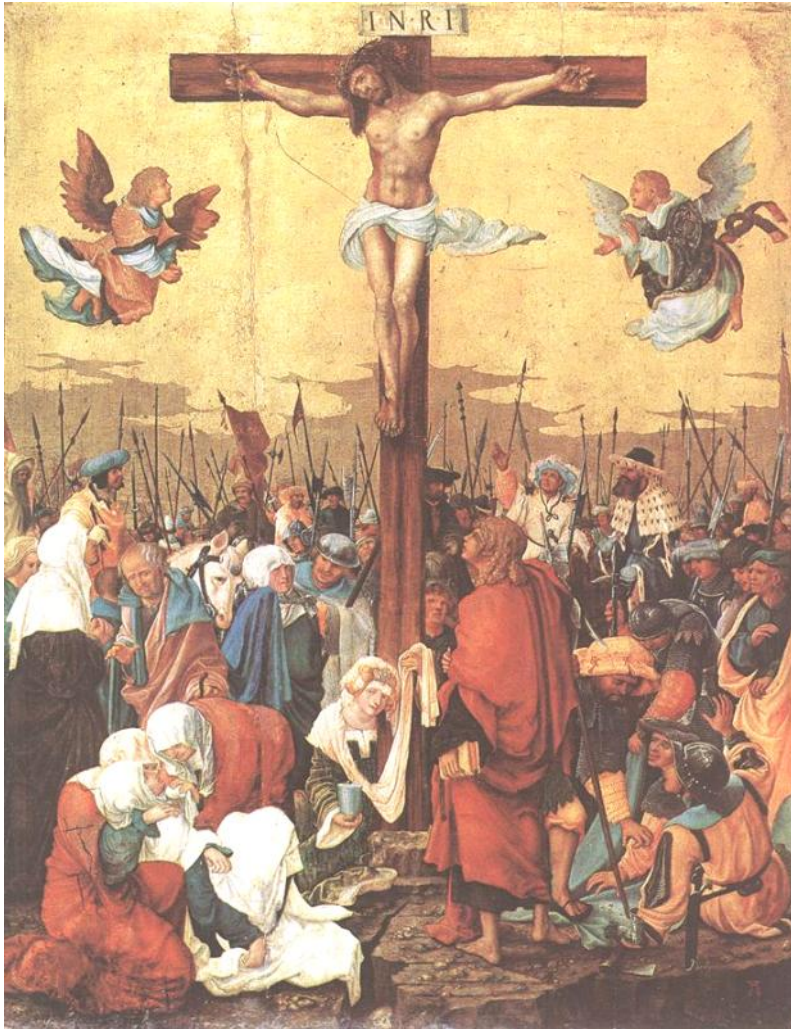


THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
AND SAINT AGNES

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



The term “Stations of the Cross” refers both to the physical depictions of the Passion of Jesus Christ in the form of fourteen sculptures on the church walls, and the devotions commemorating those final hours of our Lord’s sufferings and death. The object of the service is to help us make a pilgrimage of prayer through meditating upon these scenes. At least as early as the fourth century, pilgrims to the Holy Land were conducted to the sites of various biblical events, especially events in the life of Jesus, and it was customary for readings and prayers appropriate to the place and the event to be offered. We continue this venerable tradition through the devotion of Stations of the Cross.



OPENING DEVOTIONS

V. In the Name ✠ of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
R. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy upon us. Kyrie eleison.
Christ, have mercy upon us. or **Christe eleison.**
Lord, have mercy upon us. Kyrie eleison.

Officiant Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

People **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. Amen.**

V. We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
R. **In whom is our salvation, our life, and resurrection.**

Let us pray.

All kneel as silence is kept

Assist us mercifully with thy most gracious help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby thou hast given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The procession moves to:

The First Station
JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Leaving the house of Caiaphas where he has been blasphemed, and the house of Herod where he has been mocked, Jesus is dragged before Pilate, his back torn with scourges, his head crowned with thorns; and he who on the last day will judge the living and the dead, is himself condemned to a shameful death.

It was for us that thou didst suffer, O blessed Jesus; it was for our sins thou wast condemned to die. Grant that we may detest them from the bottom of our hearts, and by this repentance obtain thy mercy and pardon.

V. God spared not his own son.

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

R. 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. Amen.

V. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

R. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

R. **Have mercy upon us.**

V. May the ✠ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. **Amen.**

Hymn *Stabat Mater*



At the Cross her sta-tion keep-ing. Stood the mourn-ful



Mo-ther weep-ing. Close to Je-sus at the last.

The Second Station JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. **Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.**

A heavy cross is laid upon the bruised shoulders of Jesus. He receives it with meekness, nay, with a secret joy, for it is the instrument with which he is to redeem the world. What efforts do we make, on the other hand, to escape all suffering as far as we can?

O Jesus, grant us, by virtue of thy Cross, to embrace with meekness and cheerful submission the difficulties of our state, and to be ever ready to take up our cross and follow thee.

V. God spared not his own son.

R. **But delivered him up for us all.**

Act of Contrition:


All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

- V. Our Father, etc.
R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.
 V. Hail Mary, etc.
R. Holy Mary, etc.
 V. Glory be, etc.
R. As it was in the beginning, etc.
 V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.
R. Have mercy upon us.
 V. May the ✕ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
R. Amen.

Hymn *Stabat Mater*



Through her soul, of joy be-reav-ed, Bowed with ang-uish,
 deep-ly griev-ed, Now at length the sword hath passed.

The Third Station
JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

- V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.
R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Bowed down under the weight of the Cross, Jesus slowly sets forth on the way to Calvary, amidst the mockeries and insults of the crowd. His agony in the garden has exhausted his body; he is sore with blows and wounds; his strength fails him, he falls to the ground under the Cross.

O Jesus, who for our sins didst bear the heavy burden of the cross and fall under its weight, may the thought of thy sufferings make us watchful over ourselves, and save us from any grievous fall into sin.

- V. God spared not His own son.
R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

V. Glory be, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Hymn

Stabat Mater



O that bless-ed one, grief la - den Bless-ed Mo- ther,



Bless-ed Maid-en, Mo-ther of the All - Holy One.

The Fourth Station JESUS MEETS HIS AFFLICTED MOTHER

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Still burdened with his cross, and wounded yet more by his fall, Jesus proceeds on his way. He is met by his Mother whose love for her Divine Son brings her to his side in that hour of trial.

O Jesus, by the compassion which thou didst feel for thy Mother, have compassion on us and give us a share in her intercession. O Mary, most afflicted Mother, intercede for us, that through the sufferings of thy Son we may be delivered from the wrath to come.

V. God spared not His own son.
R. **But delivered him up for us all.**

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.
R. **Give us this day our daily bread, etc.**
V. Hail Mary, etc.
R. **Holy Mary, etc.**
V. Glory be, etc.
R. **As it was in the beginning, etc.**
V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.
R. **Have mercy upon us.**
V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
R. **Amen.**

Hymn

Stabat Mater



O that sil-ent, cease-less mour-ning, O those dim eyes,



ne - ver tur-ning From that won-drous, suf-fering Son.

The Fifth Station
THE CROSS IS LAID UPON SIMON OF CYRENE

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

As the strength of Jesus fails, and he is unable to proceed, the executioners seize and compel Simon of Cyrene to carry his cross. The virtue of that cross changes his heart, and from being a compulsory task it becomes a privilege and joy.

O Lord Jesus, may it be our privilege also to bear thy cross; may we glory in nothing else; by it may the world be crucified unto us and we unto the world; may we never shrink from suffering, but rather rejoice if we be counted worthy to suffer for thy Name's sake.

V. God spared not His own son.

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

V. Glory be, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

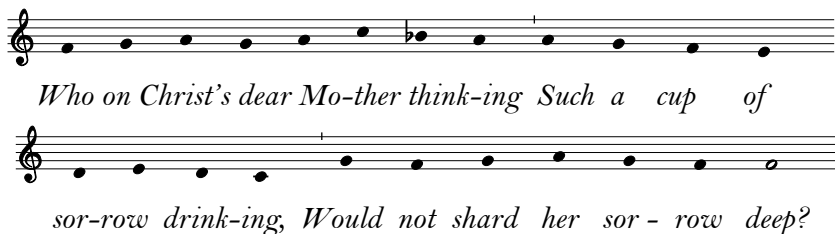
R. Have mercy upon us.

V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

- V. Our Father, etc.
R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.
 V. Hail Mary, etc.
R. Holy Mary, etc.
 V. Glory be, etc.
R. As it was in the beginning, etc.
 V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.
R. Have mercy upon us.
 V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
R. Amen.

Hymn *Stabat Mater*



Who on Christ's dear Mo-ther think-ing Such a cup of
 sor-row drink-ing, Would not shard her sor - row deep?

The Seventh Station
JESUS FALLS FOR THE SECOND TIME

- V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.
R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

The pain of his wounds and the loss of blood increasing at every step of his way, again his strength fails him and Jesus falls to the ground a second time. Our pride has caused his fall; it is our insolent haughtiness which crushes him to the earth.

O Jesus, falling again under the burden of our sins, and of thy sufferings for our sins, how often have we grieved thee by our repeated falls into sin. May we rather die than offend thee again.

- V. God spared not His own son.
R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

- V. God spared not His own son.
R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

- V. Our Father, etc.
R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.
 V. Hail Mary, etc.
R. Holy Mary, etc.
 V. Glory be, etc.
R. As it was in the beginning, etc.
 V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.
R. Have mercy upon us.
 V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
R. Amen.

Hymn

Stabat Mater

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef (treble clef) with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Saw the Lord's an-oint-ed ta-ken Saw her child in

death for-sak-en Heard his last ex-pi-ring cry.

**The Ninth Station
 JESUS FALLS A THIRD TIME**

- V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.
R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Jesus had now arrived almost at the summit of Calvary, but before he reached the spot where he was to be crucified, his strength again fails him and he falls the third time, to be again dragged up and goaded onward by the brutal soldiery.

O Lord Jesus, we entreat thee, by the merits of this, thy third most painful fall, to pardon our frequent relapses and our long continuance in sin; and may the thought of these thy sufferings make us hate our sins more and more.

V. God spared not His own son.

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

V. Glory be, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Hymn

Stabat Mater



In the Pass-ion of my Ma - ker Be my sin - ful



soul par - ta - ker, May I bear with her my part.

The Tenth Station
JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Arrived at last at the place of sacrifice, they prepare to crucify him. His garments are torn from his bleeding Body, and he, the Holy of holies, stands exposed to the vulgar gaze of the rude and scoffing multitude.

O Lord Jesus, thou didst endure this shame for our most shameful deeds.

Strip us, we beseech thee, of all false shame, conceit, and pride, and make us so to humble us voluntarily in this life, that we may escape everlasting shame in the world to come.

V. God spared not His own son.

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

V. Glory be, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. May the ☩ Souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Hymn

Stabat Mater



Of his pass- ion bear the to - ken, In a spir - it



bowed and bro-ken, Bear his death with-in my heart.

The Eleventh Station JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

The cross is laid upon the ground and Jesus is stretched upon his bed of death. At one and the same time he offers his bruised limbs to his heavenly Father in behalf of sinful men, and to his fierce executioners to be nailed by them to the shameful wood.

O Jesus, nailed to the cross, fasten our hearts there also, that they may be united to thee until death shall strike us with its fatal blow, and with our last breath we shall have yielded up our souls to thee.

V. God spared not His own son.

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

- V. Glory be, etc.
R. As it was in the beginning, etc.
V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.
R. Have mercy upon us.
V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
R. Amen.

Hymn *Stabat Mater*



May his wounds both wound and heal me, He en-kin-dle,



cleanse, and heal me, Be his Cross my hope and stay.

The Twelfth Station
JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

- V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.
R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

For three hours has Jesus hung upon his pierced hands; his blood has run down in streams; and in the midst of excruciating sufferings, he has pardoned his murderers, promised the bliss of Paradise to the good thief, and committed his blessed Mother and Beloved Disciple to each other's care. All is now finished; and meekly bowing down his head, he gives up the ghost.

All kneel as silence is kept

O Jesus, we devoutly embrace that honored cross where thou didst love us even unto death. In that death we place all our confidence. Henceforth let us live only for thee; and in dying for thee, let us die loving thee.

- V. God spared not His own son.
R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

V. Glory be, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Hymn

Stabat Mater



May he, when the mountains quiver, From that flame which



burns for- ev- er Shield me on the judg-ment day.

The Thirteenth Station JESUS IS PLACED IN HIS MOTHER'S ARMS

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

The multitude have left the heights of Calvary and none remain save the Beloved Disciple and the holy women, who at the foot of the cross are striving to stem the grief of Christ's most loving Mother. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus take the body of her divine Son from the cross, and deposit it in her arms.

O Mary, blessed Mother of my God, thou bearest in thine arms thine only Son, now dead, who often rested his head in sleep upon thy breast. Pray for us, that as thou holdest him lifeless in death, he may bear us up in the hour of our death in his everlasting arms.

V. God spared not His own son.

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

V. Glory be, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Hymn

Stabat Mater



Je- su, may thy Cross de-fend me, And thy sav - ing



death be-friend me, Cher-ished by thy death-less grace.

The Fourteenth Station
JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

V. We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

R. Because by thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

The body of her dearly beloved Son is taken from his Mother, and laid by the disciples in the tomb. The tomb is closed, and there the lifeless body remains until the hour of its glorious resurrection.

We too, O God, will descend into the grave whenever it shall please thee, as it shall please thee, and wheresoever it shall please thee. Suffer our sinful bodies to return to their parent dust; but do thou, in thy great mercy, receive our immortal souls, and when our bodies have risen again, place them likewise in thy kingdom, that we may love and bless thee for ever and ever. Amen.

V.. God spared not His own son.

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Act of Contrition:

All kneel

O God, we love thee with our whole hearts and above all things and are heartily sorry that we have offended thee. May we never offend thee any more. O, may we love thee without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things thy most holy will.

All stand

V. Our Father, etc.

R. Give us this day our daily bread, etc.

V. Hail Mary, etc.

R. Holy Mary, etc.

V. Glory be, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc.

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

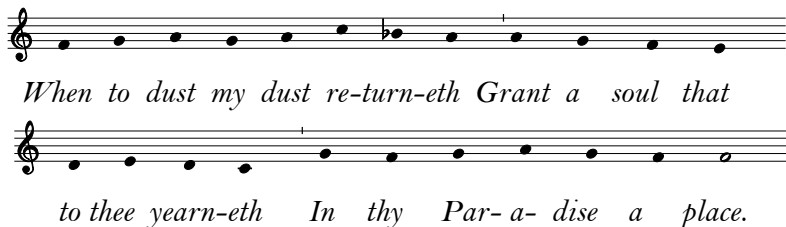
R. Have mercy upon us.

V. May the ☩ souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

Hymn

Stabat Mater



CONCLUDING PRAYER AT THE ALTAR

- V. O Saviour of the World, who by thy Cross and passion hast redeemed us;
R. **Save us and succor us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

Let us pray.

All kneel as silence is kept

Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this, thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the Cross; Who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

✠ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

ASCENSION AND SAINT AGNES PARISH

A Parish of the Episcopal Church



1217 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20005

Office Phone 202.347.8161

Fax 202.347.8036

Web Site www.ascensionandsaintagnes.org

E-mail ascensionandsaintagnes@verizon.net