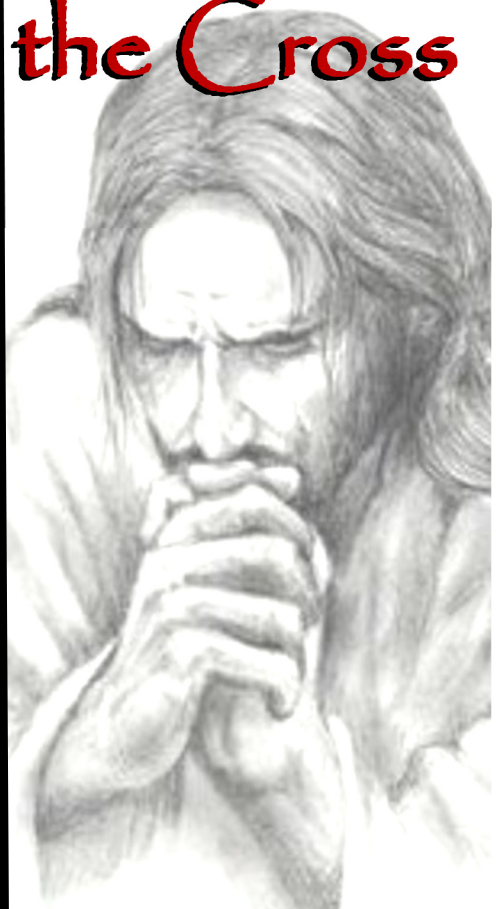




# Stations of the Cross



**Good Friday 2020**

Saints Philip and James RC Church  
St. James, New York 11780



Presented by  
**SSPJ Youth Group Ministry**

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# Stations of the Cross

A New Perspective



Saints Philip and James Youth Group  
proudly presents and  
Welcomes parishioners, friends and guests  
to reflect upon an original meditation  
of the Stations of the Cross.

We ask you to prayerfully contemplate and journey with  
these fourteen unnamed inhabitants of Jerusalem,  
as they witness to Christ's passion to Calvary.

Original Witness reflections written by  
Dom Avento, Rev. Brian Ingram 2008  
Revised for Lent 2020

## The Passover Ritual

The tradition of Passover was an annual celebration practiced by the ancient Israelites during the days of Christ. This tradition began during the time of Moses when the families of Israel were instructed by God to sacrifice a pure lamb in order to receive the Lord's mercy. The flesh of these lambs' in the many centuries following this instruction were eaten and their blood was sprinkled onto the altars of the temples to redeem the people of God. Jesus Christ suffered through each of the tribulations of the Fourteen Stations of the Cross in order to fulfill his destiny as our final sacrificial lamb to God. It is through the Savior's flesh and blood can we be forgiven for our sins and our souls can be redeemed.

*Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year; ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.*

Exodus 11: 5-6



## Stations (witness)

1. <b>Jesus is Condemned to Death</b> .....	4
<i>(Child slave holding Pilot's water basin)</i>	
2. <b>Jesus Receives His Cross</b> .....	6
<i>(A Carpenter)</i>	
3. <b>Jesus Fall for the First Time</b> .....	8
<i>(A Roman Soldier)</i>	
4. <b>Jesus Meets His Mother</b> .....	10
<i>(A Widow)</i>	
5. <b>Simon Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross</b> .....	12
<i>(A Leather Tanner)</i>	
6. <b>Veronica wipes the face of Jesus</b> .....	14
<i>(The Daughter of Jairus)</i>	
7. <b>Jesus Falls a Second Time</b> .....	16
<i>(A Recently Healed Blind man, now Sighted)</i>	
8. <b>Jesus speaks to the women of Jerusalem</b> .....	18
<i>(A woman of Jerusalem)</i>	
9. <b>Jesus Falls a Third Time</b> .....	20
<i>(Former Paralytic now standing)</i>	
10. <b>Jesus is Stripped of His Garments</b> .....	22
<i>(Garment/Fabric Weaver)</i>	
11. <b>Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross</b> .....	24
<i>(Blacksmith)</i>	
12. <b>Jesus Dies on the Cross</b> .....	26
<i>(Vine Dresser- Wine Maker)</i>	
13. <b>Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross</b> .....	28
<i>(Old Shepherd)</i>	
14. <b>Jesus is Laid in the Tomb</b> .....	30
<i>(Fisherman)</i>	

# First Station

## Jesus is condemned to death

*(witnessed by the slave holding Pilot's water basin) !*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

### Leader:

"When Pilot saw that he was not succeeding at all, but that a riot was breaking out instead, he took water and washed his hands in the sight of the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. Look to it yourselves.'"

*(Matthew 27:24)*

### Witness:

O Jesus, how difficult it was to see you there, battered and bruised, bloody and swollen. My eyes could only glance on Your face for a moment before I had to look away.

Why did they hurt You so? Your smile and Your stories were always so warm and loving.

But now Pilot terrifies me and so does this angry crowd. What could you have done to make them so angry? When Pilot barks an order, my arms raise and low-



er. He washed his hands in my basin. The flick of his fingers pelted my face with cold droplets. I flinched. I looked at You again, soundless. Though you did not weep, I saw tears in Your eyes, and I began to weep silently to myself. The water droplets on my face had mixed with my own tears and helped to camouflage them.

I looked down once again and glanced at my own reflection, on the surface of the water. I could see how distorted and disfigured, convulsing and sad my face had appeared... but it seemed, right. It felt as if the guilt and sin washed from Pilot's hands had somehow changed my reflection. I am so sorry for what they have done to You.

**Leader:**

Jesus, Let us see You in the outcast, the humiliated, the ridiculed, the shamed; in the sinner who weeps for his sin. Give me the courage to look at Your Holy Face, bruised and lacerated, by my own guilt, help me to see what I have done.

**All:**

**Do not reprove me in Your anger, Lord, nor punish me in Your wrath. Have pity on me, Lord for I am weak; heal me, Lord, for my bones are trembling. In utter terror is my soul. (Psalm 6:2-4a)**

**Music-** Jesus Remember Me (Taizé)

## Second Station

### Jesus receives His Cross

*(as witnessed by a Carpenter)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have re-deemed the world.**

**Leader:**

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the praetorium and gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped off his clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about him. Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head, and a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him saying, "Hail King of the Jews!". They spat upon him and took the reed and kept striking him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, they stripped him of the cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him off to crucify Him.

*(Matthew 27:27-31)*

**Witness:**

We were both carpenters, you and I. I remember talking to you about our craft of working the wood. We shared so many stories together.

How we loved to shape it, cut it, change it, transform it - How we used it to better the lives of others. Now, I see the wood you hold, the Cross on your shoulders, was crafted by a carpenter, too. A cross, You know, will be the instrument of your death. But you do not look at it with fear or revulsion. You embrace it, as one would a friend. The weight of cross, that unfinished plank of lumber, was digging into your shoulder, and suddenly began



to dig into my soul. Oh Jesus, as you pass me, I suddenly realize that that splintered, heavy cross you were carrying... was the one I fashioned. Little did I know, the wood I transformed would now be the instrument that would forever transform humanity.



**Leader:**

I am wearied with sighing; all night long tears drench my bed; my couch is soaked with weeping. My eyes are dimmed with sorrow, worn out because of all my foes.  
(*Psalm 6: 7-8*)

**All:**

**Lord Jesus, You lovingly embraced Your cross to redeem the world. Help me to embrace my cross, my struggles, my pain and disappointments.**

**"I beg you, by all You suffered in carrying Your cross, to help me carry mine with Your perfect peace and resignation."**  
(*St. Alphonsus Liguori*)

**Music: - Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)**

# Third Station

## Jesus Falls for the First Time

*(as witnessed by a Roman Soldier)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Leader:**

"Save me O Lord, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from violent men who plan to trip my feet -the proud who have hidden a trap for me."

*(Psalm 139: 5-6a)*

**Witness:**

You were nothing to me— just another criminal. Another trouble-maker to be done away with as quickly as possible. That is what I thought... But I was mistaken.

You were different.

Why were you not fighting back? What type of person allows himself to be beaten, to be spit upon, to be mocked and humiliated, without speaking a word? WHO ARE YOU!?

And now you collapse under the weight of the cross. You stumbled as so many others have done... But something in my soul, in your eyes, told me you're so very different. Who are you, really? Why would the governor be so eager to take Your life.

GET UP! I move to strike you but for the briefest second my hand wavers.

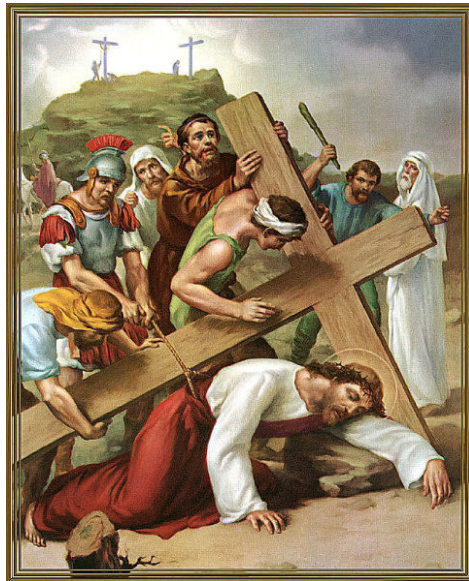
**Leader:**

"You gave us Your weakness to be our strength. Grant to us Lord, that the shock of our first sin, first bad news we hear, or our first failure, may give us self-knowledge, a truer knowledge of You; may it help us to know ourselves and You, and to know the depths of Your love. May it teach us our dependence on You, and that without you we can do nothing." (*Caryll Houselander*)

**All:**

**You carried the burden, the heaviness of our circumstances, the load of material things. You accepted the difficulties that sometimes overwhelm each one of us. Lord Jesus, You know how often we fail, how often I fall, when we try to follow you, yet we know you are always by our sides to help us. Lord we know you lift us up and care for us. Please help me to recognize Your loving presence around me when I fall, again.**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)



## Fourth Station

### Jesus meets His mother

*(as witnessed by a widow)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Leader:**

“Now there were standing by the cross of Jesus His mother and His mother’s sister, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus, therefore, saw His mother and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, 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 into His home.”

*(John 19:25 – 27)*

**Witness:**

It breaks my heart to see that poor woman. A widow like me, going through such an ordeal. The pain of losing my husband was awful, but I can’t begin to imagine the horror of losing a child, her only son.

Though she leans on those around her, I feel, perhaps, it is they who are finding strength in her. When her eyes met those of



her stricken son, they revealed to me, a wonderful tenderness and empathy. I don't know if I could walk her path with such grace. Oh Lord, give her the strength she needs, her heart must be broken.

**Leader:**

God of Heaven and earth, your Son, Jesus the Lord, while dying on the altar of the cross, chose Mary, His mother to be our mother also. Grant that we, who entrust ourselves to her maternal care, may always be protected when we call upon her name.

*(Novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8th Day)*



**All: (Pray the Memorare).**

**Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.**

**O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me.**

**Amen**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

## Fifth Station

### Simon Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross

*(as witnessed by a tanner)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

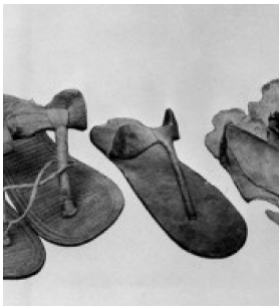
**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Leader:

"They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry His cross".

*(Mark 15:21)*

Witness:



When I heard the commotion, I didn't know what was happening outside my shop. When my eye focused...I saw Simon, a good customer of mine, being forced by Roman Soldiers to carry a cross from some.. stranger? This poor person was so battered, bleeding and bruised. The poor, limping man could barely keep up with Simon. How cruel those Roman soldiers were. Crucifixion, the worst form of physical torture, but the anguish of knowing what you are carrying will be the instrument of your death is mental torture. If Simon was struggling, I knew the wooden cross was heavy. The crowd was yelling for and against that poor man. Then I heard the name... Jesus, Jesus!. As they drew nearer, it was then I recognized the man behind Simon! It was Jesus, Joseph the carpenters' son. I



knew him. A sweet and gentle teacher. He came often to buy shoes in my shop.

They walked past me, and my stomach turned. What torture he must have endured. His skin was so bloodied lacerated and torn. In all my years of preparing leather pelts and animal skins for clothing and shoes, I have never seen skin on any animal that was as badly bruised and broken as of the skin of this gentle man.

### **Leader:**

Those in charge of Jesus' crucifixion compelled Simon of Cyrene to help carry the Lord's cross. He did not volunteer or willingly accept the task, but that is no surprise.

Simon was only passing by and presumably knew little about Christ. We, on the other hand, do know Jesus. And we have heard His words about the necessity of taking up our own crosses each day and walking in His footsteps. What is our response? Must we be pressed to carry our crosses, be they big or small, or do we accept them willingly?

*(Pope John Paul II)*



### **All:**

**Lord Jesus, sometimes I find it difficult to help others in need. I even neglect those people that I love. Help me to see that loving others is the surest way to find you in my life.**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

## Sixth Station

### Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

*(witnessed by the daughter of Jairus)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have re-deemed the world.**

#### **Leader:**

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds one finds a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price no sum can balance his worth. A faithful friend is a lifesaving remedy, such as he who fear God finds. For he who fears God behaves accordingly, and his friend will be like himself.

*(Sirach 7: 13-17)*

#### **Witness:**

I can't believe what is happening. You healed and restored life to so many, including me. I remember the time, I awoke from my deathly sleep, and you comforted me and wanted me to eat. Your face, was the first I saw when I awoke. I will never forget your face. Your eyes encouraged me. Your smile made me feel, so alive and grateful.





Now I see you, and I want to help you the way that young woman is wiping your face, but I can't. I'm afraid to reach out to you. The Roman guards and the angry crowd terrifies me. Please forgive me for not doing more.

**Leader:**

"Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You; or thirst, and give You drink? And when did we see You a stranger, and take you in, or naked, and cloth you? Or When did we see you sick or in prison, and come to you?" And answering the king will say to them, **"Amen, I say to you, as long as you did it for one of these, the least of my bretheren, you did it for me."**

*(Matthew 25, 37—40)*

**All:**

**Lord Jesus, at times I know I am unwilling to reach out to others, but I have been grateful to those who have reached out to me- Caring for me, wiping away my tears, cleaning my face, feeding my soul.**

**"Forgive me for neglecting the humble, for forgetting those who have served us, for not honoring the work of servanthood and mercy."**

*(from Walking the Way of Sorrows by Katerina Katsarka Whitley)*

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

## Seventh Station

### Jesus Falls the Second Time

*(witnessed by the formally blind man, now sighted)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

#### **Leader:**

“Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, while we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins and upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we are healed.”

*(Isaiah 53: 4-5)*

#### **Witness:**

My new vision, what a beautiful gift you gave me. I was so surprised to discover what things really looked like. And how faulty my perception had been. Before you touched my eyes, I could ‘see’ only with my fingertips. ‘Seeing’ things through touch was all I knew.

Now that my eyes are opened, my world has opened with them. Before no words could describe the colors ‘blue’ or ‘green’, and now words are not enough to capture their essence.

When I saw you fall, I ran through the crowd. For a moment, I almost regretted the gift you gave me. Because now my eyes revealed so much pain and agony. More than words can describe.

**Leader:**

“I am like water poured out; all my bones are racked. My heart has become like wax... My throat is dried up like baked clay.”

*(Psalm 21, 15b-16a)*



**All:**

**Lord Jesus, failure and disappointment sometimes lead me to despair. I hide behind my pride and self-pity, withdrawing from you and others. Give me the hope I need and help me never to be afraid to begin again.**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

# Eighth Station

## Jesus Speaks to the Women in Jerusalem

*(as witnessed by the women of Jerusalem)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

### Leader:

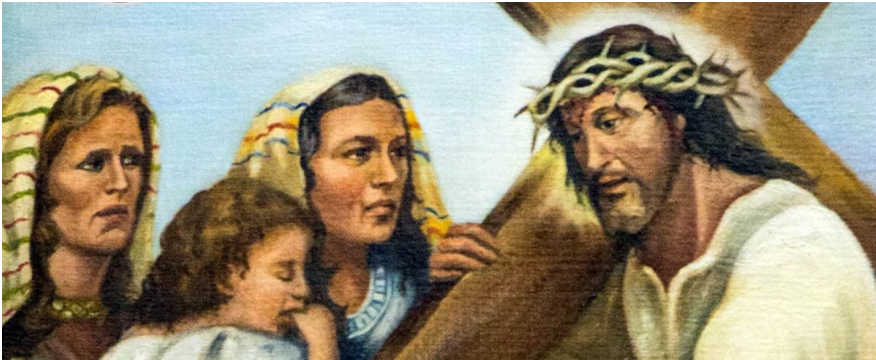
There was a great crowd of people, and among them were some women who were bewailing and lamenting him. Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but for yourselves and for your children... For if they do these things to the green wood, what shall be done to the dry?"

*(Luke 23:28,31)*

### Witness:

We saw him fall again, and then saw His cross come crashing o the ground a few seconds later. It made such a loud boom as it hit the street, that we all gasped. He turned and looked in our direction, and got up. Though we were walking only a few steps behind Him, we said nothing. But when he saw us, he got up and began to speak to us, as if to console US! He told us NOT to shed a tear for him but to never forget what they witnessed.

What reason should we have to weep? It was He who was walking to his death. What did he do? He did not look or act like a criminal. Looking into his eyes, we all knew then, that He possessed something that we do not have? We knew then, somehow... that he was different. He was loving, He was forgiving, He was.... Holy. Could he be someone that we had not guessed?



When we finally had the courage to ask him, to speak what was on our hearts, he was whisked away by the soldiers. Before we had time to speak a word.... he had turned away, and walked out of our sight.

**Leader:**

Come, all you who pass by the way, look and see whether there is any suffering like my suffering, suffering with which the Lord has afflicted me on the day of his blazing wrath. At this I weep, my eyes run with tears: far from me are all who could console me, far away are any who might revive me.

*(Lamentations 1, 12–16)*

**All:**

**Lord Jesus, your great compassion for others overwhelms me. I feel petty and selfish when I think of you and the way you love. Help me to pour out my love, that you might fill me with your love.**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

## Ninth Station

### Jesus Falls the Third Time

*(as witnessed by the former paralytic, now standing)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Leader:**

I lie prostrate in the dust; give me life according to your word. I declared my ways, and you answered me; teach me your commands. Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous deeds. My soul weeps for sorrow; strengthen me with your words.

*(Psalm 118: 25 – 28)*

**Witness:**

Jesus I have not stopped walking, running, even dancing since you first told me to pick up my mat and go home. My perspective on life has totally changed as result of your kindness. No more do I see life at ground level, on my back, and motionless.

I see your face with every step I take. And the freedom you gave me reminds me of the goodness of God. Now I'm here, weaving through the crowd that's pressing in all around me. The path cleared by soldiers put me at the dividing line, making me part of the wall created by the people.

O Jesus, my heart sinks. I am stunned to see your crumpled and broken body lying still on the pavement. It is you who can bare-



ly move. Not long ago it was you who looked down on me with kindness and compassion. Here today I can only look on you with sorrow and disbelief. I wish I could have done more.

**Leader:**

“Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth, like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the sheers, he was silent and uttered no cry.”

*(Isaiah 53: 7-8)*

**All:**

**Lord Jesus, your failing strength makes me see how helpless I am. Without you, I can do nothing. Help me to rely on your strength, to see how much I need you.**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)



# Tenth Station

## Jesus is stripped of the Garments

*(as witnessed by a garment maker, fabric weaver)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have re-deemed the world.**

### Leader:

From the soles of his feet to the top of his head, there is nothing healthy in him: wounds and bruises and swelling sores. They are not bound up, nor dressed, nor anointed with oil.

*(Isaiah 1 :6)*

### Witness:

Spring sheering always produced lots of fleece. Sheep are such dirty animals that bring their wool to whiteness can take some time.

Normally I spend hours washing and rinsing the fleece from the shearers. It takes hours more to dry it in the sun and still more time to dye it. "Patience", mother said, "makes for a truly skillful weaver."

I like what I do. The dyed fleece is patiently pulled into straight fibers and then twisted or spun to make thread. The thread is then gathered onto spindles. The spindles then carefully placed together each one come a thread which is fit into a loom which is creates the garment. The woven fabric can be painstakingly tedious. The fabric is than cut and pieced together to make a the garments we







are wearing. Hours and hours spent to produce just one! The final product, taken care of, can last for years.

Standing in the midst of the crowd at Golgotha, I saw the soldiers tear the tunic from Jesus' bloodied skin. And in the blink of an eye, what had taken days to fashion is discarded in a heap on the ground. Terribly stained with mud and His blood.

**Leader:**

"...they took his clothes and divided them into four shares, a share for each soldier. They also took his tunic, but his tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top down. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be".

*(John 19: 23-24)*

**All:**

**"Lord, in my own way I have stripped you. I have taken away the good name of another by foolish talk, and have stripped people of human dignity by my prejudice. Jesus, there are so many ways I have offended you through the hurt I have caused others. Help me to see you in all people."** *(from Mary's Way of the Cross by Richard G. Furey, C. Ss. R)*

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

# Eleventh Station

## Jesus is nailed to the Cross

*(as witnessed by the town's blacksmith)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

### **Leader:**

They brought him to the place of Golgotha (which is translated Place of the Skull). They gave him wine drugged with myrrh, but he did not take it. Then they crucified him.

*(Mark 15:22-24)*

### **Witness:**

The ability to refine metal had taken on many forms. I am skilled at producing many different products. Armor plates, gates, furnishing, and decorative fastenings. The work I do is very labor intensive. Many hours spent in front of hot fires, banging and chipping away at redhot metal, to bend it to my will. Creating designs by my own hand.

However a good craft can be used in evil ways, tortuous ways. Of all the things I create here in my shop, I am ashamed to admit, that the nails I produce are not for building homes, they are used for killing people.

They're used to crucifying men- to nail their flesh to across.

**Leader:**

Hear me, you who know justice, you people who have my teaching at heart: fear not the reproach of me, be not dismayed at their reviling.

*(Isaiah 51:7)*

**All:**

**Lord Jesus, I can never doubt your great love for me when I see you crucified. Help me to see your cross as the great sign of your love for me.**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)



# Twelfth Station

## Jesus Dies on the Cross

*(as witnessed by vine dresser/wine maker)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

### **Leader:**

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachtani?*" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who hear it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

*(Mark 15:33-37)*

### **Witness:**

All my life I've been surrounded by nature's bounty, and nature's beauty . . . My family and I live close to the earth, tilling the soil, tending the vines that have belonged to our clan for generations now.

I love to feel warm sunshine on my face, and the smell of fresh earth in my hands, as I prune the vines and harvest the grapes. Grapes that will yield new wine. Wine that will gladden people's hearts.



Even from this distance, I can see that man they call Jesus, nailed to His cross, His life running from Him like the wine in our wine-press. I have heard people say He is a good man . . . that he has done nothing to deserve such torment. I would wet His lips with the wine in my jug. But it is too late for that now.

**Leader:**

“My Jesus, have mercy on me for what my sins have done to You and to others. I thank You for Your great act of love. You have said that true love is laying down your life for your friends. Let me always be Your friend. Teach me to live my life for others and not fail You again.”

*(from Mary's way of the Cross by Richard G. Furey, C.Ss. R.)*



**All:**

***Lord Jesus, your broken and lifeless body calls me to a deeper faith. You chose death, even death on a cross for me. Help me to see my crosses as ways of loving You.***

***Our Father...***

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

# Thirteenth Station

## Jesus is taken down from the Cross

*(as witnessed by an old shepherd)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

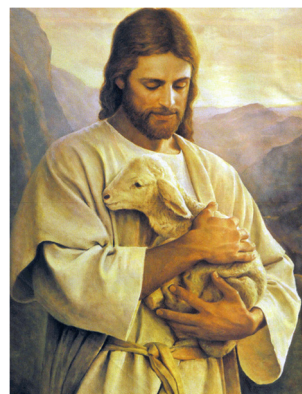
**Leader:**

When the soldiers came to Jesus, they saw he was already dead so that they did not break his legs, but one of them opened his side with a lance, and immediately there came out blood and water. Joseph of Arimathea, because he was a disciple of Jesus (although a secret one for fear of the Jews) gave permission.

*(John 19, 33-34, 38a)*

**Witness:**

O Jesus. You truly were a good shepherd. You have been a wonderful example to all of us who knew you. When we watched over our sheep, sleeping outside with them, we protected them from predators. You too watched over your flock. Your flock however can become dangerously vulnerable when their shepherd is gone. I pray that what you have gathered, does not scatter in your absence.





**Leader:**

“Consider how, after Our Lord had died, He was taken down from the cross by two of His disciples Joseph and Nicodemus, and placed in the arms of His afflicted Mother. She received Him with unutterable tenderness and pressed Him close to her bosom.”

*(St. Alphonsus Liguori)*

**All:**

**O Mother of Sorrows, for the love of your Son, accept me as your servant and pray to Him for me. And You, my Redeemer, since you have died for me, allow me to love You, for I desire only You and nothing more. I love You, Jesus my Love, and I am sorry that I offended you. Never let me offend You again. Grant that I may love You always and then do with me as You will.**

*(St. Alphonsus Liguori)*

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)



# Fourteenth Station

## Jesus is laid in the Tomb

*(as witnessed by a Fisherman)*

Leader: We adore you O Christ, and we Praise You,

**All: Because by your holy cross you have re-deemed the world.**

**Leader:**

“When it was already evening, since it was the day of preparation, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the council, who was himself awaiting the kingdom of God, came and courageously went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was amazed that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. And when he learned of it from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. Having bought a linen cloth, he took him down, wrapped him in the linen cloth and laid him in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb.

*(Mark 15:42-46)*

**Witness:**

I was the fisherman, a good fisherman. The fisherman that was able to know when to put up my sails, when to throw in the nets, when to retrieve the catch, and how to read the weather. It was something I just knew instinctively. But I never knew I meet another individual who would impress me more than you... You my friend had the ability to capture, hearts.

When I was on the beach of Galilee, you gave us hope for a new



Kingdom- not of this world, and  
a life more meaningful than  
hooks or bait or nets!

You taught us how to pray... you  
gave us keys to freedom from  
the drudgery of our ordinary  
lives and the promise of light  
and peace and an ever-lasting  
life.



But Now, that memory saddens me. The light seems to have faded for me as I watch your friends lay Your body, cold and limp, in a borrowed grave.

Oh Jesus, is there no freedom for You? Why did you allow those people to do what they did to you?

You were such a bright light to us, only to be covered in darkness in your tomb.

**Leader:**

**When he was cut off from the land of the living, and smitten for the sin of his people, a grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers, though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood. (*Isaiah 53:9*)**

**All:**

**My heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world nor will you allow your faithful one to undergo corruption.**

**(*Psalm 15: 9-10*)**

**Music-** Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé)

# Thank You

A tremendous thank you goes out to Father Tom Haggerty who encouraged the Youth Group to be creatively different this year during our presentation and production of

## **“Stations — A New Perspective”.**

Thanks to all of our Youth Team Leaders who participated in this event. Your cooperation was inspirational!!

Being morally conscience of our social distancing rules during Lent 2020, all audio heard in this production was captured independently, either recorded at SSPJ or submitted to us by the members of Youth Group, each of them using their own smart phones to record and submit their “witness” role.

Special Heartfelt Thanks also goes out to those who contributed their Voices in this audio production, and they are:

Dom Avento, Fr. Tom Haggerty, Virginia Portanova, John Largan, Carolyn Scarpelli, Anthony Scarpelli, Erin Nicastro, Hailey Sheridan, and Gwendolyn Vest.

You read so beautifully and prayerfully.

God Bless You ALL  
and Have a Blessed Easter

## **Saints Philip and James Youth Group**







**...All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.**

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

**And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.**

Matthew 28, 18-20

