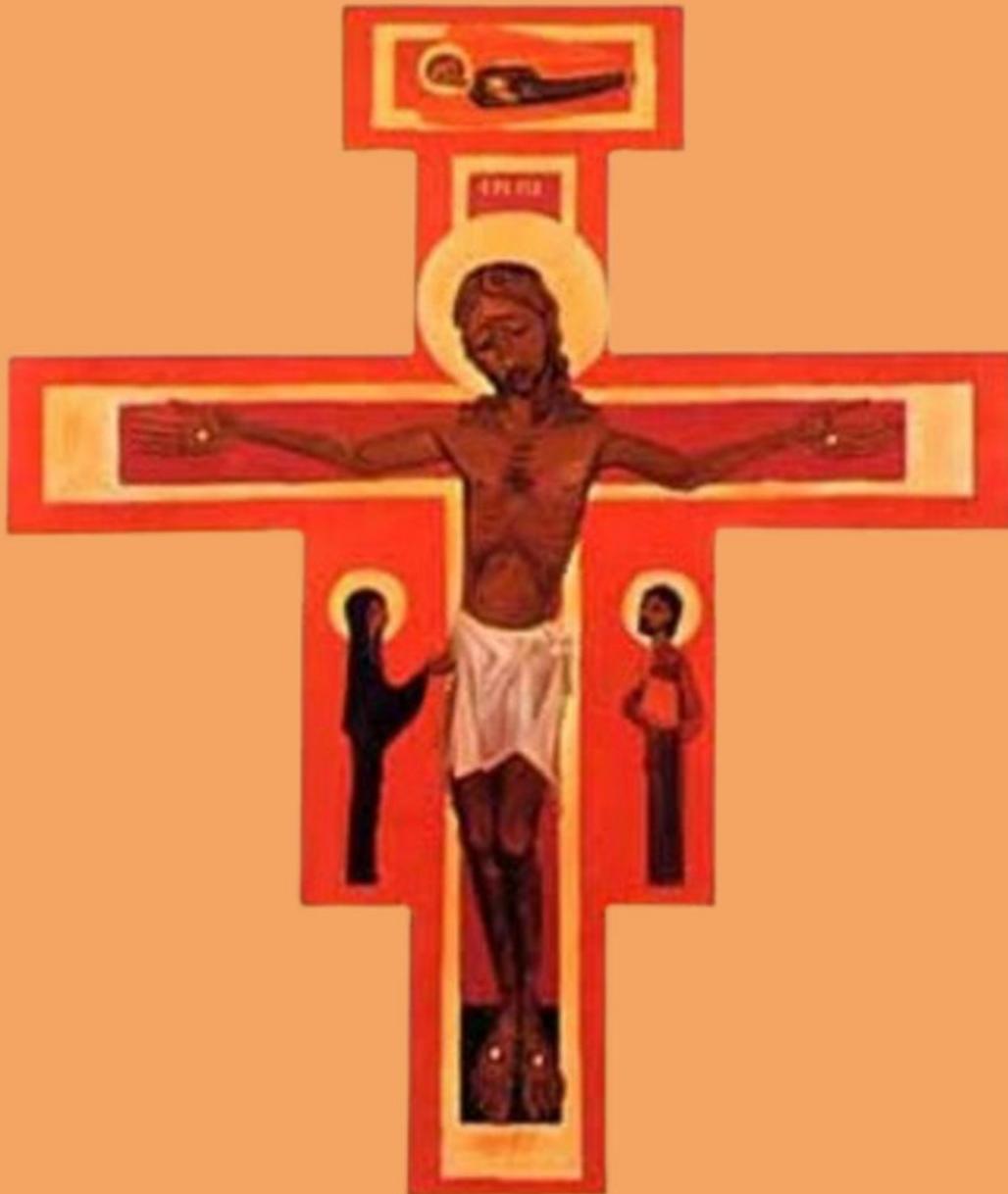


# TAIZE PRAYER FOR LENT

WITH POPE ST JOHN PAUL II'S  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS



SAINT AGNES' GLEN HUNTLY

TUESDAY 17 MARCH 6:30PM

[WWW.SAINTAGNES.ORG.AU](http://WWW.SAINTAGNES.ORG.AU)

*Welcome to our service of prayer in the style of Taizé. Today, we gather to walk the Stations of the Cross, accompanying Jesus on his final journey to Calvary using the scriptural format introduced by Pope St John Paul II in 1991. We will blend the Stations with the meditative, reflective spirit of the Taizé community in France. Our goal is to move beyond mere remembering and to allow the passion of Christ to touch our hearts directly. Throughout this service, we will move through each station accompanied by silence, scripture, and song. The Taizé chants, which will be repeated, and other hymns are designed to help us move from listening with our ears to meditating in our hearts. We will use candles to create a space of calm, allowing us to rest in the presence of the Divine. As we follow this, the 'Way of Sorrows,' we are invited to reflect on the suffering in our own world and to find hope in Christ's ultimate victory.*

Let us now prepare ourselves to enter into this quiet, moving experience of prayer.

*Deep Silence*

## OPENING HYMN

**1. Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,  
which before the cross we spend,  
life and health and peace possessing  
from the sinner's dying friend.**

**2. Oh, that near the cross abiding,  
we may to the Saviour cleave,  
naught with him our hearst dividing,  
all for him content to leave!**

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
**In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.**

Let us pray.  
God of power and mercy,  
in love you sent your Son  
that we might be clothed in love  
and live with you forever.  
Bless us as we gather 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.**

## **First Station: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane**

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

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to feel sorrow and distress. Then he said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me." He advanced a little and fell prostrate in prayer,

saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will." When he returned to his disciples he found them asleep. He said to Peter, "So you could not keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

*Matthew 26: 36-41*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us your strength and wisdom, that we may seek to follow your will in all things**

### **SONG**

**The Spirit is willing, says the Lord  
The Spirit is willing, the flesh is weak**

### **Second Station: Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, is Arrested**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Then, while Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs, who had come from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. His betrayer had arranged a signal with them, saying, "The man I shall kiss is the one; arrest him and lead him away securely." He came and immediately went over to him and said, "Rabbi." And he kissed him. At this they laid hands on him and arrested him.

*Mark 14: 43-46*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us the courage of our convictions that our lives may faithfully reflect the good news you bring.**

## SONG

**Kyrie Eleison  
Christe Eleison  
Kyrie Eleison**

**Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy.**

### **Third Station: Jesus is Condemned by the Sanhedrin**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

When day came the council of elders of the people met, both chief priests and scribes, and they brought him before their Sanhedrin. They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us," but he replied to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I question, you will not respond. But from this time on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." They all asked, "Are you then the Son of God?" He replied to them, "You say that I am." Then they said, "What further need have we for testimony? We have heard it from his own mouth."

*Luke 22: 66-71*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us your sense of righteousness that we may never cease to work to bring about the justice of the kingdom that you promised.**

## SONG

**Bless the Lord, my soul  
And bless God's holy name  
Bless the Lord, my soul  
Who leads me into life**

## Fourth Station: Jesus is Denied by Peter

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. One of the maids came over to him and said, "You too were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about!" As he went out to the gate, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene." Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man!" A little later the bystanders came over and said to Peter, "Surely you too are one of them; even your speech gives you away." At that he began to curse and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately a cock crowed. Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had spoken: "Before the cock crows you will deny me three times." He went out and began to weep bitterly.

*Matthew 26: 69-75*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us the gift of honesty that we may not fear to speak the truth even when difficult.**

### SONG

**Christe, lux mundi,  
qui sequitur te,  
habebit lumen vitae,  
lumen vitae**

**‘O Christ, light of the world,  
whoever follows you  
will have the light of life.’**

## **Fifth Station: Jesus is Judged by Pilate**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us discernment that we may see as you see, not as the world sees.**

### **SONG**

**Open my eyes Lord, I want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him,  
To say that I love Him  
Open my ears Lord, and help me to listen,  
Open my eyes Lord, I want to see Jesus.**

## **Sixth Station: Jesus is Scourged and Crowned with Thorns**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged. And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head, and clothed him in a purple cloak, and they came to him and said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck him repeatedly.

*John 19: 1-3*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us patience in times of suffering that we may offer our lives as a sacrifice of praise.**

**SONG**

**Bless the Lord, my soul  
And bless God's holy name  
Bless the Lord, my soul  
Who leads me into life.**

**Seventh Station: Jesus Bears the Cross**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us strength of purpose that we may faithfully bear our crosses each day.**

## SONG

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

Is any sorrow like the sorrow,  
that afflicts me?

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

Women of Jerusalem  
Weep not for me  
But for yourselves  
And for your children

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

Father forgive them  
They know not what they do

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

My God, my God  
Why have you abandoned me?

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

Today you will be with me  
In Paradise

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

I am Thirsty

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

Father into your hands  
I commend my spirit

All you who pass this way  
Look and see

## **Eighth Station: Jesus is Helped by Simon the Cyrenian to Carry the Cross**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us willing spirits that we may be your instruments on earth.**

### **SONG**

**Only this I want:  
but to know the Lord,  
and to bear his cross,  
so to wear the crown he wore.**

**All but this is loss,  
worthless refuse to me,  
for to gain the Lord  
is to gain all I need.**

**Only this I want:  
but to know the Lord,  
and to bear his cross,  
so to wear the crown he wore.**

**I will run the race;  
I will fight the good fight,  
so to win the prize  
of the kingdom of my Lord.**

**Only this I want:  
but to know the Lord,  
and to bear his cross,  
so to wear the crown he wore.**

**Let your heart be glad,  
always glad in the Lord,  
so to shine like stars  
in the darkness of the night.**

### **Ninth Station: Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us gentle spirits that we may comfort those who mourn.**

## SONG

Ubi caritas, et amor  
Ubi caritas, deus ibi est

Where charity and love are,  
Where charity is, there is God.

### **Tenth Station: Jesus is Crucified**

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

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

*Luke 23: 33-34*

**Lord, grant us merciful hearts that we may bring your reconciliation and forgiveness to all.**

## SONG

God is forgiveness  
Dare to forgive  
And God will be with you  
God is forgiveness  
Love and do not fear

### **Eleventh Station: Jesus Promises His Kingdom to the Good Thief**

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

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us." The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

*Luke 23: 39-43*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us perseverance that we may never stop seeking you.**

### SONG

**Jesus, remember me,  
when you come into your Kingdom,  
Jesus, remember me,  
when you come into your kingdom.**

### **Twelfth Station: Jesus Speaks to His Mother and the Disciple**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

*John 19: 25-27*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us constancy that we may be willing to stand by those in need.**

## SONG

1. Will you let me be your servant  
Let me be as Christ to you  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey  
Fellow travellers on the road  
We are here to help each other  
Walk th emile and bear the load.

3. I will weep when you are weeping  
When you laugh, ill laugh with you  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.

### Thirteenth Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us trust in you that when our time on earth in ended our spirits may come to you without delay.**

## SONG

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer  
When I call, answer me  
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer  
Come and listen to me.

### Fourteenth Station: Jesus is Placed in the Tomb

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

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*

*Silence for Reflection*

**Lord, grant us your compassion that we may always provide for those in need.**

## SONG

Stay with me,  
Remain here with me  
Watch and pray

### Concluding Prayers before the Altar

Saviour of the world,  
by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:  
**Save us, and help us, we humbly pray to you, O Lord.**

*Deep Silence*

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
your passion and death  
is the sacrifice that unites earth and heaven  
and reconciles all people to you.

May we who have faithfully reflected on these mysteries follow in your  
steps and so come to share your glory in heaven where you live and reign  
with the Father and the Holy Spirit  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and  
made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory  
and dominion for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*The congregation departs in silence.*

