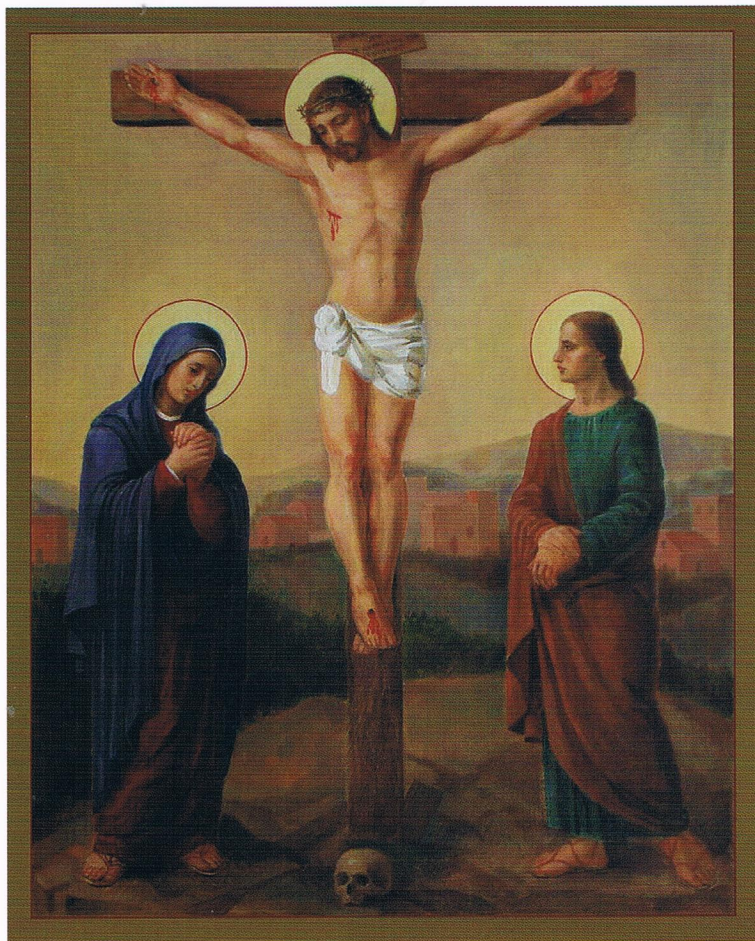


STATIONS OF THE CROSS



**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
76 SPRINGS ROAD
CLAYTON SOUTH - VIC 3169**

*These fourteen steps that you are now about to walk
You do not take alone, I walk with you.*

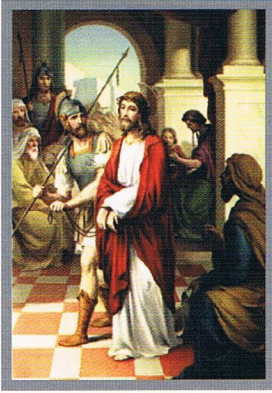
Though you are you, and I am I, yet we are truly one, one Christ.

*And therefore my way of the cross two thousand years ago, and
your way now are also one.*

But note this difference.

My life was incomplete until I crowned it by my death.

*Your fourteen steps will only be complete,
when you have crowned them by your life.*



THE FIRST STATION

Jesus is condemned to death

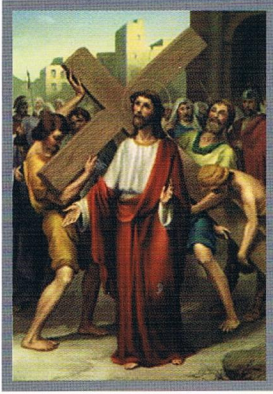
- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : In Pilate's hands, my other self, I see my Father's will. Though Pilate is unjust, he is the lawful governor, and he has power over me, and so the Son of God obeys. If I can bow to Pilate's rule because this is my Father's will, can you refuse obedience to those whom I place over you?
- I Reply** : My Jesus, Lord, obedience cost you your life. For me, it costs an act of will - no more - and yet, how hard it is for me to bend. Remove the blinders from my eyes that I may see that it is you whom I obey in all who govern me. Lord, It is you.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: At the cross her station keeping, stood the mournful Mother weeping, close to Jesus to the last



THE SECOND STATION

Jesus takes up His Cross

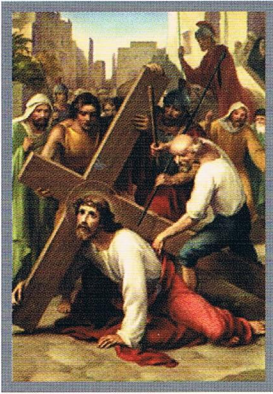
- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : This cross, this chunk of tree, is what my Father chose for me. The crosses you must bear are largely products of your daily life - and yet, my Father chose them too - for you. Receive them from his hands. Take heart, my other self, I will not let your burdens grow, one ounce too heavy for your strength.
- I Reply** : My Jesus, Lord, I take my daily cross. I welcome the monotony that often marks my day, discomforts of all kinds, the Summer's heat, the Winter's cold, my disappointments, tensions, setbacks, cares. Remind me often that in carrying my cross, I carry yours with you. And though I bear a sliver only of your cross, you carry all of mine, accept a sliver in return.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Through her heart, His sorrow sharing, all His bitter anguish bearing, now at length the sword had passed.



THE THIRD STATION

Jesus falls the First time

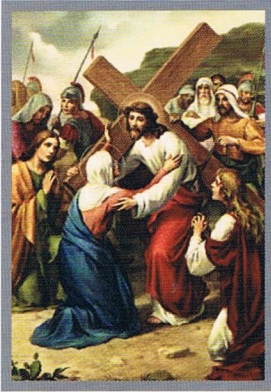
- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : The God, who made the universe & holds it in existence by His will alone, becomes a man too weak to bear a piece of timber's weight. How human in his weakness is the Son of God. My Father willed it thus; I could not be your model otherwise. If you would be my other self, you also must accept without complaint your human frailties.
- I Reply** : Lord Jesus, how can I refuse? I willingly accept my weaknesses, my irritations & my moods, my headaches & fatigue, all my defects of body, mind and soul, because they are your will for me, these handicaps of my humanity. I gladly suffer them. Make me content with all my discontents, but give me strength to struggle after you.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Oh, how sad and sore distressed, now was she that Mother blest of the sole-begotten One!



THE FOURTH STATION

Jesus Meets His Mother

- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : My mother sees me whipped. She sees me kicked, and driven like a beast. She counts my every wound. But though her soul cries out in agony, no protest or complaint escapes her lips or even enters her thoughts. She shares my martyrdom - and I share hers. We hide no pain, no sorrow, from each other's eyes. This is my Father's will.
- I Reply** : My Jesus, Lord. I know what you are telling me. To watch the pain of those we love is harder than to bear our own. To carry my cross after you, I, too, must stand & watch the sufferings of my dear ones - the heartaches, sicknesses and grief of those I love - and I must let them watch mine, too. I do believe for those who love you, all things work together unto good.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Christ above in torment hangs; She beneath beholds the pangs of her dying glorious Son.



THE FIFTH STATION

Simon helps Jesus to carry the Cross

- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : My strength is gone; I can no longer bear the cross alone, and so the legionnaires make Simon give me aid. This Simon is like you, my other self. Give me your strength. Each time you lift some burden from another's back, you lift as with your very hand the cross' awful weight that crushes me.
- I Reply** : Lord, make me realise that every time I wipe a dish, pick up an object off the floor, assist a child in some small task, or give another preference in traffic or the store; each time I feed the hungry, clothe the naked, teach the ignorant, or lend my hand in any way my name is Simon and the kindness I extend to them, I really give to you.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Is there one who would not weep, Whelmed in miseries so deep
Christ's dear Mother to behold.



THE SIXTH STATION

Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

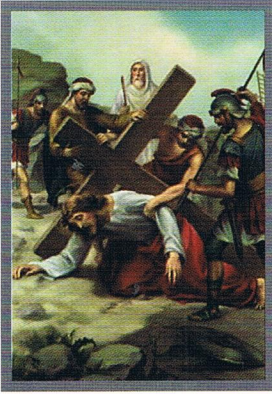
- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : Can you be brave enough, my other self, to wipe my bloody face? Where is my face, you ask? At home - whenever eyes fill up with tears, at work when tensions rise, on playgrounds, in the slums, the courts, the hospitals, the jails wherever suffering exists, my face is there - and there I look for you, to wipe away my blood & tears.
- I Reply** : Lord, what you ask is hard. It calls for courage & self-sacrifice, and I am weak. Please, give me strength. Don't let me run away because of fear. Lord, live in me, and act in me, and love in me and not in me alone in all of us - so that we may reveal no more your bloody but your glorious face on earth.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Can the human heart refrain, from partaking in her pain, In that Mother's pain untold?



THE SEVENTH STATION

Jesus falls a second time

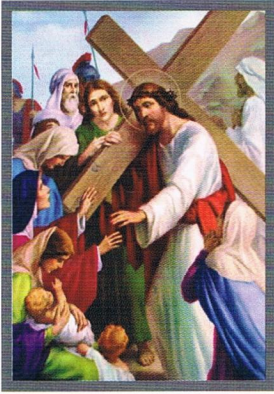
- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : This seventh step, my other self, is one that tests your will. From this fall learn to persevere in doing good. The time will come when all your efforts seem to fail, and you will think, I can't go on. Then turn to me, my heavy-laden one, and I will give you rest.
- I Reply** : Give me your courage, Lord. When failure presses heavily on me and I am desolate, stretch out your hand to lift me up. I know I must not cease, but persevere in doing good. But help me, Lord - Alone there is nothing I can do - with you - I can do any - thing you ask - I will.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled, She beheld her tender child all with bloody scourges rent.



THE EIGHTH STATION

Jesus speaks to the women of Jerusalem

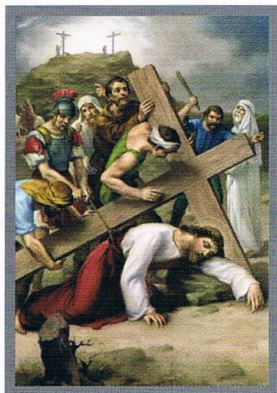
- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : How often had I longed to take the children of Jerusalem and gather them to me? But they refused. But now these women weep for me and my heart mourns for them - mourns for their sorrows that will come. I comfort those who seek to solace me. How gentle can you be my other self? How kind?
- I Reply** : My Jesus, your compassion in your passion is beyond compare. Lord, teach me, help me learn. When I would snap at those who hurt me with their ridicule, those who misunderstand, or hinder me with some misguided helpfulness, those who intrude upon my privacy then, help me curb my tongue. May gentleness become my cloak - Lord, make me kind like you.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: For the sins of His own nation, saw Him hang in desolation, Till His spirit forth He sent.



THE NINTH STATION

Jesus falls a Third time

Reader : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.

All : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.

Christ Speaks : Completely drained of strength, I lie, collapsed, upon the cobblestones. My body cannot move. No blows, no kicks, can rouse it up, and yet my will is mine, and so is yours. Know this, my other self, your body may be broken, but no force on earth and none in hell can take away your will. Your will is yours.

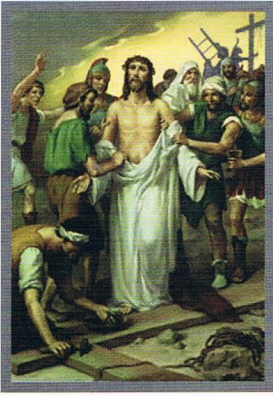
I Reply : My Lord, I see you take a moment's rest, then rise and stagger on. So I can do, because my will is mine. When all my strength is gone and guilt & self reproach press me to earth and seem to hold me fast, protect me from the sin of Judas - save me from despair! Lord, never let me feel that any sin of mine is greater than your love. No matter what my past has been, I can begin anew.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: O thou Mother! Fount of love! Touch my spirit from above; Make my heart with thine accord.



THE TENTH STATION

Jesus is stripped of His garments

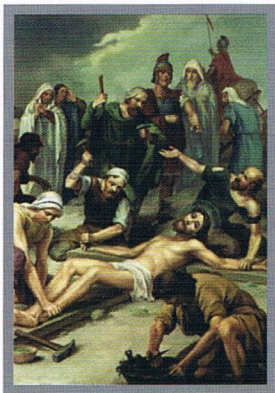
- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : Behold, my other self, the poorest king who ever lived. Before my creatures I stand stripped. The Cross - my deathbed - even this is not my own. Yet who has ever been so rich? Possessing nothing. I own all - my Father's love. If you, too, would own everything, be not solicitous about your food, your clothes, and your life.
- I Reply** : My Lord, I offer you my all - whatever I possess, and more - myself. Detach me from the craving for prestige, position, wealth. Root out of me all trace of envy of my neighbour who has more than I. Release me from the vice of pride, my longing to exalt myself, and lead me to the lowest place. May I be poor in spirit, Lord, so that I can be rich in you.

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Make me feel as thou hast felt; make my soul to glow and melt with the love of Christ our Lord.



THE ELEVENTH STATION

Jesus is nailed to the Cross

- Reader** : We adore thee O Christ & we praise Thee.
- All** : Because by thy Holy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.
- Christ Speaks** : Can you imagine what a crucifixion is ? My executioners stretch my arms; they hold my hand and wrist against the wood, and press the nail until it stabs my flesh. Then, with one heavy hammer, smash! They drive it through and pain, bursts like a bomb of fire in my brain. They seize the other arm, and agony again explodes. Then raising up my kness so that my feet are flat against the wood, they hammer them fast, too.
- I Reply** : My God, I look at you and think: Is my soul worth this much? What can I give you in return? I here & now accept for all my life whatever sickness, torment, agony may come. To every cross I touch my lips. O blessed cross that lets me be - with you a co-redeemer of humanity

Our Father | Hail Mary | Glory

Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us.

May the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Song: Holy Mother! Pierce me through; In my heart each wound renew of my Saviour crucified.