

# Stations of the Cross



## Good Friday Pilgrimage 2021

The Stations of the cross are an ancient form of Christian devotion, inviting us on a virtual pilgrimage in Jesus' footsteps, recalling and reflecting on key moments on his journey to the cross.

This year we are focusing on six of the Biblical Stations of the cross for our Good Friday Pilgrimage. Your pilgrimage can be undertaken by visiting each one of the buildings in the RNWK Group where there will be a creative representation of the station and a bible reading reflection on display. Alternatively it can be undertaken from your own homes by using this booklet.

### Opening Prayer:

God of power and mercy,  
in love you sent your Son  
that we might be cleansed of sin  
and live with you forever.  
Bless us as we take time to reflect  
on his suffering and death  
that we may learn from his example  
the way we should go.  
We ask this through that same Christ,  
our Lord.  
Amen.

## STATION 1 - Ridley Church

### JUDGEMENT



### Jesus is judged by Pilate

🙏 Lord Jesus you were condemned to death for political expediency, you were the victim of unbridled injustice. Help us not to judge others unfairly, and to respect and treat others in the way that you taught us, that in all we do, we should love the Lord our God with all our hearts, all our souls and all our minds, and love our neighbour, as ourselves. Amen

✚ The chief priests with the elders and the scribes, that is, the whole Sanhedrin, held a council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He said to him in reply, "You say so." The chief priests accused him of many things. Again Pilate questioned him, "Have you no answer? See how many things they accuse you of." Jesus gave him no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.... Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barrabas... [and] handed [Jesus] over to be crucified. (Mark 15: 1-5, 15)

## STATION 2 - Ash Church

### PAIN



### Jesus bears the cross

🙏 Lord Jesus, you carried the cross through the streets of Jerusalem; you bore the weight of our sins when you carried

the cross. Help us to realise the extent and the cost of your love for us. To you be the honour and the glory. Amen

✚ When the chief priests and the guards saw [Jesus] they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him. I find no guilt in him." ...They cried out, "Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your king?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. (John 19:6,15-17)

## STATION 3 - All Saints Church

### EXHAUSTION



### Jesus is helped by Simon the Cyrenian to carry the cross

🙏 Lord Jesus you were worn down by fatigue, and needed the help of a passing stranger. Be with those for whom life feels drained of energy from the last year of living under the shadow of the covid pandemic. Amen

✚ 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)

## STATION 4 - Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre

### GRIEF



### Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem



 Lord Jesus, the women of Jerusalem wept for you, be with all those who now have to grieve at a distance, unable to embrace and support each other, bring them your peace, and the knowledge that you understand their grief, and are with them always.

Amen

 A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children, for indeed, the days are coming when people will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.' At that time, people will say to the mountains, 'Fall upon us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' for if these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?" (Luke 23: 27-31)

## STATION 5 - St Mary's, Fawkham

### DARKNESS



### Jesus dies on the cross



 Lord Jesus, you died on the cross, and entered the bleakest of all circumstances, in death, you entered the darkest place of all; give us courage when we feel at our lowest ebb, illumine our darkness with your glorious presence.  
Amen

 It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last.  
(Luke 23: 44-46)

## STATION 6 - St Mary Magdalene, Longfield

### DESPAIR



### Jesus is placed in the tomb



 Lord Jesus, you were laid in a cold, dark tomb, hidden from sight, hidden from the eyes of the world, be with all those who suffer, and wait. Where there is doubt, let us bring faith; where there is despair, let us bring hope; where there is darkness, let us bring your light; where there is sadness, let us bring joy.  
Amen

 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who was himself a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be handed over. Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it [in] clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed.  
(Matthew 27: 57-60)

### Closing Prayers:

Let us pray for the coming of God's Kingdom in the words our Saviour taught us;

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection  
of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and save the world:  
grant that by faith in him  
who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.