



St John the Divine Stations of the Cross

Good Friday

2nd April 2021

Welcome to our live-streamed service, linked from our parish website: www.stjohndivine.org.au

The Stations of the Cross have formed part of Christian devotion at Passiontide for many centuries because they enable us to engage actively with the path of suffering walked by Jesus. They originated when early Christians visited Jerusalem and wanted to follow literally in the footsteps of Jesus, tracing the path from Pilate's house to Calvary. They would pause for prayer and devotion at various points. Eventually those pilgrims brought the practice back to their home countries and ever since then Christians of differing traditions have used this form of devotion.

This selection of tableaux was commissioned by Rev'd David Wood (Vicar of St John the Divine 1986-1994) and carved by Eva Schubert (b.1922), a recognised Australian artist based in Nunawading. While this sequence generally follows what some might regard as the standard set, there are some additions and subtractions, and some have been combined. The final station, the Resurrection, is covered for the Good Friday devotions. It appears that this sequence is possibly unique to St John's.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

Matthew 16.24,25

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

Ephesians 2.13,14

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and
humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

Hymn: There is a green hill far away
Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95) - tune: Horsley
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1. **There is a green hill far away,
outside a city wall,
where our dear Lord was crucified,
who died to save us all.**
2. **We may not know, we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.**
3. **He died that we might be forgiven,
he died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood.**
4. **There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin,
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.**
5. **O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.**

Each station has the following pattern:

- The station is named
- **We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have
redeemed the world.**
- Scripture reading
- Reflection
- Prayer
- **Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

Stations:

1. The Last Supper
2. Jesus washes Peter's feet
3. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

Hymn: When you prayed beneath the trees
Christopher Idle - tune: Kelvingrove
© Christopher Idle/Jubilate Hymns, CCL No 632290

1. **When you prayed beneath the trees,
it was for me, O Lord;
when you cried upon your knees,
how could it be, O Lord?
When in blood and sweat and tears
you dismissed your final fears,
when you faced the soldiers' spears,
you stood for me, O Lord.**

2. When their triumph looked complete,
it was for me, O Lord,
when it seemed like your defeat,
they could not see, O Lord!
When you faced the mob alone
you were silent as a stone,
and a tree became your throne;
you came for me, O Lord.

3. When you stumbled up the road,
you walked for me, O Lord,
when you took your deadly load,
that heavy tree, O Lord;
When they lifted you on high,
and they nailed you up to die,
and when darkness filled the sky,
it was for me, O Lord.

4. When you spoke with kingly power,
it was for me, O Lord,
in that dread and destined hour,
you made me free, O Lord;
earth and heaven heard you shout,
death and hell were put to rout,
for the grave could not hold out;
you are for me, O Lord.

4. Jesus is condemned by Pilate

5. Jesus is scourged

6. Jesus receives the cross

7. Jesus falls

Hymn: This is your coronation

Sylvia G Dunstan (1955-1993) - tune: Passion Chorale

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1. This is your coronation -
thorns pressed upon your head;
no bright angelic heralds,
but angry crowds instead;
beneath your throne of timber,
and struggling with the load,
you go in cruel procession
on sorrow's royal road.

2. Eternal judge on trial,
God's law, by law denied;
love's justice is rejected
and truth is falsified.
We who have charged, condemned you
are sentenced by your love;
your blood pronounces pardon
as you are stretched above.

3. High Priest you are anointed
with blood upon your face,
and in this hour appointed
the offering for our race.
For weakness interceding;
for sin, you are the price;
for us your prayer unceasing,
O living sacrifice.

8. Simon of Cyrene carries the cross

9. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

10. Jesus falls again

11. Jesus is nailed to the cross

Hymn: When I survey the wondrous cross

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) - tune: Rockingham

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1. When I survey the wondrous cross,
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3. See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small:
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

12. Jesus hangs on the cross

13. Jesus dies

14. Jesus is laid in the tomb

Hymn: Glory be to Jesus

anon. tr. Edward Caswall (1814-78) alt. - tune: Caswall

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1. Glory be to Jesus,
who in bitter pains,
poured for me the life blood
from his sacred veins.

2. Grace and life eternal
in that blood I find;
blest be his compassion,
infinitely kind.

3. Blessed through endless ages
be the precious stream,
which from endless torment
doth the world redeem.

4. Abel's blood for vengeance
pleaded to the skies;
but the blood of Jesus
for our pardon cries.

5. Oft as it is sprinkled
on our guilty hearts,
Satan in confusion
terror-struck departs.

6. Oft as earth exulting
wafts its praise on high,
angel hosts rejoicing
make their glad reply.

**7. Let us lift our voices,
swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder
praise the precious blood.**

THE CONCLUSION

You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain,
and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and nation;
you have made them to be a kingdom
and priests serving our God.

**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross
you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the
words our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection
of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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NOTICES

*Sat 3 Apr - Holy Saturday - 7.30pm
Vigil & Service of Light (no eucharist)
part A: anticipating the resurrection*

[Daylight Savings ends]

*Sun 4 Apr - Easter Day - 9.30am
Renewal of baptismal vows & Eucharist
part B: celebrating the resurrection*