

# Annunciation Parish

# Stations of the Cross

(prepared by Dr. Sandra Chakeres)

The Stations of the Cross depicted are in our church at

Annunciation Parish

3547 Clifton Avenue

Cincinnati, Ohio 45220

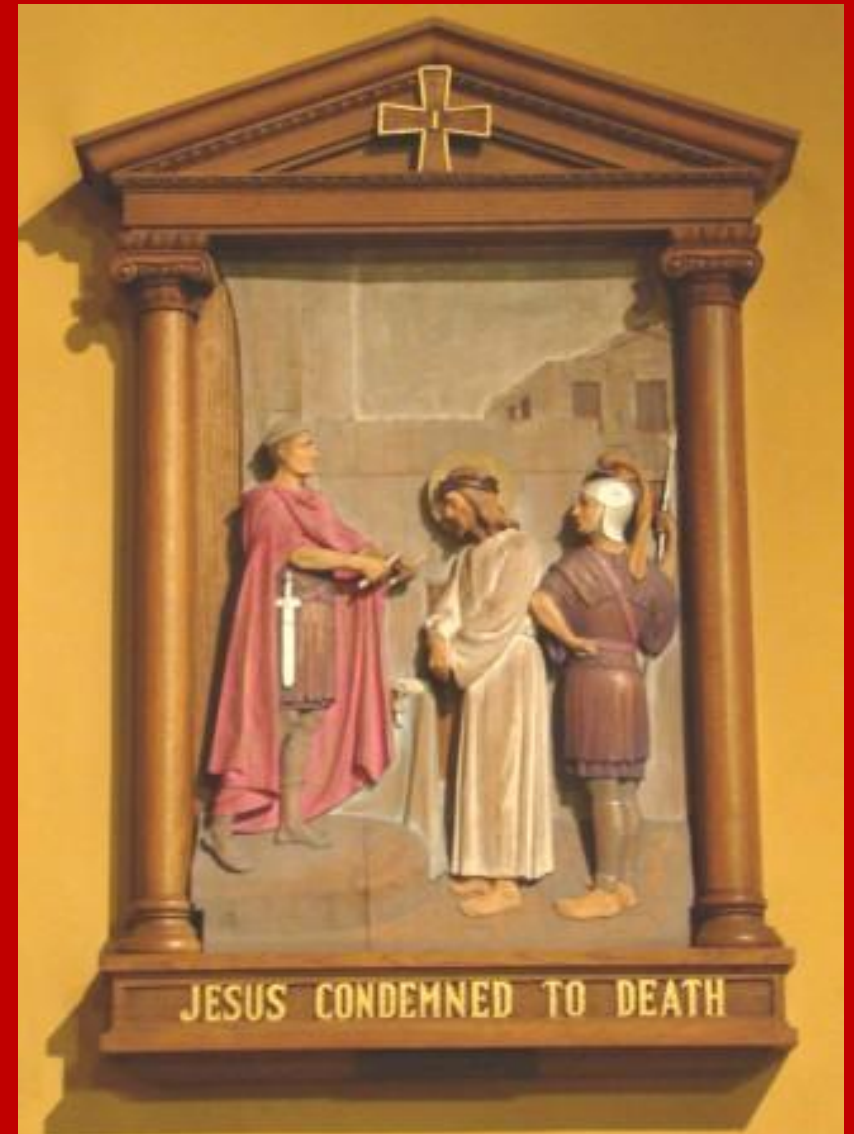
[www.annunciationbvmparish.org](http://www.annunciationbvmparish.org)

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**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**First Station:  
Jesus Condemned to Death**

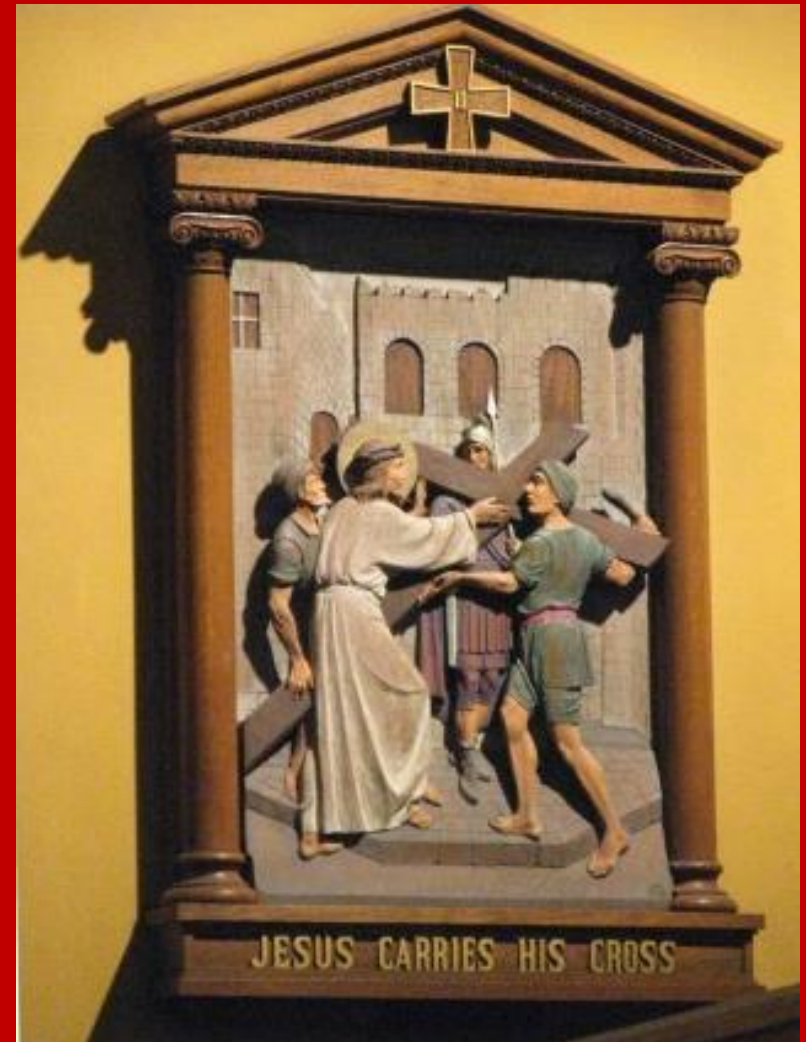
**When have I condemned others?  
When have others condemned me?  
Forgive me. Help me to forgive.  
Lord Jesus, have mercy.**



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**Second Station:  
Jesus Carries His Cross**

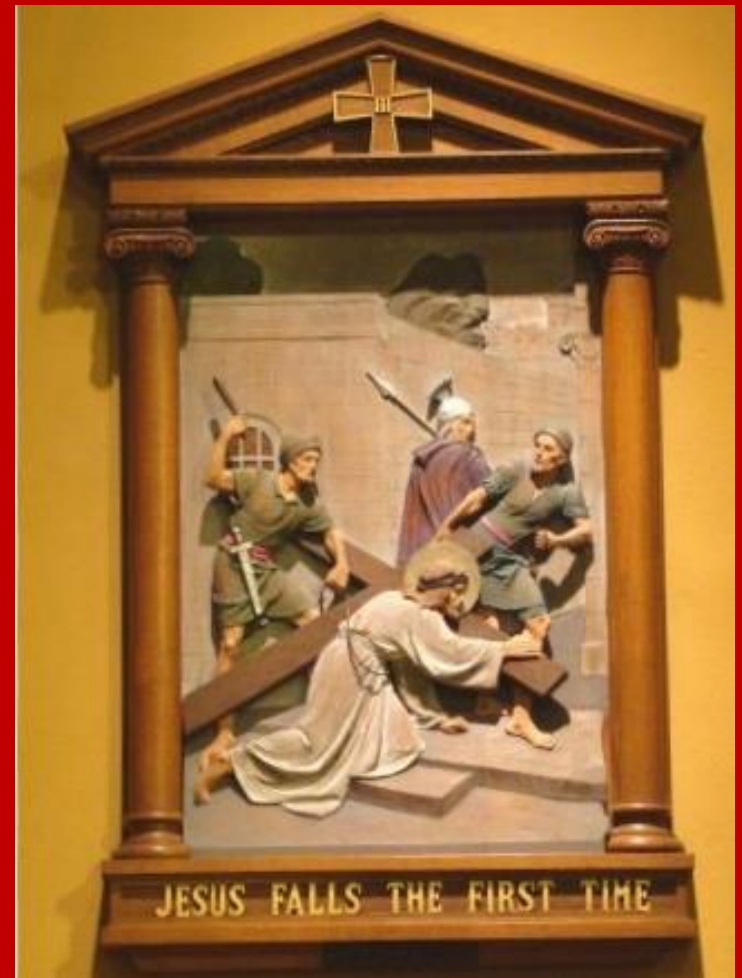
**Jesus, may I take up my cross daily  
and follow you. Forgive me for what  
I have done or failed to do which has  
contributed to the crosses others  
must bear. Lord Jesus, have mercy.**



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**Third Station:  
Jesus Falls the First Time**

**Jesus, you stumble and fall under the weight of the cross – you are innocent and yet bear the weight of the sins of the world on your journey to Calvary. Forgive me. Forgive us. Lord Jesus, have mercy.**



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### **Fourth Station:**

### **Jesus Meets His Afflicted Mother**

**No one wants to see someone they love suffer. Imagine the anguish Mary must feel as she meets her innocent son carrying his cross on the way to his execution. And imagine the sorrow and heartbreak Jesus feels when he sees this anguish in his mother's eyes. Jesus' cross is weighted down by our sins. Jesus, the innocent lamb, is on the road to Calvary to die for our sins. Jesus have mercy on us. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.**





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**Fifth Station:  
Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus**

**Practice awareness today! We all have our crosses to bear in this life. Look around you today. Who do you see who is stumbling under the weight of their cross? How can you help this person bear their burden? Practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.**



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**Sixth Station:  
Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus**

**A simple act of kindness and mercy... Veronica, whose name means true image, stepped forward to wipe Jesus' face as he made his grueling way towards Calvary and crucifixion. The image of Jesus' face became imprinted on the cloth. What simple acts of kindness and mercy can we show to others? A simple gesture can make a lasting impression.**



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**Seventh Station:  
Jesus Falls the Second Time**

**The cross, weighed down by our sins, is so very heavy. Jesus falls a second time under its weight. Yet he will get up and continue on the road to Calvary where he will die for our salvation. Jesus is all merciful. What about us? How have we shown mercy this day?**



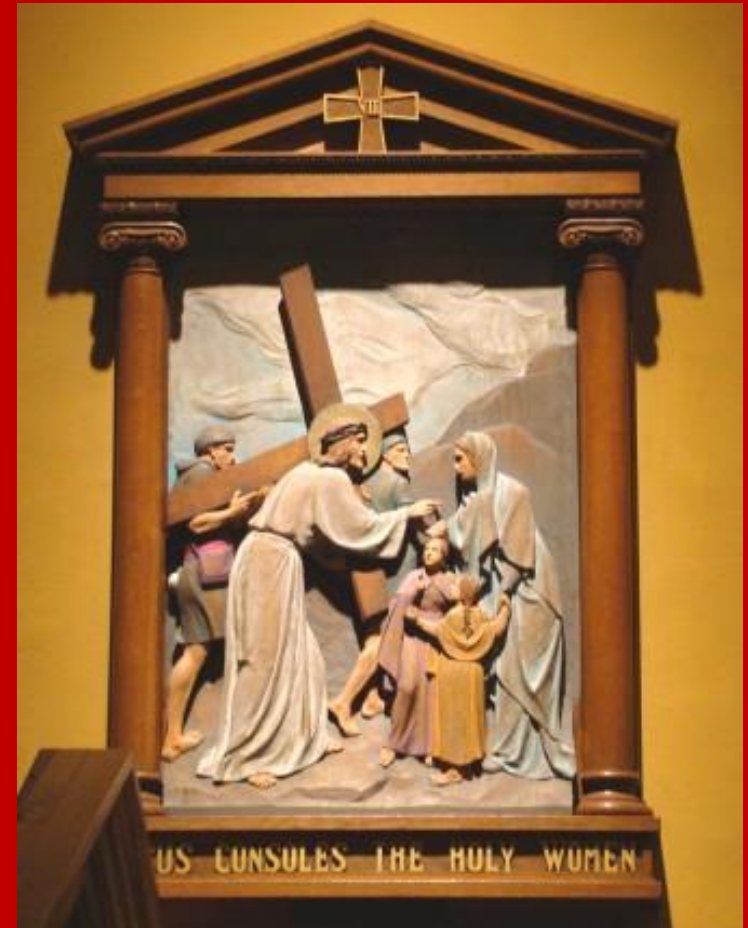


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## **Eighth Station:**

### **Jesus Consoles the Holy Women**

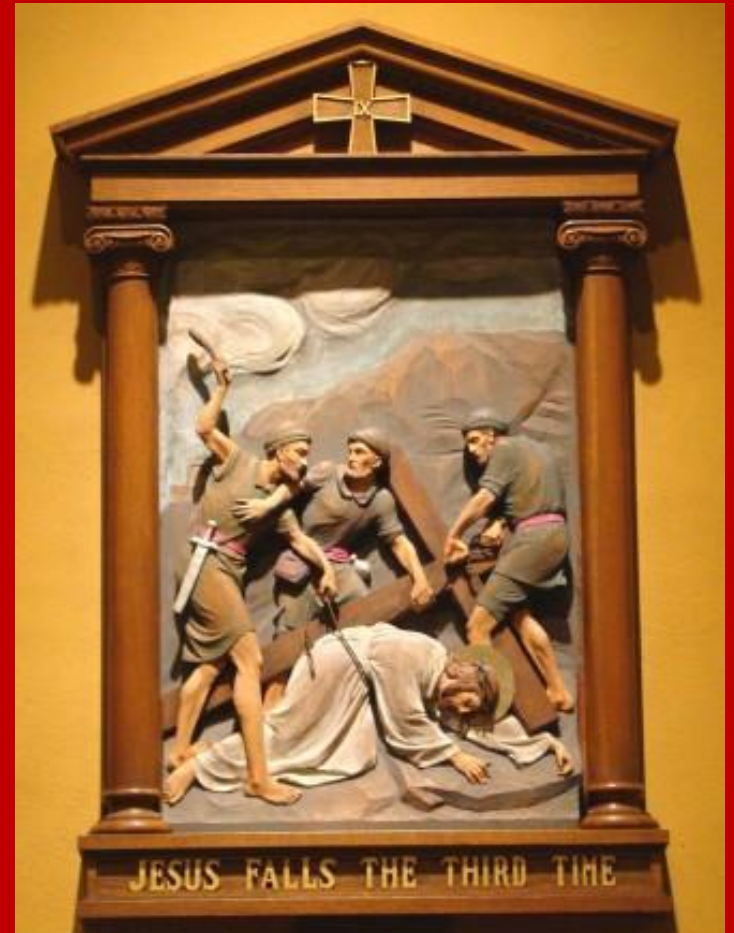
**Jesus is over halfway on his journey to Calvary. Already he has stumbled and fallen twice under the weight of the cross. Exhausted and suffering, he nonetheless does not focus on himself, but rather on the anguish of the holy women he meets on his journey to his crucifixion. Jesus, the Suffering Servant, consoles those he encounters in his Passion. What about us? Are we self-focused on our own trials and tribulations, or do we, like Jesus, always focus on the other, bringing mercy and compassion to those we meet along the way?**



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**Ninth Station:  
Jesus Falls the Third Time**

**Jesus stumbles and falls one last time under the weight of the cross, a cross weighed down by our sins, as he nears his destination of Calvary. Yet he will get up, once again, and continue on to his crucifixion. Because of Jesus' salvific death, we know that when we stumble and fall on our journey, weighted down by our own sinfulness, we can repent and rise again. Lord Jesus, have mercy on us sinners. Help us to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.**



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### **Tenth Station:**

#### **Jesus is Stripped of his Garments**

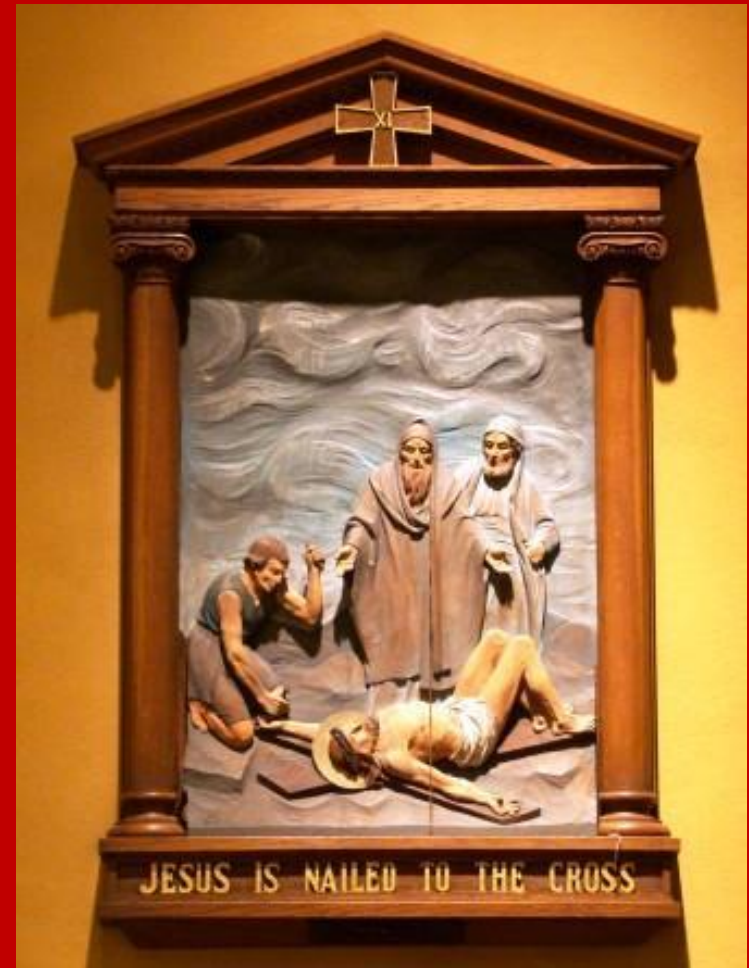
**Jesus has reached Calvary, the place of his crucifixion. Exhausted, hot and thirsty from his journey carrying the cross...the cross weighted down by our sins, Jesus faces more humiliation and indignity. The crown of thorns still pressed into his head, Jesus, the innocent Lamb of God, is stripped of his garments before being nailed to the cross to die like a criminal. Jesus was innocent, without sin. We cannot say the same. What needs to be stripped from our lives these late days of Lent as we prepare for Easter?**



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**Eleventh Station:  
Jesus is Nailed to the Cross**

**Nails being driven into flesh and bone. It is almost too gruesome to image. Yet this is part of the Passion Jesus suffered and endured to save us from sin and death. Most of us will never literally drive a nail through someone's flesh and bone. But how often do we drive "nails" into someone's fragile ego, putting them down to make ourselves seem more important? How often do our lies or exaggerations "nail" a false accusation into someone? These last days of Lent let us repent of the times our words or silence, actions or inactions, have been like nails puncturing and destroying someone's reputation. Lord Jesus, have mercy on us!**



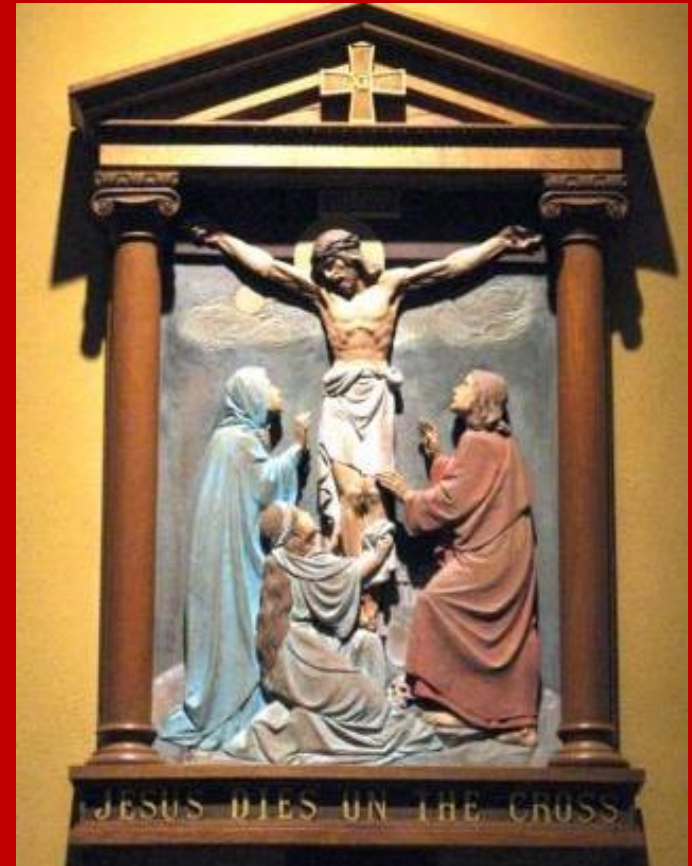


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**Twelfth Station:  
Jesus Dies on the Cross**

**“O agony and dying!  
O love to sinner’s free!  
Jesus, all grace supplying,  
O turn your face on me.”**

Text from the hymn, “O Sacred Head Surrounded.” Text: *Salve caput cruentatum*; Ascribed to Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; Translated by Henry Baker, 1821-1877. In the public domain.

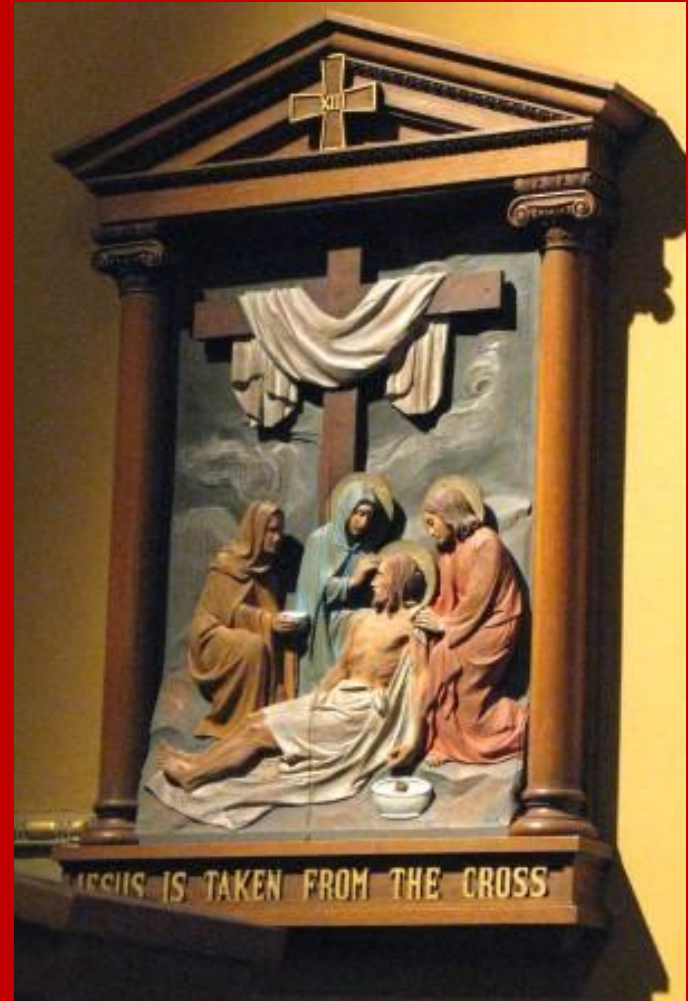




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**Thirteenth Station:  
Jesus is Taken from the Cross**

**Jesus' body, bloody and lifeless, is taken down from the cross. The ravages of his suffering and crucifixion are very obvious. Imagine what it was like for his loved ones to witness this...Jesus, the innocent Lamb of God, was slaughtered like a criminal. They tend to Jesus' lifeless body, preparing it for burial. Each mark on his body is a mark borne for our sins. Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us.**



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**Fourteenth Station:**

**Jesus is Laid in the Sepulchre**

**Jesus' lifeless body has been taken down from the cross and prepared for burial. His mother and close friends/followers now say what they think to be their final goodbyes as they lay him in the sepulchre. They do not yet know what they will come to know in a few short days. It is hard for us, who know that Jesus has risen from the dead and conquered sin and death, to take leave of a deceased loved one. Think of how much harder it was for Jesus' mother and friends. During these last days of Lent, pray in a special way for all those who have died and for all who mourn their loss. Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us.**

