Are You the Son of God, then?” He replied, “*It is just as you say.*” Then they asked, “What further need of testimony do we have? For we ourselves have heard it from His own mouth.”
(Luke 22: 66-71) AMP

Prayer:

Lord, grant us your sense of righteousness that we may never cease to work to bring about the justice of the kingdom that you promised.

Fourth Station: Jesus is Denied by Peter

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl came up to him and said, “You too were with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” And when he had gone out to the gateway, another *servant-girl* saw him and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus the Nazarene.” And again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them too; for even your [Galilean] accent gives you away.” Then he began to curse [that is, to invoke God’s judgment on himself] and swear [an oath], “I do not know the man!” And at that moment a rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the [prophetic] words of Jesus, when He had said, “Before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly [in repentance]. **(Matthew 26: 69-75) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us the gift of honesty, that we may not fear to speak the truth even when it is difficult.

Fifth Station: Jesus is Judged by Pilate

Early in the morning the chief priests, with the elders and scribes and the whole Council (Sanhedrin, Jewish High Court), immediately consulted together; and they bound Jesus, they took Him away [violently] and handed Him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?” And He replied to him, “It is as you say.” The chief priests *began* accusing Him of many things. Then Pilate again asked Him, “Have You no answer [to give]? See how many charges they are bringing against You!” But Jesus gave no further answer; so Pilate was perplexed.

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, set Barabbas free for them; and after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over [to his soldiers] to be crucified.

(Mark 15: 1-5, 15) AMP

Prayer:

Lord, grant us discernment that we may see as you see, not as the world sees.

Sixth Station: Jesus is Scourged and Crowned with Thorns

So then Pilate took Jesus and had Him scourged (flogged, whipped). And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and put a purple robe around Him; and they kept coming up to Him, saying [mockingly], “Hail, King of the Jews [Good health! Peace! Long life to you, King of the Jews]!” And they slapped Him *in the face*. **(John 19: 1-3) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us patience in times of suffering that we may offer our lives as a sacrifice of praise.

Seventh Station: Jesus Bears the Cross

When the chief priests and officers saw Him, they shouted, “Crucify [Him]! Crucify [Him]!” Pilate said to them, “Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him [no crime, no cause for an accusation].”

But they shouted, “Away with *Him*, away with *Him*, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of the Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. **(John 19: 6, 15-17) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us strength of purpose that we may faithfully bear our crosses each day.

Eighth Station: Jesus is Helped by Simon the Cyrenian to Carry the Cross

They forced into service a passer-by coming in from the countryside, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to carry His cross. **(Mark 15: 21) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us willing spirits that we may be your instruments on earth.

Ninth Station: Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

Following Him was a large crowd of the people, including women who were mourning and wailing for Him. But Jesus, turning toward them, said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that have not given birth, and the breasts that have never nursed.’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’ For if they do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

(Luke 23: 27-31) AMP

Prayer:

Lord, grant us gentle spirits that we may comfort those who mourn.

Tenth Station: Jesus is Crucified

When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. And Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots, dividing His clothes among themselves. **(Luke 23: 33-34) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us merciful hearts that we may bring your reconciliation and forgiveness to all.

Eleventh Station: Jesus Promises His Kingdom to the Good Thief

One of the criminals who had been hanged [on a cross beside Him] kept hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us [from death]!" But the other one rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? *We are suffering* justly, because we are getting what we deserve for what we have done; but this Man has done nothing wrong." And he was saying, "Jesus, [please] remember me when You come into Your kingdom!" Jesus said to him, "I assure you *and* most solemnly say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." **(Luke 23: 39-43) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us perseverance that we may never stop seeking you.

Twelfth Station: Jesus Speaks to His Mother and the Disciple

So the soldiers did these things.

But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, His mother's sister [Salome], Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. So Jesus, seeing His mother, and the disciple whom He loved (esteemed) standing near, said to His mother, "[Dear] woman, look, [here is] your son!" Then He said to the disciple (John), "Look! [here is] your mother [protect and provide for her]!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own *home*. **(John 19: 25-27) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us constancy
that we may be willing to stand by those in need.

Thirteenth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross

It was now about the sixth hour (noon), and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour (3:00 p.m.), because the sun was obscured; and the veil [of the Holy of Holies] of the temple was torn in two [from top to bottom]. And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!" Having said this, He breathed His last. **(Luke 23: 44-46) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us trust in you that when our time on earth is ended, our spirits may come to you without delay.

Fourteenth Station: Jesus is Placed in the Tomb

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus [so that he might bury Him], and Pilate ordered that it be given *to him*. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth (burial wrapping), and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock; and he rolled a large stone over the entrance of the tomb and went away. **(Matthew 27: 57-60) AMP**

Prayer:

Lord, grant us your compassion, that we may always provide for those in need.

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, your passion and death is the sacrifice that unites earth and heaven and reconciles all people to you.

May we who have faithfully reflected on these mysteries follow in your steps and so come to share your glory in heaven where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.