

Stations of the Cross



MAIN TEACHING AND LEARNING POINTS

- On Good Friday, the Church community remembers the death of Jesus by reflecting on the Stations of the Cross.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross is a devotion that consists of prayers and meditations that recall the suffering and death of Jesus as he carried his cross to Calvary and was crucified. Representations or pictures of the Stations are usually found on the walls in churches. The Stations of the Cross are a reminder of God's great love. They are recalled during Fridays of Lent and on Good Friday.

[United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Inc. 2000]

PRAYING THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Begin the prayer with the Sign of the Cross.

Parent Child	The First Station – Jesus is condemned to death. Jesus was handed over to be crucified even though he had done nothing wrong.
All	We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.
Parent Child	The Second Station – Jesus takes up his cross. The soldiers gave Jesus his own cross to carry to Calvary. Jesus accepted his cross.
All	We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.
Parent Child	The Third Station – Jesus falls the first time. As Jesus walked along the road with his cross he stumbled and fell. He struggled to his feet and continued on the road.
All	We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

Parent
Child
All

The Fourth Station – Jesus meets his mother.

Jesus saw his mother's sadness and paused to comfort her.

We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

Parent
Child

The Fifth Station – Simon helps Jesus carry his cross.

Jesus was struggling to carry his cross so the soldiers forced a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene to help Jesus carry his cross the rest of the way.

We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

Parent
Child

The Sixth Station – Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.

A brave woman named Veronica stepped out from the crowd to help Jesus. She wiped the blood and sweat from his face.

We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

Parent
Child

The Seventh Station – Jesus falls the second time.

Jesus once again stumbled under the weight of the cross but again made another great effort to stand up and keep going.

We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

All

Parent
Child

The Eighth Station – Jesus speaks to the women and children.

Jesus stopped, looked up and spoke to women and children who were crying.

We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

All

Parent
Child

The Ninth Station – Jesus falls the third time.

Jesus had grown very weak and the cross was too heavy for him to bear. He fell to the ground for a third time.

We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

All

Parent
Child

The Tenth Station – Jesus is stripped of his clothes.

When Jesus reached Calvary, the soldiers stripped him of his clothes. They then played a game to decide who would get to keep the clothes.

All We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

Parent Child **The Eleventh Station – Jesus is nailed to the cross.**
Jesus was nailed to the cross and prayed to his Father in heaven that those responsible for his death be forgiven.

All We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

Parent Child **The Twelfth Station – Jesus dies on the cross.**
Jesus prayed to his Father in a loud voice, then bowed his head and died.

All We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

(All kneel for a short time, then continue).

Parent Child **The Thirteenth Station – Jesus is taken down from the cross.**
Joseph, a friend of Jesus, came to take the body of Jesus down from the cross.

All We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

Parent Child **The Fourteenth Station – Jesus is placed in the tomb.**
Jesus' body was placed in the tomb. A large stone was rolled in front of the tomb and a guard was placed on duty.

All We love you Jesus and we praise you, because when you died on the cross you showed love for us all.

ACTIVITY

In the worksheet below, draw a symbol for each of the Stations of the Cross in the designated circle.

