



Stations of the Cross

Holy Name of Jesus Chinese Catholic Mission
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Prologue

Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go yonder and pray.” And taking with him, Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.” (Matthew 26:36-39)

Opening Prayer

Almighty and eternal Father, accept our prayer of thanksgiving for your Beloved Son, our Savior and Lord. As we recall his sacred Passion, we beg you to send the Holy Spirit into our hearts, so that whether in prayer or work, we may do it all in union with Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

First Station

Jesus Is Condemned to Death

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am; and you will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his mantle, and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. (Mark 14:61-64)

(Kneel)

All: The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and his anointed. The Lord said to me, "You are my son, today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession." (Psalm 2:2,7-8)

Leader: All powerful and eternal God, for proclaiming the truth, your Son, Jesus Christ, is condemned to death by crucifixion. Stir up your love in our hearts, so that we might be ever faithful to all that you have told us, and fear nothing more than the loss of your friendship through sin.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Jesus, Lord, condemned, defiled,
may we too be meek and mild,
as we tread your Holy Way,
may we feel no bitter hate,
when we are persecuted,
left alone to walk with You.*

Second Station

Jesus Takes Up His Cross

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "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. (John 19:14-17)

(Kneel)

All: Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or comeliness that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. (Isaiah 53:1-3)

Leader: Father in heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ, is present in our persecuted brothers and sisters throughout the world. May we feel the needs of all people, so that we might readily help them, as we would readily help Jesus himself.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Now the Cross as Jesus bore it,
has become for us who share it,
the jeweled Cross of victory.*

Third Station

Jesus Falls the First Time

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. (John 15:18-20)

(Kneel)

All: Why is thy apparel red, and thy garments like his that treads in the wine press? "I have trodden the wine press alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood is sprinkled upon my garments, and I have stained all my raiment. For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and my year of redemption has come. I looked, but there was no one to help; I was appalled, but there was no one to uphold; so my own arm brought me victory, and my wrath upheld me. (Isaiah 63:2-5)

Leader: O God, to free us from sin and weakness, your Son, Jesus Christ, embraced his fearful Passion and Death. Strengthen us in our baptismal promises by which we renounced sin and Satan, so that through the passion of this life's sufferings, we might rise to a new life of joyful service, through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Weakened, prodded, cursed and fallen,
his whole Body bruised and swollen,
Jesus fell and lay in pain.*

Fourth Station

Jesus Meets His Mother

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. (John 19:25-27)

(Kneel)

All: What can I say for you, to what compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem? What can I liken to you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin; who can restore you? (Lamentations 2:13)

Leader: O Blessed Lord, at your Passion, a sword of sorrow pierced the loving heart of your mother, as Simeon had foretold. Grant, we pray, that we, who meditate on her sorrows, may receive the healing grace of your Passion.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*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: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him. And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). (Mark 15:20-22)

(Kneel)

All: I cry with my voice to the Lord, with my voice I make supplication to the Lord, I pour out my complaint before him, I tell my trouble before him. When my spirit is faint, thou knowest my way! In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me. I look to the right and watch, but there is none who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me, no man cares for me. (Psalm 142:2-5)

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, help us to see, in the sufferings and shortcomings of our lives, a share in your Cross. Strengthen and console us, so that we can bear all things in union with you, who have taken upon yourself all our guilt.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*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: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' (Matthew 25:37-40)

(Kneel)

All: A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter: he that has found one has found a treasure. There is nothing so precious as a faithful friend, and no scales can measure his excellence. A faithful friend is an elixir of life; and those who fear the Lord will find him. Whoever fears the Lord directs his friendship aright, for as he is, so is his neighbor also. (Sirach 6:14-17)

Leader: Almighty and ever-loving God, we feel your love and understanding in the consolation and support we receive from others. Give us, we pray, the courage and dedication to sacrifice and suffer with the least of your people.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Brave but trembling came the woman,
none but she would flaunt the Roman,
moved by love beyond her fear.*

Seventh Station

Jesus Falls the Second Time

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

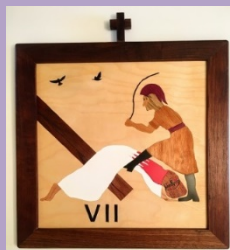
Leader: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:4-6)

(Kneel)

All: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. (Isaiah 53:7-9)

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you shared in our weakness and accepted our guilt. Grant us the grace to rejoice over human weakness, so that in all that we do, your strength, dwelling within us, may be shown to others.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Prostrate on the dust he crumbled,
flogged in Body he resembled
all our brothers poor and scorned.*

Eighth Station

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. (Luke 23:27-28)

(Kneel)

All: Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger. For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears; for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage; my children are desolate, for the enemy has prevailed." (Lamentations 1:12,16)

Leader: Beloved Jesus, with tears of pity these women of Jerusalem responded to you, broken, bruised and beaten, on the road to Calvary. Deepen our faith, we pray, so that we may see you in our brothers and sisters, bruised by our envy, beaten down by injustice, and broken by our greed and indifference.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

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

Ninth Station

Jesus Falls the Third Time

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: My soul cleaves to the dust; revive me according to thy word! When I told of my ways, thou didst answer me; teach me thy statutes! Make me understand the way of thy precepts, and I will meditate on thy wondrous works. My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to thy word! (Psalm 119:25-28)

(Kneel)

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold[a] of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me, uttering slanders against me, my adversaries and foes, they shall stumble and fall. Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. (Psalm 27:1-3)

Leader: Almighty and eternal God, you permitted your Son to be weakened, crushed and profaned so that he might rise from the dead freed from the ravages of sin. Help us to accept our weaknesses and failings as forerunners of our glorious resurrection in union with your Son.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Jesus fell again in weakness,
stumbling as we do, to lead us,
through our sorrow and our pain.*

Tenth Station

Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: They offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots; (Matthew 27:34-35)

(Kneel)

All: Behold, happy is the man whom God reproves; therefore despise not the chastening of the Almighty. For he wounds, but he binds up; he smites, but his hands heal. Insults have broken my heart, so that I am in despair. I looked for pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none. They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. (Job 5:17-18, Psalm 69:21-22)

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, stripped of everything, you stood exposed to the jeers and contempt of the people whom you loved. Clothe us with genuine love of others, so that nothing we suffer may fill our hearts with hatred or bitterness.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Stripped and jeered by his own nation,
Jesus stood in desolation,
giving all he had to give.*

Eleventh Station

Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:33-34, John 19:18)

(Kneel)

All: My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Why art thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but thou dost not answer; and by night, but find no rest. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax, it is melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; thou dost lay me in the dust of death. A company of evildoers encircle me; they have pierced my hands and feet— I can count all my bones. (Psalm 22:1-2, 14-17)

Leader: Lord and Savior, you have told us that we too must take up our own cross if we are to share in your Resurrection. Help us to rejoice in the sufferings that come with the fulfillment of our daily duties, seeing in them the royal road of the cross to the resurrection.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*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: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!" He said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (Luke 23:44-46, John 19:30)

(Kneel)

All: My people, what have I done to you? Or in what have I offended you? Answer me. What more should I have done, and did not do? I led you out of the land of Egypt, and you prepared a cross for me. I opened the Red Sea before you, and you opened my side with a lance. I gave you a royal scepter, and you have given me a crown of thorns. With great power I lifted you up, and you have hung me upon a cross. My people, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? Answer me. (Reproaches of Good Friday)

Leader: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Life eternal, death defiant,
bowed His head, the world was silent,
through His death came life anew.*

Thirteenth Station

Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. After this Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him leave. So he came and took away his body. (John 19:33-34,38)

(Kneel)

All: Behold, I will open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you home into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken, and I have done it, says the Lord.” (Ezekiel 37:12-14)

Leader: Beloved Savior, you returned to the Father all that he had given you, so that he might restore all to you a hundred-fold in the glorious Resurrection. Help us, we pray, to give generously of ourselves in all that we do for you, so that like you, we might be made perfect in the resurrection of the dead.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Stunned and stricken, Mary Mother,
in you arms was placed our Brother,
full of grace, now filled with grief.*

Fourteenth Station

Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: (Genuflect) Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Leader: And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb, and departed. (Matthew 27:59-60)

(Kneel)

All: I will extol thee, O Lord, for thou hast drawn me up, and hast not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to thee for help, and thou hast healed me. O Lord, thou hast brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. (Psalm 30:2-6)

Leader: Almighty and eternal God, on the edge of sadness when all seemed lost, you restored to us the Savior we thought defeated and conquered. Help us, we pray, so to empty ourselves of self-concern, that we might see your hand in every failure and your victory in every defeat. We ask these things in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

All: Amen.



(Stand)

*Jesus, Lord, your gift accepted,
in three days You resurrected,
you did first what we shall do.*

Concluding Prayer

Behold, O kind and most sweet Jesus, I cast myself upon my knees in Thy sight, and with the most fervent desire of my soul, I pray and beseech Thee that Thou wouldst impress upon my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity, with true contrition for my sins and a firm purpose of amendment; while with deep affection and grief of soul, I ponder within myself and mentally contemplate Thy five wounds, having before my eyes the words which David the prophet put on Thy lips concerning Thee: "They have pierced My hands and My feet, they have numbered all my bones."