



# The Stations of the Cross

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Jesus dies on the cross**

Jesus and his friends finished eating the last supper. Some people did not like Jesus. They brought him to a man called Pilate. Pilate was the ruler of the country. Pilate said Jesus should be punished. The soldiers gave Jesus a heavy cross to carry

### **First Station Jesus is Condemned to death**

Jesus is standing before angry people who are yelling and saying mean and hurtful things to him. They scream at him. Some of them tell lies about his, saying that he did bad things. But Jesus stays quiet, he knows that God is with him.

#### Prayer

-I am sorry if I have ever blamed anyone in the wrong

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again".

### **Second Station Jesus carries the cross**

The soldiers put a big heavy cross on Jesus' shoulders, Jesus doesn't fight with them or say angry words to them. He knows that this will be hard and painful.

#### Prayer

- I am sorry if I did not treat people in a nice way

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

### **Third Station Jesus falls for the first time**

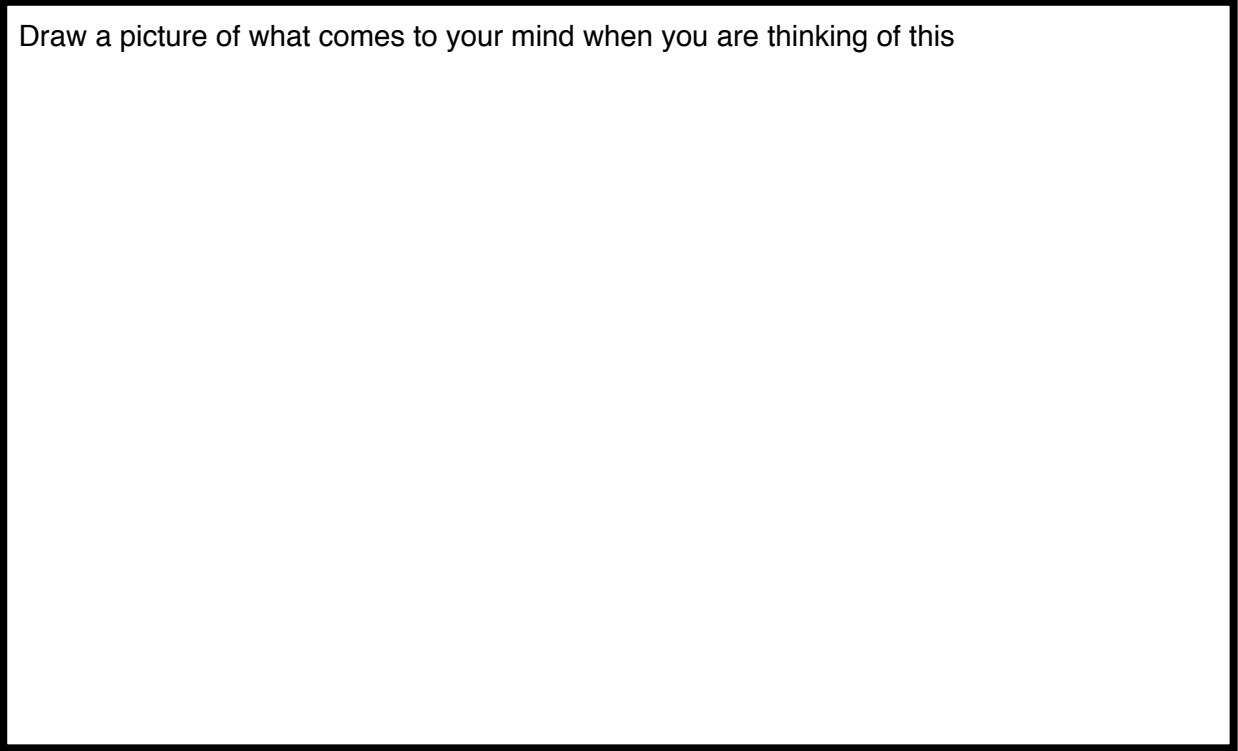
Jesus is tired as he walks along the road with the heavy cross on his shoulders. The cross is pushing into him and the stones hurt under his feet. The soldiers push him and shout at him to go faster but he stumbles and falls.

### Pause

Can you remember a time when you fell. In the school playground, in the garden at home, while you were playing....

Can you remember what it felt like.

Draw a picture of what comes to your mind when you are thinking of this



### Prayer

- I am sorry if I picked on anyone and called them names or teased them in mean way

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

### **Fourth Station** Jesus meets his mother

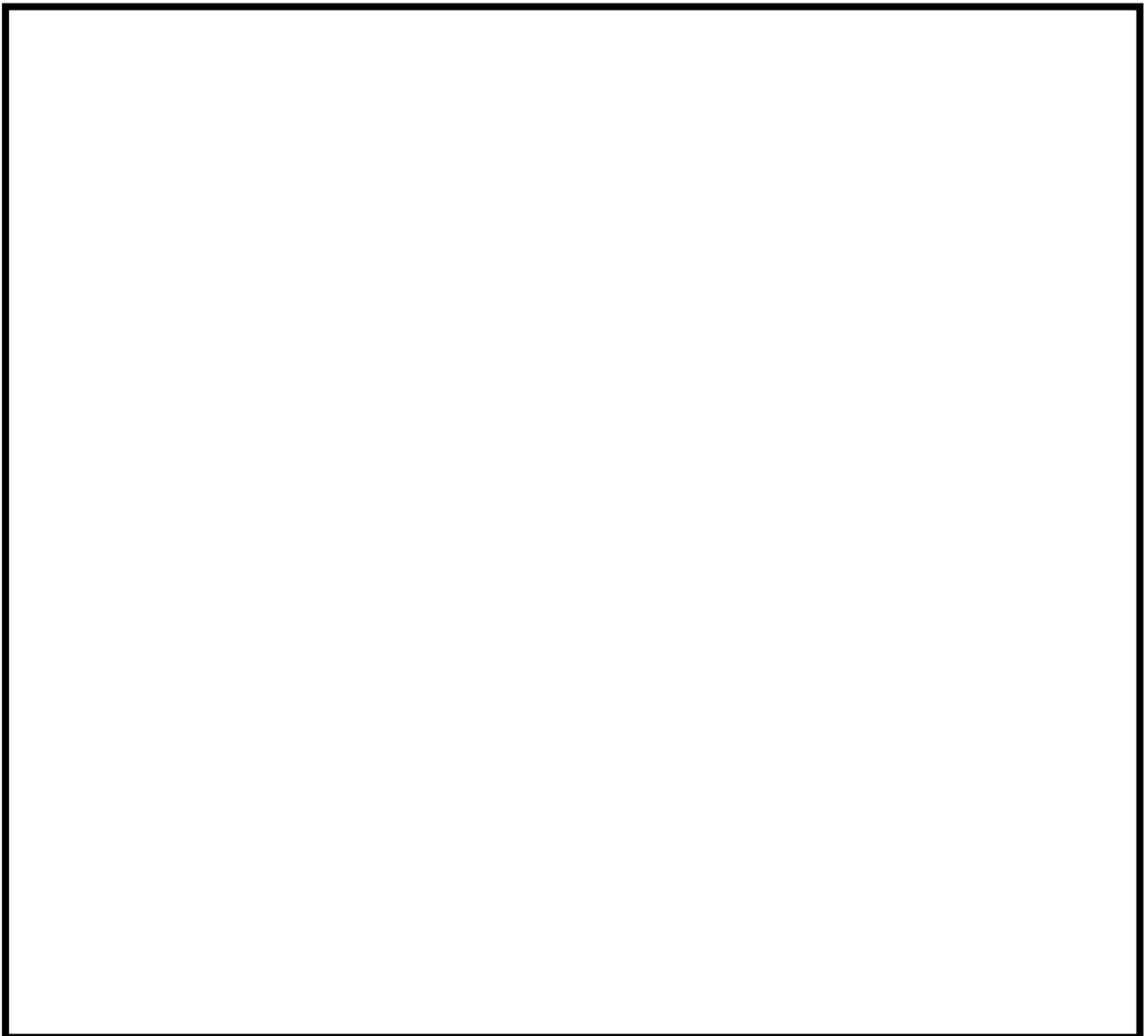
As Jesus gets back up and walks slowly with the cross on his shoulders he sees his mother and she moves forward. They look at each other. Mary, his mother, sees how much Jesus is suffering.

Pray the Hail Mary

Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

Write or draw about Jesus meeting his mother as he continued to carry his cross

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a student to write or draw about the biblical scene of Jesus meeting his mother as he carried the cross.

**Fifth Station** Simon of Cyrene carries the cross

Jesus is so tired that the soldiers look for someone in the crowd to help carry the cross. They look around and see a strong man. His name is Simon. He is pushed forward by the soldiers to go and carry the cross with Jesus.

Prayer

- I am sorry God for the times when I did not help others

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

**Sixth Station** Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

Jesus is tired, hot and sweating. His hair is tangled and is covered in dust from the long walk. Suddenly a woman pushes her way out of the crowd. Her name is Veronica. She stands in front of Jesus. She has a cloth and she wipes Jesus' face.

Prayer

- I am sorry God for not doing little acts of kindness that may have helped others

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

**Seventh Station** Jesus falls the second time

How very tired, weak and sad Jesus is now. Even though he keeps trying to walk with the heavy cross he just can't keep going. The noise from the crowd and from the soldiers make him feel worse. Then Jesus falls a second time

Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

Write about or draw a picture of the crowd that was following and watching Jesus as he carried the cross through the streets

### **Eighth Station** Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

Jesus gets up and continues on the road carrying the cross. He passes some women who are crying as they watch him in pain. He looks at them and tells them not to cry, to look after others and look after their families but not to be sad for him. Even in pain Jesus reaches out to others

Be still for a minute to simply listen

### Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

### **Ninth Station** Jesus falls a third time

Jesus is now so tired. He finds it hard to breathe. The walk seems to be longer, he can't seem to go on as his feet hurt, his shoulders ache and he is sweating so much. He tries to keep going but he just can't and he falls for a third time.

#### Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

### **Tenth station** Jesus is stripped of his clothes

Finally they have reached the end of the road. The soldiers feel powerful over Jesus and continue to bully. They tear off almost all the clothes that Jesus has on him and they make more fun of him

#### Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

### **Eleventh Station-** Jesus is nailed to the cross

Jesus carried the cross to the top of the hill. It was a long journey and he was very tired. When Jesus finally reached the top of the hill he was placed on the cross. Mary, his mother, and some of the other women who were Jesus' friends stood at the cross. They wanted to be with Jesus because they loved him very much.

### **Jesus is Crucified (Jn 19:26-27)**

Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, 'He is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'She is your mother.' From that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

**Twelfth Station-** Jesus dies on the cross

As he hung on the cross Jesus became very tired and very weak. He knew that he was going to die and at that moment he said a prayer to God the Father and then Jesus died.

For one minute let us be silent as we think of all who suffer in our community and in our world.

Pray the Our Father

Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

**Thirteenth Station** Jesus' body is taken down from the cross

Now Jesus' body is taken down from the cross and his mother Mary holds him gently in her arms. How sad she is. And how sad his friends are.

Prayer

"Oh my God I thank you for loving me. I'm sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again"

**Fourteenth Station** Jesus is laid in the tomb and covered in incense

Jesus' friends wash his body and wrap it in a clean sheet. They carefully put his body into the tomb and put a large stone over the entrance. Now there is darkness and all is quiet as they walk away in silence and sadness.

Prayer: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit



## **Luke 24:1-12**

There was a woman called Mary who was one of the friends of Jesus. She came from a place called Magdala and so she was called Mary Magdalen. She and her friends didn't have time for taking care of the body of their friend Jesus after it was placed in the tomb. So they decided they would come and finish their work another day. That's why three days after Jesus died they got up very very early and set off walking to the tomb where Jesus' body had been laid. They brought special oils, ointment and creams with them for the body. But when the women arrived at the tomb they could hardly believe their eyes.

The big stone that had been placed at the entrance had been rolled away. The women hurried in but they could not see Jesus' body. They were very upset. Suddenly two men appeared. They were dressed in bright shining clothes. Mary Magdalen and her friends were afraid. They looked down on the ground. Then one of the men started to talk to the women. He said, "Jesus is not here. He is risen". The women were amazed. Jesus is alive and ran off to tell the rest of Jesus' friends the great news.

**Draw an Easter Picture**

*Alleluia!*

## Two Poems

### Easter Dawn

A young man in a ragged robe  
Stood bleeding in the sun.  
When Pilate asked, 'Are you a  
king?'  
He said, 'You call me one!'  
Then Pilate said, 'Look at this  
man!  
What evil has he done?'  
'He says he's King, that's his  
crime!'  
Cruel Caiaphas replied,  
'Great Caesar is our only King,  
He must not be defied!'  
Then all the mob rose up and  
said  
'Let him be crucified!'  
They nailed him to a wooden  
cross  
Upon Golgotha Hill.  
His mother and his best friend  
John  
Stayed with him there until  
He closed his eyes and  
breathed his last  
And all the world was still.

Within the tomb, darkness and  
gloom  
Round his poor body lay,  
But every night must with the  
light  
Of dawn pass away.  
And Jesus, like the morning  
sun,  
Rose up on Easter day!

by Finbar O'Connor

### Stabat Mater

At the Cross her station keeping  
Stood the blessed mother weeping,  
Close to Jesus to the end.

Hour of darkness descending,  
Mother, Son, love unending  
On the hill of Calvary.

Mary, Mary crying.  
Slowly Jesus dying.  
Crucified, crucified.

Head bowed, body broken,  
Breath breathed, last word spoken,  
'Abba, Father! Amen.'

by Dr Clare Maloney