

X. Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

Lord Jesus, seeing you so cruelly humiliated makes me realize how I cling to my accomplishments, my possessions, my way. Help me to let go of those things in my life that prevent me from growing closer to you and others.

XI. Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Lord Jesus, I can never doubt your great love for me when I see you crucified. Help me to see your cross as the great sign of your love for me. Help me to make the crucifix in my classroom a living symbol, not just a quaint decoration.



XII. Jesus Dies on the Cross

Lord Jesus, your broken and lifeless body calls me to deeper faith. You chose death, even death on the cross. Help me to see my crosses as instruments of growing in my love for You and others.

XIII. Jesus is Taken From the Cross

Lord Jesus, seeing your body taken from the cross reminds me how fearful I am of letting go of my own life. I am frightened when I think of being unimportant, useless, helpless. Help me to place my life in your hands.

XIV. Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Lord Jesus, when I see the great stone sealing your tomb, I feel alone and abandoned. Sometimes it seems so lonely in front of a classroom even though thirty students surround me. Even though you sometimes seem distant or absent in my life, help me always to believe in your closeness and loving presence.



XV. Jesus Is Risen

Jesus, help me to see your risen presence in the students that I teach. May I walk with you daily. May my heart burn within me as I tell the Christian story to my students. May my life be a living gospel for my students, colleagues and family.

Source of images: <http://frcregil.home.sprynet.com/Stations/index.htm>

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Stations of the Cross for Catholic Educators



The Way of the Cross

This is a spiritual meditation for the season of Lent. The Stations of The Cross is an ancient prayer form in which we journey with our Lord in his last steps. This Way of the Cross has been adapted for use by Catholic Educators.

I. Pilate Condemns Jesus to Die

Lord Jesus, often I judge others and fail to be understanding or loving. May you teach me to temper my rash judgments of students, colleagues and parents with compassion. Help me to see the people in my life through your eyes, not the eyes of a Pontius Pilate.

II. Jesus Accepts His Cross

Lord Jesus, you embraced your cross to redeem the world. Help me to embrace the crosses in my life -- the report card deadlines, the feelings of inadequacy, the impatience with students who just don't get it. Only by recognizing my own weakness, can I discover your strength.



III. Jesus Falls the First Time

Lord Jesus, you know how often I fall trying to follow you. When I lose my temper, when I despair. Yet you are always there to lift me up. Help me always to trust in your loving care for me.



IV. Jesus Meets His Mother

Lord Jesus, your mother Mary's grief was surpassed by her love for you. So often you come to me in others -- in the grateful parent, in the shoulder of a colleague -- and their love gives me new life. Help me to see how often your love comes to me through the people in my life.

V. Simon Helps Carry the Cross

Lord Jesus, sometimes I am indifferent to the needs of others in my life. I even neglect those whom I love. Sometimes my family takes a back seat to the school. Help me to see that loving others is the surest way to find you in my life.

VI. Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

Lord Jesus, at times I am afraid to reach out to others. I do nothing when I should act, I say nothing when I should speak out. Give me a deeper and more courageous faith to speak out when I see injustice in our schools and the larger community. Help me to trust that you are with me.

VII. Jesus Falls the Second Time

Lord Jesus, failure and disappointment sometimes lead me to despair. I hide behind my pride and self pity, withdrawing from you and others. Give me the hope I need and help me never to be afraid to begin again.

VIII. Jesus Speaks to the Women

Lord Jesus, your great compassion for others overwhelms me. I feel petty and selfish when I think of you the way you were able to respond to the needs of others even though you were in such great need yourself. Help me to understand that my teaching is an act of love, an act of bringing students more fully into the Kingdom of Heaven. Help me to pour out my love, that you might fill me with your love.

IX. Jesus Falls the Third Time

Lord Jesus, your failing strength reminds me of own helplessness and gives me strength. Without you, I can do nothing. My career, my vocation as a Catholic teacher is utterly dependent upon you. Help me to rely on your strength, to see how much I need you.

