



Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney's Lent Course 2024

# THE WAY TO THE CROSS

THURSDAY 21 MARCH



## CONTEMPLATIVE ACTS - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross can be done in church, with stations on the walls or placed in the church, or online with a selection of images or a video.

Stations of the Cross are also known as the Way of the Cross, the Way of Sorrows or *Via Crucis*. They are a series of images which depict Jesus on the day of his crucifixion, with accompanying readings and prayers.

The stations arose from pilgrims to Jerusalem and walking the way of the *Via Dolorosa*. There are traditions of a service on Good Friday or through Lent, with in church and online versions available.

The stations encourage reflection on the Passion of Jesus, seeing images from the Gospels and a way to engage visually with the events on the day of Jesus' death.

Online versions of the Stations of the Cross can be found at:

- Podcast from the Church of England with Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell, Paula Gooder and Rt Revd Phillip North <https://cofe-way-of-the-cross.captivate.fm/listen>
- An online version from St John's, Aberdeen (on Facebook) [https://fb.watch/qWPOh6\\_X\\_g/](https://fb.watch/qWPOh6_X_g/)
- From St Mary's RC Cathedral, Aberdeen [https://youtu.be/C5aez5Pd\\_7E?si=R6GCbfyCEtu11NMV](https://youtu.be/C5aez5Pd_7E?si=R6GCbfyCEtu11NMV)
- Cardinal Vincent Nichols <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/stations-of-the-cross/>

Collect for the  
Fifth Sunday of  
Lent

Most merciful God,  
by the death and  
resurrection of your  
Son Jesus Christ you  
created humanity  
anew. May the power  
of his victorious  
cross transform  
those who turn in  
faith to him who  
lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now  
and for ever.  
Amen.

## Stations of the Cross

There are different numbers of stations and different depictions but one common form (with scriptural references) is:

1. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-41)
2. Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested (Mark 14:43-46)
3. Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin (Luke 22:66-71)
4. Jesus is denied by Peter (Matthew 26:69-75)
5. Jesus is judged by Pilate (Mark 15:1-5, 15)
6. Jesus is scourged and crowned with thorns (John 19:1-3)
7. Jesus takes up his cross (John 19:6, 15-17)
8. Jesus is helped by Simon to carry his cross (Mark 15:21)
9. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem (Luke 23:27-31)
10. Jesus is crucified (Luke 23:33-34)
11. Jesus promises his kingdom to the repentant thief (Luke 23:39-43)
12. Jesus entrusts Mary and John to each other (John 19:25-27)
13. Jesus dies on the cross (Luke 23:44-46)
14. Jesus is laid in the tomb (Matthew 27:57-60)

There is a selection of images and a service for Stations of the Cross and the Resurrection for the Easter season.

A service of the Stations of the Cross with simple images, prayers and readings can be found online (text) from All Saints Episcopal Church, Portsmouth, Ohio (USA): <http://allsaintsportsmouth.org/online-worship/stations-of-the-cross/>

Orders of Service for the Stations of the Cross are available from The Episcopal Church (IUSA)'s Book of Occasional Services (2018) or the Church of England. Both are available online.

This week you're invited to pray the Stations of the Cross, using an online video or images and an order of service online or join a service in person at a church near you.



An embroidered version of Stations of the Cross seen at the chapel St. Martin, Maria-Anzbach, Lower Austria.

I will put my law  
within them,  
and I will write  
it on their  
hearts; and I will  
be their God,  
and they shall be  
my people.

*Jeremiah 31.33b*

## *Usual Weekly Pattern*

Sunday  
RCL Eucharist  
Readings and Collect

Monday  
Delving Deeper into  
the Readings

Tuesday  
Words from Others  
(sacred & secular)

Wednesday  
Resources from the  
Arts

Thursday  
Contemplative Acts

Friday  
Personal Reflection  
- what this means to  
me

Saturday  
Acts & Deeds