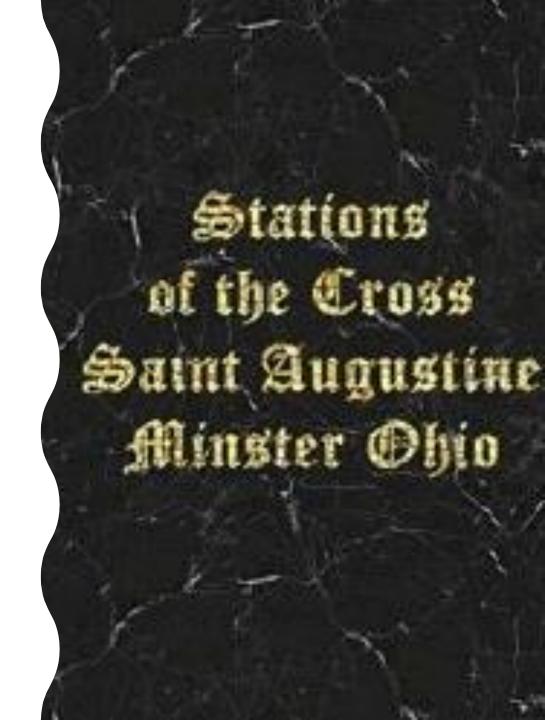
# STATIONS OF THE CROSS COG 2021

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Text adapted from - https://wau.org/ Artwork Credit – St. Augustine, Minster, OH



#### THE PROCESS

- -Station number and description
- -Scavenger Hunt item
- -Youth Reader(prayer/reflection)
- -Adult Reader (prayer/reflection)
- -Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be
- -Scavenger Hunt item into your container

Video pause at Station 12 Closing video at end

#### # - TITLE

**Description of the Station.** Body of text.

Scavenger Hunt item – we'll connect your item to the Station.

**Youth Reader -** Assigned youth reads this prayer/reflection. No need to rush this. Read so we can all hear.

**Adult Reader -** Adult reader will read this prayer/reflection.

(Usually the prayers Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be follow the adult prayer.)

Return to the connection of your Scavenger Hunt item to the Station.



## OUR FATHER (LORD'S PRAYER)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

#### HAIL MAR

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

#### GLORY BE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

#### 1 – JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

**Jesus is condemned to death.** Jesus was accused of many crimes he didn't commit. He didn't defend himself. He knew he needed to die for our sins.

Find your shiny coin. Prior to being condemned by Pontius Pilate, Jesus was betrayed by the disciple Judas. Judas was paid 30 silver coins by authorities to reveal Jesus in a crowd so he could be arrested. Jesus is taken to Pontius Pilate, a Roman governor, who allows the people to choose to crucify Jesus or a known murderer, Barabbas. The crowd chooses to release Barabbas, thus condemning Jesus to death.

**Youth Reader -** Jesus, I often get defensive when I know I did something wrong. Help me be honest. I also don't want to be a tattletale or accuse others of doing wrong.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, sometimes I feel abandoned and afraid and feel like I am treated or blamed for things unfairly. Help me be grateful for what you did for me. Help me to accept criticism and unfairness as you did, and not complain. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

The shiny coin represents the price Judas was paid that led to Jesus's condemnation. Station 1, Jesus is Condemned to Death. Place it in your container.



#### 2 – JESUS TAKES HIS CROSS

**Jesus accepts the cross.** The cross was big and heavy. It was hard for Jesus to carry it. Jesus carried the heavy cross without complaining once.

Find your piece of wood. This represents the wooden cross Jesus carried. Jesus was required to carry a cross, His cross, up the hill where he and two other criminals were to be crucified. The soldiers, doing as they were told, gave Jesus a large wooden cross that he carried to Calvary.

**Youth Reader -** Sometimes schoolwork or chores at home are hard for me and I complain. Jesus, please help me not to complain. I want to keep trying, even when I find something hard.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, Sometimes I feel like I'm not appreciated. In my self-pity, I don't reach out to help. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This piece of wood represents the wooden cross that Jesus carried. Station 2, Jesus is Takes His Cross. Place it in your container.



#### 3 – JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

**Jesus falls the first time.** Jesus was already badly wounded when he fell the first time. It must have hurt very much. Jesus got up and kept on going.

Find your bandage/band-aid. If you have 3, write "1" on this first one. If you have 1, write the numbers "1", "2" and "3" on the single bandage. Jesus stumbles after being given His cross. As the son of a carpenter, Joseph, he is used to carrying wood, but this is bulky and awkward so he stumbles. This is the first of three times Jesus falls.

**Youth Reader -** When we don't succeed in school or when we lose a sports game, it can make us feel defeated. Jesus was hurt but never defeated. Jesus, I want your attitude of hope and victory even if I am not succeeding.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, sometimes I give up too easily, and sometimes don't do my work as well as I know I can. I call on you, Lord, to pardon my wrongdoings; may Your grace aid me. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This bandage represents Jesus's first fall. Station 3, Jesus Falls for the First time. If you have 1, set it aside, if you have 3, place this one in your container.



#### 4 – JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

**Jesus meets his mother.** Jesus knew that his mother was sad to see him suffering so much. But he was so happy she came to him. Mary loved Jesus very much.

Find your circle. A circle is a symbol of infinity as it has no corners or sides. This circle in your hand will be a reminder of Mary's infinite love, a mother's love for her child, Jesus. While carrying His Cross, he sees his mother. Although she wants to take the pain and the shame Jesus carries, she can't. Jesus, however, is comforted at the fact that his mother is there, nearby.

**Youth Reader -** Our parents love us very much, and sometimes we don't let them hug us and care for us because we are mad or sad or don't want them to see us in trouble. Jesus, I thank you for my parents and their love for me.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, sometimes I am overwhelmed. I need to remember that being an adult down not mean having to solve every problem by myself. I need to look around for a familiar face for the help I need. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This circle represents Mary's infinite love for Jesus, and for all of us. Station 4, Jesus Meets His Mother. Place your 'circle' in your container.



#### 5 - SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY THE CROSS

**Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus.** Simon didn't come to help Jesus but to see what was going on. Then he was ordered by the soldiers to carry the cross, because Jesus was having such a hard time.

Find your 'piece of paper'. Draw a cross on it. Simon of Cyrene is pulled from the crowd and made to help Jesus carry the cross. He doesn't take it, but rather helps bear some of the burden of the weight. This must have been a brief relief...sharing the weight, maybe even removing it to the point it feels like a piece of paper.

**Youth Reader -** Sometimes I don't want to help my friends or brothers and sisters or parents when I am told to. Jesus, help me know that when I do help others, it is like helping you. I want to be kind and helpful.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, sometimes others might need my help, but I ignore their needs. Even when I'm asked to help, I sometimes claim to be too busy. Give me grace to recognize when I can help others who desperately need it. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This piece of paper represents how light the Cross felt with Simon helping Jesus bear the weight of the Cross. Station 5, Simon of Cyrene helps Jeus carry the Cross. Place your 'piece of paper' in your container.



#### 6 - VERONICA WIPES JESUS'S FACE

**Veronica wipes Jesus' face.** Veronica loved Jesus very much. When she stepped out to wipe his face, she risked getting in big trouble from the soldiers. Her love and kindness overcame her fear.

Find your cloth. The mid-day sun heats the day and Jesus's body compensates with sweat. The blood from the thorny crown trickles down His face. A woman in the crowd boldly steps forward to wipe the sweat and blood from Jesus's face. Veronica, unafraid of those around her, takes a cloth and makes it easier for Jesus to see his way.

**Youth Reader -** Jesus, I want to love you like Veronica. Help me to be brave and love others who are unpopular

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, sometimes a co-worker, friend, or family member could use help or understanding, and I don't seem to notice. Help me to notice when others are in need, as did Veronica with her simple act of kindness to help You see the way. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This cloth represents the fabric that Veronica used to whip Jesus's face clean. Station 6, Veronica Wipes Jesus's Face. Place your cloth one in your container.



## 7 - JESUS FALLS FOR THE SECOND TIME

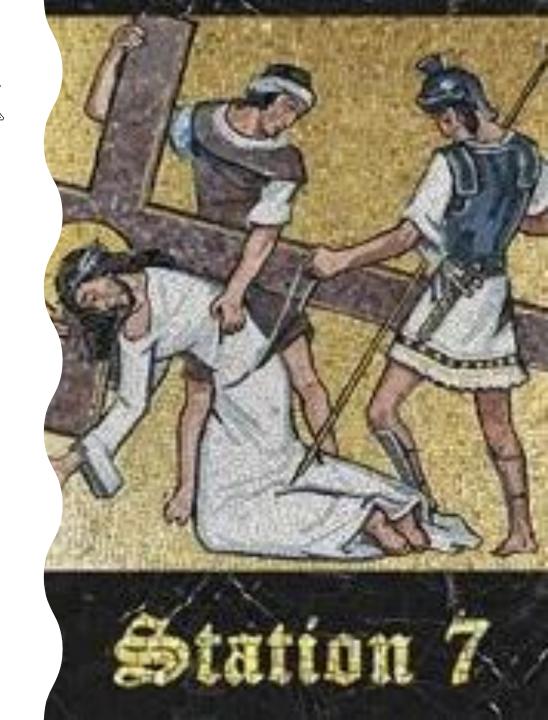
**Jesus falls a second time.** Jesus fell again because he was so weak and tired from all his wounds. He still didn't give up. He got back up and continued on.

Find your bandage/band-aid. If you have 3, write "2" on this one. If you have 1, hold it up so we can see. Jesus can now see His way, but the burden he carries, and the long walk ahead is too much at this moment and He falls. He does not stop, as he knows his trek is one of love for the people around him. He gets up and continues up the hill. This is the second of three times Jesus falls.

**Youth Reader -** Think of something that makes you feel weak, something that is hard for you to do. Ask Jesus to help you with this.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, it is easy to despair over small things, and sometimes I do. When life is difficult, help me get up and keep trying as you did. Give me grace that I may not fall again. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This bandage represents Jesus's second fall. Station 7, Jesus Falls for the Second time. If you have 1, set it aside, if you have 3, place this one in your container.



## Ś – JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUS¾LEM

**Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.** A lot of people were against Jesus, but a lot of people followed him. They were his faithful friends.

Find your tissue. This tissue represent all those who cried for Jesus that fateful day. Not everyone was tricked into believing Jesus was a criminal. Many in the crowd were followers of Jesus, those who wanted to do right, to forgive their sisters and brothers, to love their neighbors. This day they felt powerless, but not without hope. Jesus sees some of them in the crowd...the most vulnerable of the crowd - women and children. They are weeping for Him, but He has done in His ministry, He assures them not to fear. He doesn't think about Himself at that moment, but for the pain they endure as witnesses.

**Youth Reader -** Help me to be a faithful friend. When my friends are going through a hard time or are being made fun of, I want to help them and be a true friend.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, sometimes I become so absorbed in myself and what I'd like that I forget about the needs of others. Help me think more about others. Help me respond to them even when I'm busy with my own problems. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This tissue represents the crying women and children (and men) who are afraid for Jesus. Station 8, Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem. Place your tissue in your container.



#### 9 – JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME

**Jesus falls a third time.** It's unbelievable that Jesus fell again and the soldiers didn't help him. They only yelled louder for him to get up and continue on. Jesus didn't get mad at them; he forgave them.

Find your bandage/band-aid. If you have 1, write "3" on this one and hold it up. If this is your last bandage, hold it up so we can see. After the joyous meeting with some fo the crowd, Jesus's attention is turned back to the task at hand...making his way up the hill. Tired, almost defeated, Jesus falls because of the overwhelming burden of His Cross. He falls...but the soldiers don't allow him to rest. They yank him up and force him to continue and Jesus does so under their screams and cursing...he takes a moment to forgive them before continuing. Jesus will not fall again.

**Youth Reader -** Sometimes people say or do hurtful things to us or don't help us when we need them. Jesus, help me to forgive everyone like you did. Help me not to get angry or hold a grudge against someone who has hurt me.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, I often feel that I'm confronted by the same problems over and over again. Sometimes I get weary and become discouraged and depressed. You didn't give up, help me so if I fail, I have the strength to get up again and again. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This bandage represents Jesus's third and final fall. Jesus, our Savior, shall not ever fall again. Station 9, Jesus Falls for the Third time. Place your bandage in your container.



## 10 - JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

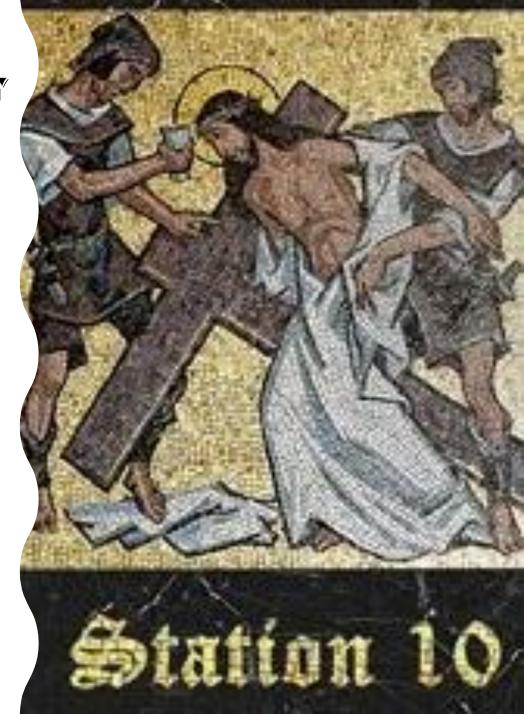
**Jesus is stripped of his clothes.** To be without clothes in front of everyone is a humiliating thing. Jesus wasn't ashamed because he knew his Father in heaven loved him and everyone who was there.

Find your string. This string represents the last of Jesus's clothing. The soldiers realize Jesus has something of value, his robe. They strip him of this and play dice for it. Jesus knows that this is part of his passion and simply abides. Jesus knows something greater is to come through the love of God.

**Youth Reader -** Jesus, I want to know how much you and the Father love me, so I will never be embarrassed or ashamed.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, sometimes I give others around me a bad example. Help me say things that build up the people around me. Help me set a good example for others to follow. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This string represents the last of Jesus's garments. Station 10, Jesus is Stripped of his Garments. Place your string in your container.



#### 11 - JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

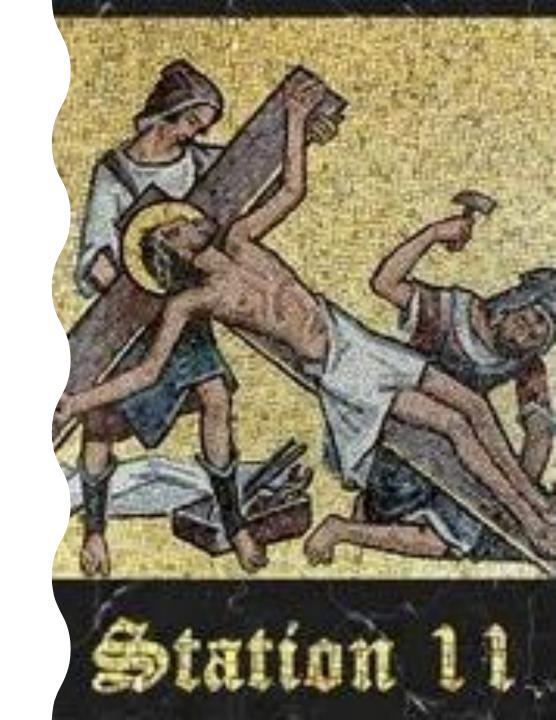
**Jesus is crucified.** The soldiers drove nails through Jesus' hands and feet. They lifted up the cross and put it in place. Jesus was in a lot of pain.

Find your straight nail. This straight nail represents Jesus being nailed to the cross. Long nails are used in the fleshy parts to hold Jesus on the cross. The soldiers do their duty and attach Jesus to His Cross. The physical pain is almost unbearable, but Jesus knows this is part of his passion

**Youth Reader -** Many people suffer pain every day from being sick, hungry, poor, and because of war or natural disasters. Jesus, please comfort everyone who is in pain today.

**Adult Reader -** Sometimes, without thinking, I judge others for what I see, not necessarily what I know. Help me to live of othersfamily, friends, and neighbors. Help me see the hurt and pain I may cause in other and make amends. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This straight nail represents Jesus being placed on the cross. Station 11, Jesus is Nailed to the Cross. Place your straight nail in your container.



## 12 – JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

**Jesus dies on the cross.** When Jesus died, the sky got dark and the ground started to shake. This made some people very scared. They saw that Jesus was innocent and that they had made a big mistake.

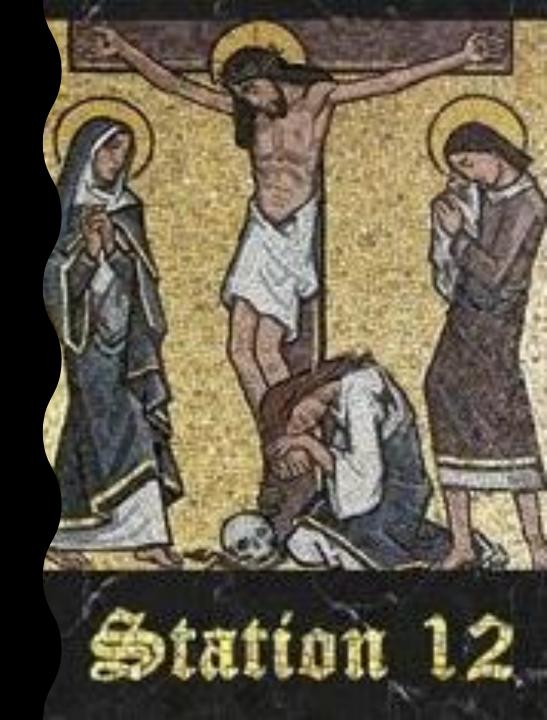
Find your sponge. While on the Cross, Jesus has a conversation with two criminals on either side of Him. One mocks Him, while the other asks for forgiveness. Before He takes his last breath, Jesus cries out "I thirst' and a nearby soldier offers Him wine from a nearby container by dipping a sponge in and holding it up to Jesus at the end of his spear, one final act of kindness. He doesn't not realize that a prophecy is being fulfilled. Upon the drink, Jesus exclaims "It is finished" and takes his last breath upon the wooden Cross.

**Youth Reader -** Jesus, help me to admit when I make mistakes. Help me to say I'm sorry. Thank you for always forgiving me. I love you, and I want to do the right thing.

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, our Savior, three long hours did you hang in agony, and then died for us; let us live without sin, and as we do, let us love You and faithfully serve You and one another. Jesus, let us take a few moments now to consider Your love for us.

Video - Were You There When They Crucified My Lord

By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world. This sponge represents the last act of kindness offered to Jesus before he dies on the Cross. This is Station 12, Jesus Dies on the Cross. Place your sponge in your container.



## 13 - JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

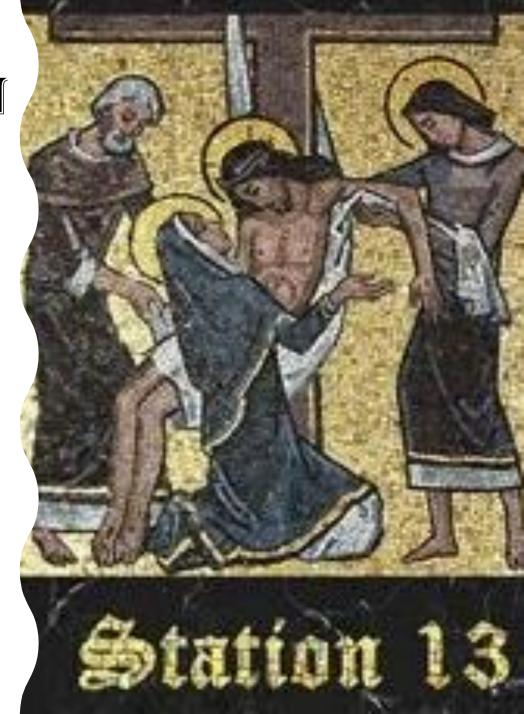
**Jesus' body is taken down from the cross.** Joseph of Arimathea gave Jesus his own burial cave because Jesus didn't have a place to be buried. Joseph was another one of Jesus' friends who took a risk to help him.

Find your bent nail. This represents Jesus' being removed from the cross. Jesus's mother is there when He is taken down. A kind man, a follower of Jesus, offers to take Jesus's body and give it a proper burial. Joseph of Arimathea does not care what the crowd around him thinks, he is only concerned for loving and caring for others, just as Jesus taught him to do.

**Youth Reader -** Sometimes it is risky to step out and help people who are in need. Jesus, I want to be a risk-taker and help others. Give me love and courage.

**Adult Reader -** As an adult, help me look for the good in those around me while they are alive, especially those I love the most. Help me become a more gentle and loving person through my greater appreciation for those around me. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This bent nail represents Jesus being removed from the cross. Station 13, Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross. Place your bent nail in your container.



#### 14 - JESUS IS IN THE TOMB

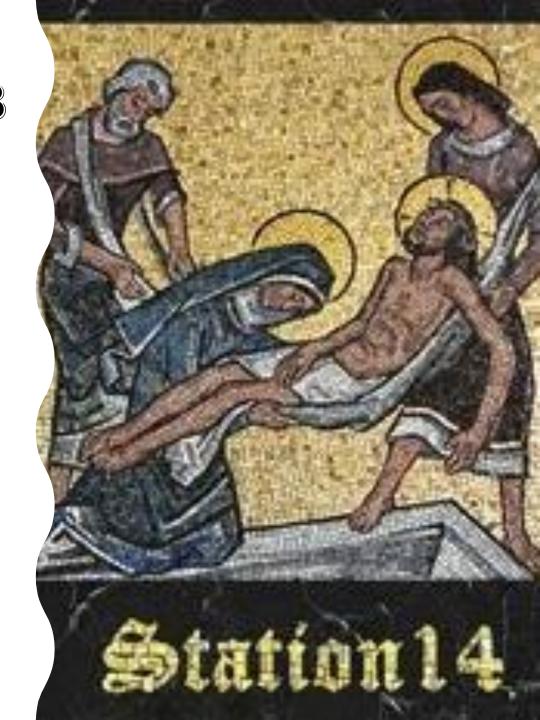
**Jesus is laid in the tomb.** Even when things look very difficult and sad, there is always hope that God can bring new life.

Grab your final item, the rock. After the body is prepared with a cleansing and ritual oils, it is wrapped in cloth. Jesus's body is placed in an empty cave and to assure it is not stolen, a heavy rock is rolled over the opening. To assure people are not tricked into believing a rising from the dead, Roman soldiers are assigned to stand guard. Mourners, come to pay homage.

**Youth Reader -** Jesus, I believe that you died and rose from the dead so that I could have new life. Thank you!

**Adult Reader -** Jesus, help me think of remember your sacrifice as your body is laid in the tomb. Though it is considered a final resting place, we know it is a beginning for greater things to come. You will not fall, you will not be held back by a rock...You have sacrificed all for our sake. By your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

This rock represents Jesus being placed in the tomb. Station 14, Jesus is Placed in the Tomb. Place your rock in you container.



### EASTER - THE RESURRECTION THE STORY DOES NOT END

"By Your holy cross You have redeemed the world."

As we come to the conclusion of Lent and begin the three-day Liturgical Season of Triduum, the Stations of the Cross helps us to remember Jesus's love for us.

There is a happy continuation to this story because after Triduum, we witness Christ rise again on Easter. Be Holy...

Were You There When They Crucified My Lord

