

# STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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Stations of the Cross

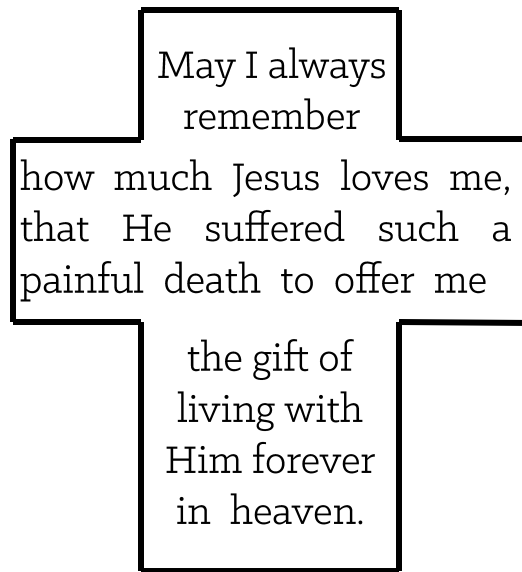
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THE HOLY FACE or  
IMAGE MADE WITHOUT HANDS  
(explanation of icon image on front cover)

According to tradition, at the time when Jesus was on earth healing the sick, the King of a small town in Syria, called Edessa, heard of His power. This King was dying from an incurable disease and sent a court representative to ask Jesus to come heal him. Jesus declined, but had pity on the messenger who had tried in vain all day to draw the likeness of Jesus to bring back to his master. Jesus wiped His face with a cloth and as He gave the cloth to the messenger, His image was miraculously engraved on the linen. When the King looked upon the image and believed, he was healed and his entire town then believed in Jesus.

This icon expresses the desire of Jesus to heal our every wound, even those we may be unable to describe. And He especially wants to heal us from any wound that would divide our will from the will of our heavenly Father.

The **IC XC** are the first and last letters of Christ's name in Greek (in our language Iesous Christos but the C is actually X in Greek). The Greek letters in Christ's halo (**O W N**) mean **The Being** or **He Who Is**, to emphasize that Christ is the same God who said those exact words to Moses in Exodus, **I am** or **He Who Is**.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

### LEADER:

Let us begin these Stations of the Cross in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### ALL:

Dear Lord Jesus, You have made this journey to the Cross to die for me. I have often forgotten about You and sinned against You. Please forgive me and allow me to walk with You now on this journey.



The *Stabat Mater* is an English adaptation of a Latin song often sung at the Stations of the Cross. As we approach each station, we will sing a verse from this traditional hymn.

### Entrance Song

At the cross her station keep-ing  
Stood the mourn-ful Mo - ther weep-ing  
Close to Je - sus to the last.

2. Through her heart His sorrow sharing  
All His bitter anguish bearing  
Now at length the sword has passed.
3. Jesus, Lord, condemned, defiled  
May we too be meek and mild  
As we tread your holy way.

# FIRST STATION



## JESUS IS CONDEMNED

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) *“Pilate said, ‘I am innocent of this man’s blood. Look to it yourselves.’ And the whole people said in reply, ‘His blood be upon us and upon our children.’ Then he released Barabbas to them, but after he had Jesus scourged, he handed him over to be crucified.” Matthew 27:24-26*

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Lord Jesus, please help us be strong enough to always stand up for what we know to be right. Give us courage, especially when it means we will stand alone or be made fun of. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



May we feel no bitter hatred,  
When we too are persecuted,  
Left alone to walk with You.

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# SECOND STATION



## JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) After being beaten, Jesus is taken outside by the soldiers and given a heavy cross to carry. He is led through the streets of Jerusalem to the place known as *The Skull*, which in Hebrew is *Golgotha*. His cross was made heavy by the weight of the sins of all mankind.

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Jesus, we are so sorry for our sins which gave You that heavy cross. Please help us to accept and join our daily sufferings with all You suffered for us. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Now the cross as Jesus bore it,  
Has become for us who share it,  
The jeweled cross of victory.

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# THIRD STATION



## JESUS FALLS

## THE FIRST TIME

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) The heavy cross cuts into our Lord's shoulders. Jesus is exhausted beneath the weight of the heavy cross. The soldiers hit Him ruthlessly, and He stumbles and falls.

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Lord Jesus, we are often thoughtless and even cruel to those around us. Help us ask Your forgiveness right away and try once again to be kind. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Weakened, prodded, cursed, and fallen,  
His whole body bruised and swollen,  
Jesus tripped and lay in pain.

# FOURTH STATION



## JESUS IS MET BY HIS BLESSED MOTHER

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand)

*“Come, all you who pass by the way,  
look and see*

*Whether there is any suffering like my  
suffering.” Lamentations 1:12*

Jesus continues on His way to Calvary and sees His mother, Mary. As their eyes meet, their bitter sorrow is shared. Simeon’s prophecy to Mary is now fulfilled: *“and you yourself a sword will pierce.” Luke 2:35*

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Jesus, You have given us our Blessed Mother as a great model for courage and suffering in love. Help us remember always to look to her for comfort. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Jesus met His grieving mother,  
She who made the Lord our Brother,  
Now the sword her heart has pierced.

# FIFTH STATION



## SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) Jesus struggles on with His cross and is exhausted and bleeding from His many wounds. The soldiers are in a hurry and see that Jesus is going too slowly, so they force a passer-by named Simon of Cyrene to take up the cross of Jesus.

STUDENT LEADER: O Dear Jesus, give us ears to hear when You ask us to reach out and help a stranger, who is You in disguise. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Simon stopped in hesitation,  
Not foreseeing his proud station,  
Called to bear the cross of Christ.

# SIXTH STATION



## VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) *“He was spurned and avoided by men,*

*a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity,  
One of those from whom men hide their faces,  
spurned, and we held him in no esteem.”*

*Isaiah 53:3*

Blood and sweat blind Jesus. A woman named Veronica comes out from the jeering crowd to lovingly wipe the holy face of Jesus with her linen veil. Jesus leaves His holy image on her cloth, rewarding her act of love.

STUDENT LEADER: O Sweet Jesus, give us eyes to see  
Your face in the faces of the poor, the lonely,  
and those hurting around us. Give us a heart  
that will not ignore the needs of others.  
AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You  
more than myself. I repent with my whole  
heart of having offended You. Never permit me  
to separate myself from You again. Grant that I  
may love You always, and then do with me  
what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Brave but trembling came the woman,  
None but she would flaunt the Roman,  
Moved by love beyond her fear.

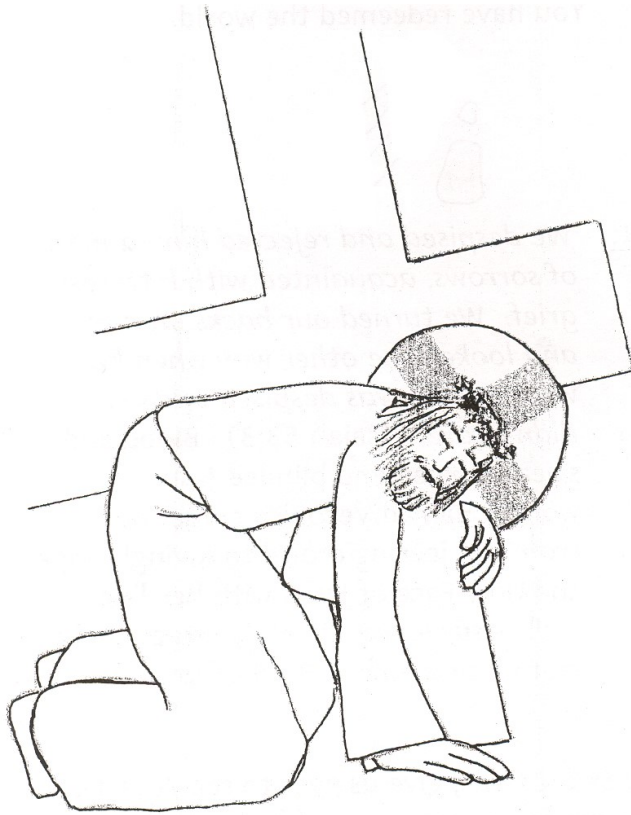
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# SEVENTH STATION



## JESUS FALLS

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) Pushed and shoved along by the soldiers, Jesus made His way to Calvary. In His pain and weakness, He falls a second time.

*“But he was pierced for our offenses,  
crushed for our sins,  
Upon him was the chastisement that makes  
us whole,  
by his stripes we were healed.” Isaiah 53:5*

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Lord Jesus, help us beg for Your mercy right after we sin, so that we can receive the strength to try again. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Prostrate on the dust He crumbled  
Flogged in Body He resembled  
All our brothers poor and scorned.

# EIGHTH STATION



## JESUS CONSOLES THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) *“A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children.’” Luke 23:27-28*

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Lord Jesus, help me be truly sorry for all of my sins and, in that way, receive the grace of Your consolation. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

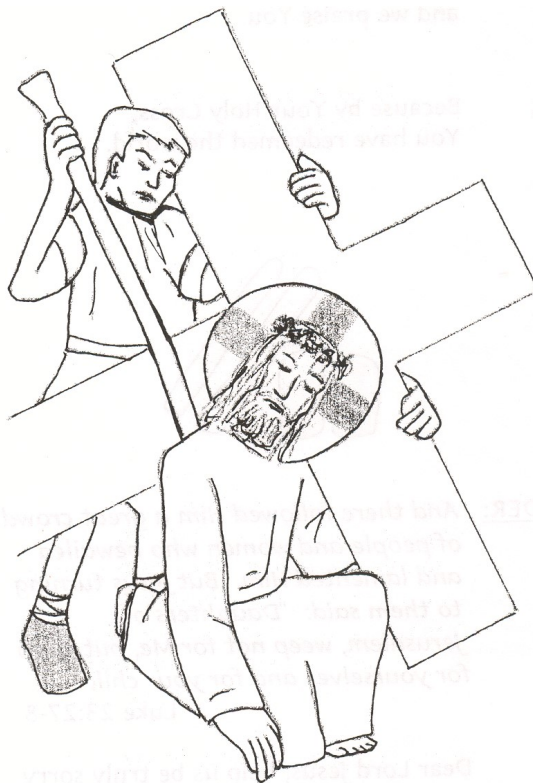
LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



May our sympathy for Jesus  
Turn to those who here now need us,  
May we see Christ bruised in them.

# NINTH STATION



## JESUS FALLS

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

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LEADER: (all stand) Jesus is completely exhausted; His strength has left Him. Just a short distance from Calvary, He collapses to the ground a third time.

*“Though he was harshly treated, he  
submitted  
and opened not his mouth;  
Like a lamb led to the slaughter.” Isaiah 53:7*

STUDENT LEADER: O Dear Jesus, we often hurt each other with our harsh words. Give us the self control to be silent when we have nothing kind to say. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

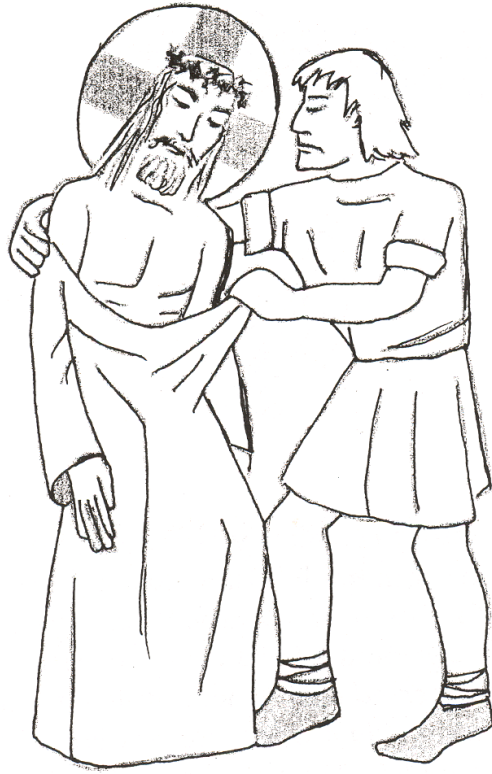
LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Jesus fell again in weakness,  
Stumbling as we do to lead us  
Through our sorrow and our pain.

# TENTH STATION



## JESUS IS STRIPPED

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand)

*“From the sole of the foot to the head  
there is no sound spot:  
Wound and welt and gaping gash,  
not drained, or bandaged,  
or eased with salve.” Isaiah 1:6*

The soldiers stripped Jesus of His clothes  
and then rolled dice to see who would get to  
take them. Our Lord is left with nothing but  
the wood of the cross.

STUDENT LEADER: O Lord, take from us our sinful  
ways and clothe us with Your purity and  
love. Help us learn to fast from things out of  
love for You, Jesus. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You  
more than myself. I repent with my whole  
heart of having offended You. Never permit  
me to separate myself from You again. Grant  
that I may love You always, and then do with  
me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Stripped and jeered by His own nation,  
Jesus stood in desolation,  
Giving all He had to give.



# ELEVENTH STATION



## JESUS IS NAILED

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

LEADER: (all stand) They crucified Jesus, and two thieves along with Him. Even in His final agony, Jesus has only love for those who have killed Him, saying, "*Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.*" *Luke 23:34*

STUDENT LEADER: O Dear Jesus, please give us Your love for all those who harm or annoy us. Help us experience Your love and strength as we gaze at a crucifix. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Pierced the hands that blessed and cured us,  
Pierced the feet that walked to free us,  
Walked the hill of Calvary.

# TWELFTH STATION



## JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world.

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LEADER: (kneel) *“When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, behold, your son.’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Behold, your mother.’” John 19:26-27*

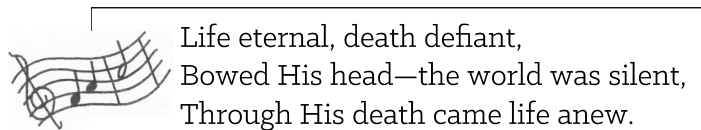
*“It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I commend my spirit’; and when he had said this he breathed his last.” Luke 23:44-46*

STUDENT LEADER: (kneel) O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us sinners. May we one day join You joyfully in heaven. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



# THIRTEENTH STATION



## JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

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LEADER: (all stand) *“Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, had not consented to their plan of action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea and was awaiting the kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.” Luke 23:50-52*

Joseph and Nicodemus, hidden disciples of Jesus, take His body down from the cross and gently place Him in His mother’s arms.

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Lord Jesus, give us courage to stand with our mother at the foot of the cross. Help us look to her for comfort during difficult times. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

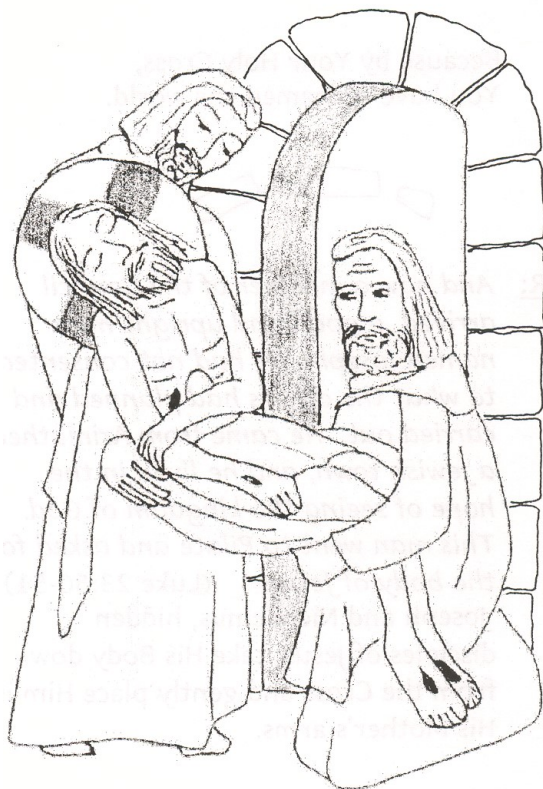
LEADER: Lord Jesus, crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Stunned and stricken, Mary, Mother,  
In your arms was placed our Brother,  
“Full of Grace” now filled with grief.

# FOURTEENTH STATION



## JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

LEADER: (all genuflect) We adore You, O Christ, and  
we praise You.

ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have  
redeemed the world.

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LEADER: (all stand) *“Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it [in] clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed.” Matthew 27:59-60*

We are told by Saint Paul that we do not belong to ourselves but rather have been purchased at a great price. Saint Peter tells us that this price is the precious Blood of Jesus.

STUDENT LEADER: Dear Lord Jesus, impress upon our hearts all that You suffered out of love for us. Just as You rose on the third day, we pray that one day we will rise in glory and be with You in heaven forever. AMEN.

ALL: (kneel) I love You, my beloved Jesus; I love You more than myself. I repent with my whole heart of having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, and then do with me what You will.

LEADER: Lord Jesus crucified and risen

ALL: Have mercy on us.



Jesus, Lord, Your gift accepted,  
In three days You resurrected,  
You did first what we shall do.

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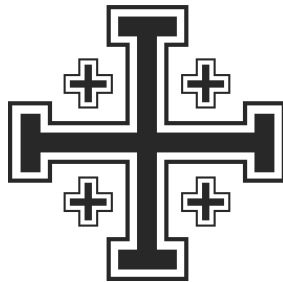
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## CLOSING PRAYER

LEADER: (all stand) Dear Lord Jesus, how can we ever thank You enough for all You have done for us? Through Your suffering and death, You paid for our sins, and bring us new life in the Holy Spirit. Help us to walk with You, wherever You lead. Help us to join our sufferings and joys with Yours each day that they might bring us closer to You. Give us the faith we need to trust in Your plan, and at the end of this life, bring us to eternal happiness with You in heaven!  
We ask this in the Name of Jesus our Lord.

ALL: Amen



- If prayed at church, end with Benediction or another blessing by the priest or deacon.
- If prayed in a family setting, end with parents reading the closing prayer on this page and blessing their children.