



The Way of the Cross



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A crucifix on the altar at the chapel of God the Father, Our Lady of Carmel Primary School run by the Carmelite Sisters of the Child Jesus in the Diocese of Gitega, Burundi. ©ACN

Children's Stations of the Cross for the Suffering Church

Introduction:

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Every day millions of Christians around the world suffer for their faith. Some of them suffer because they are very poor or because they live in very isolated communities. Sometimes they also suffer because, as Christians, they are treated **unfairly** (discrimination) or, worse, they are treated **badly** because of their faith (persecution).

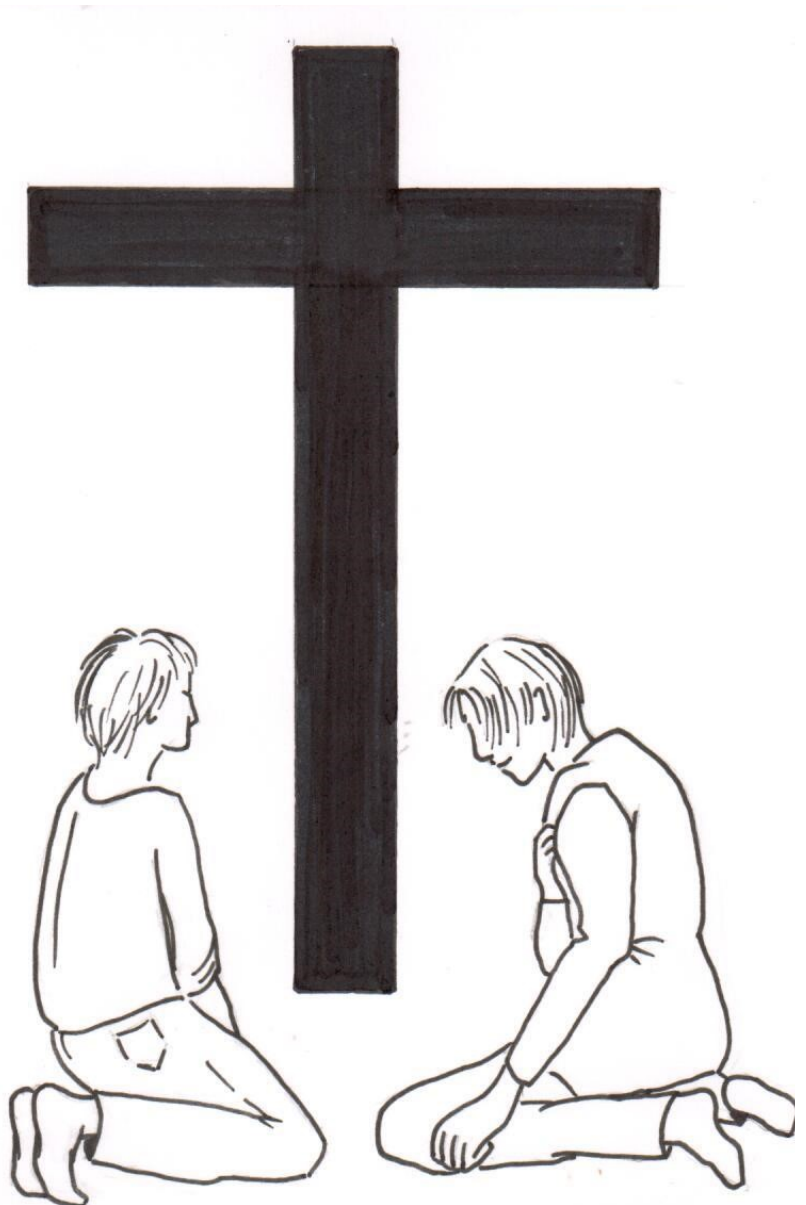
Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is a charity that works around the world to help Christians who are struggling. In **God Speaks to His Children**, the ACN Child's Bible, there is a scripture passage from St Paul's letter to the Romans. It reads "*Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Affliction or distress, hunger or cold, persecution or death? We overcome all these things because he loves us. I am certain of this: no power in the world can separate us from him.*" (**God Speaks to His Children, ACN's Child's Bible, pp 138-139**)

The people who are helped by Aid to the Church in Need face these things every day, yet they still manage to remain strong in their faith. They know that God is always with them.

These Stations of the Cross will help you learn more about the lives of young Christians in some of the countries where ACN helps people. This past year the world we live in has changed for many people. In addition to the problems caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, war, persecution and poverty are continuing to make things even more difficult for children just like you who are growing up in very tough places.

Just as we walk with Jesus whenever we pray before the Stations of the Cross, so we walk with all those who suffer for their faith. Let us pray for them, that their faith may continue to grow and that their suffering will ease through the mercy and compassion of Jesus.

As we pray the Stations of the Cross, let us think about the things that hurt or bother us. Whilst we pray, we can also reflect on what may be happening to children elsewhere in the world.



1st Station:

JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH



Fr Renato Chiera pictured with young people at Casa del Menor São Miguel Arcanjo in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“Pilate led Jesus out to his accusers and said: Behold, the man! But they shouted: He should hang on a cross. Pilate said: Then take him and crucify him! I find no reason to condemn him. But they countered: We have a law which says he must die. For he has declared that he is the Son of God. They kept pressing Pilate until fear overcame him and he condemned Jesus to death on a cross.”

(God Speaks to His Children, ACN’s Child’s Bible, pp 124-125)

Brazil: Father Renato – saving lives in Rio de Janeiro for 42 years

Fr Renato is an Italian priest who has been living in Brazil for over 40 years. He has dedicated his life to rescuing children and young people from the streets. After he had been in Brazil for four years, he founded the Saint Michael the Archangel boys’ home, following an encounter with a young, orphaned boy.

As of January 2021, over 100,000 children and young people have passed through the doors of the Casa del Menor, a place where they can continue their studies and connect or reconnect with God. Many of the children and young people come to the Saint Michael the Archangel home as hurt and broken people. Fr Renato feels that children and young people living on the streets suffer even more because they are not aware of “the most important experience a human being can know, that of being a child of God.”

Let us pray

We pray today for everyone who feels alone, and for those who don’t have anyone to take care of them. We pray and say thank you for all the people like Father Renato who spend time caring for anyone who is lost, lonely or afraid.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

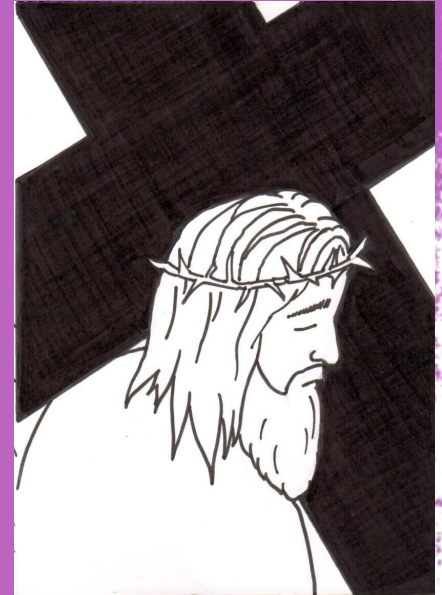


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2nd Station: JESUS TAKES UP THE CROSS



Georgette and her grandson unpack their food parcel they received from ACN in Beirut, Lebanon. © ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called ‘the place of a skull’, which is called in Hebrew Gol’gotha.” (*John 19.17 RSV-CE*)

Lebanon: The unshakable faith of Georgette

Georgette lives in Beirut, Lebanon, and life has been especially difficult for her in the past few months. In August 2020, there was a huge explosion in the city making life even harder for many people in Beirut. Georgette lives in a poor area of the city with her three grandchildren. She has been so happy to receive help from ACN, especially the food parcels she receives which mean she can feed her grandchildren for a whole month! Despite all the hardship she and her family have faced, she says “I know that I am not alone, and this is more important to me even than the food aid... just knowing that there are people thinking about us... I give thanks to God every day.”

Let us pray

Jesus, we pray for all those who have to carry heavy burdens each day—please help them to carry on despite their struggles. Let us remember always to be thankful for what we have, and give us the courage to reach out to others who might need help.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

3rd Station:

JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME



The Sisters of Saint Teresa of the Child Jesus with some of the children they support in the Diocese of Lilongwe, Malawi. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.” (*Philippians 2:8 RSV-CE*)

Malawi: The Sisters of St Teresa of the Child Jesus

The Sisters of Saint Teresa of the Child Jesus are an African congregation, founded in 1929. One of the countries in which they serve is Malawi, where the Sisters run their own primary school and nursery. They also spend time caring for pregnant women, and many others who do not receive help with their medical conditions. Many of them work in parishes, helping the priests in their pastoral work, making sure that nobody is forgotten. Most of the Sisters receive no pay, but simply work for the love of God, wherever they are needed.

Let us pray

Jesus, help us not to give up when things are difficult. Teach us to turn to you when things are hard, and to ask you for help. We thank you for people like the Sisters we just learned about, and for all those who help to pick people up when life is difficult for them.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

4th Station: JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER



The destroyed crib where Nabil lay, completely unharmed after the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon in August 2020. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, 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 to his own home.” (*John 19:26-27 RSV-CE*)

Lebanon: the miracle of baby Nabil

August 4th 2020 will be a day that Jad and his wife Christelle will never forget. This was not only the day that their son Nabil was born, but also the same day that their city of Beirut experienced a huge explosion. At the time of the explosion, baby Nabil was just 15 minutes old, and lying in his cot next to where his Mum was in bed. Jad described what happened as ‘a miracle’. You can see in the picture that Nabil’s cot was covered in rubble and shards of glass from the broken window. It was truly a miracle that he wasn’t hurt! Jad said it was just like baby Jesus being born in Bethlehem, and God watching over the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. God was watching over them, too, that day. Jad has been telling his son, “*Jesus was with you at that moment. Have no fear; He will always be with you.*”

Let us pray

We pray for our families—for our mums, dads and all those who take care of us. Help us to recognize the love that we receive from them. Thank you for those who look after us, and for the strength and courage that you give them each day. Thank you, Lord, for always watching over us.

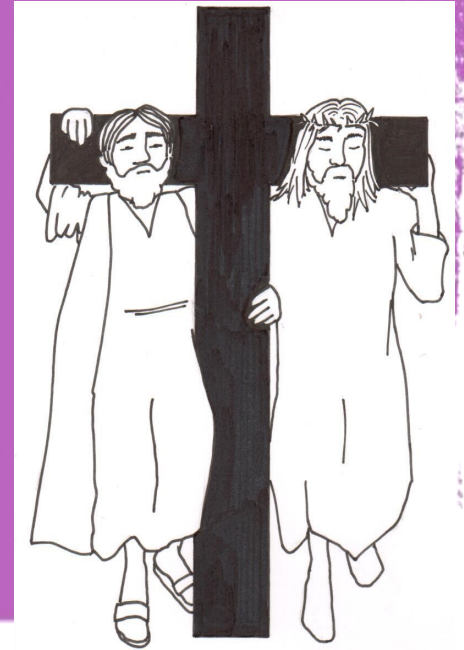
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5th Station: SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS TO CARRY THE CROSS



One of the brothers from the community of St John pictured with young men from the youth apostolate in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.” (Luke 23:26 RSV-CE)

Ethiopia: Brothers of St John journeying with young people

The Brothers of St John have been serving communities in Addis Ababa for many years. One thing they do each year is to run summer camps for their young people. Unfortunately, they couldn't run their camps in the summer of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, instead of cancelling all activities, the brothers and their young people decided to adapt instead! They continued their faith and philosophy courses – taking the time to learn about their faith and grow closer to God. Visits to local orphanages and old people's homes were also important for both the young people and the people they were helping out during this time of crisis.

Let us pray

Jesus, give us the courage to help others, whether they be friends, family or maybe even someone we don't know. Help us to be kind, even when it might be difficult sometimes, and always guide us to do the right thing.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

6th Station: VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS



Fr. Aleksandr Tkachenko with sick children and their parents at the Orthodox children's hospice in St Petersburg, Russia.

©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’” (*Matthew 25:40 RSV-CE*)

Russia: Children’s hospice in St Petersburg

For seventeen years now, ACN has been supporting the Orthodox children’s hospice in St Petersburg. The first of its kind, the hospice was founded in 2003 by the Orthodox priest, Father Aleksandr Tkachenko. Fr Aleksandr was moved to do something after he learned that most children diagnosed with a terminal illness were sent home from the hospital, as most of the time there was nothing more that could be done for them.

Fr Aleksandr wants to give these children and their families their dignity back and to offer whatever support they needed. Fr Aleksandr says, “*We endeavour to help them to find some inner peace.*”

Let us pray

Lord, help us to share what we have– just as Veronica did when she wiped the face of Jesus as he was suffering or the way Fr Aleksandr and his team do at the hospice in St Petersburg. Help us to see the needs of others, and always be open to being helpful and loving.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

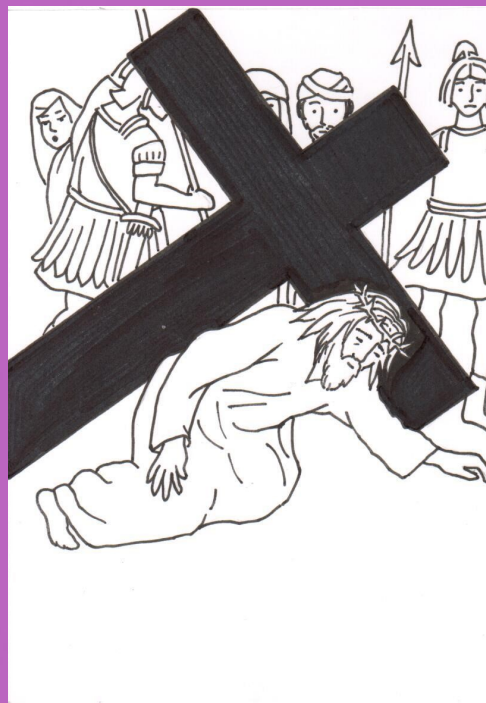
7th Station:

JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

A young boy preparing to receive his first Holy Communion in the Diocese of Kaya, Burkina Faso. ©ACN



© ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.” (*Hebrews 4:15 RSV-CE*)

Burkina Faso: receiving Holy Communion in the face of adversity

First terrorism, then COVID-19: Burkina Faso, a country located in the western part of Africa, has faced many difficulties in the past few years. Many people have been forced to leave their towns and villages, with lots of them settling in the Diocese of Kaya. Christian people have been especially targeted by terrorists in Burkina Faso, leaving many feeling scared to share their faith. After arriving in the Diocese of Kaya, some people started making preparations to receive their first Holy Communion, but when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, the celebrations had to be cancelled. Finally, late in the summer of 2020, many children and adults were able to receive their Holy Communion. Father Gabriel Bamogo explained to ACN, “*Now everyone is giving thanks to the Lord for the joy and the mercy that He gave to them through the Sacrament.*”

Let us pray

Jesus, we pray that you always pick us up and help us to carry on, even when things might be very difficult. Help us to remember that you always have a plan for us, even when things might seem very bad.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

8th Station: JESUS CONSOLES THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM



Young people in a chapel belonging to the Comboni Missionary Sisters in the Benishangul-Gumuz region of Ethiopia. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children’.” (Luke 23:27-8 RSV-CE)

Ethiopia: The Comboni Sisters

The Benishangul-Gumuz region lies in northwest Ethiopia; it is a poor and underdeveloped region. Many people belong to the traditional ethnic groups - the Gumuz and the Agaw. The Comboni Missionary Sisters have been working in this region for some time, especially to gain the trust of the local people. Now that they have been accepted into the community, their work is growing every day. In particular, the children and young people are showing a keen interest in the Catholic faith, with some choosing to be baptised. The Sisters have been constant in their love and support, always trying their best to assist those who are crying out for help.

Let us pray

Thank you, Jesus, for looking after us and loving us. Teach us to look after others with the same love you give us. Please give us the courage to reach out to help people who may not even know they need your love and support.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

9th Station: JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME



Children in Uruguay taking part in the ACN initiative '1 million children praying the Rosary'. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

"Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way; though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand." (*Psalms 36(37): 23-4 RSV-CE*)

Uruguay: shining a light for Christ

Catholicism is still the most widely followed religion in Uruguay, but the government has tried very hard to stop people from holding religious beliefs. This means that Catholic schools and teachers have had to work very hard to continue to help children learn about their Catholic faith. The Church is doing a good job to help support schools, to make sure all children have the opportunity to read and study Christian books and to learn about all the special practices in their faith. ACN has been able to help, too, by providing booklets so that children in Uruguay could take part in the ACN initiative '1 million children praying the Rosary'. These booklets are very popular with the children, and they help to ensure that Catholic teaching continues in Uruguay.

Let us pray

Lord Jesus, help us always to follow your example of love and kindness, and never to give up. We know that you will always be with us and guiding us, even when things are difficult. Teach us to be brave when life is hard and when we face obstacles.

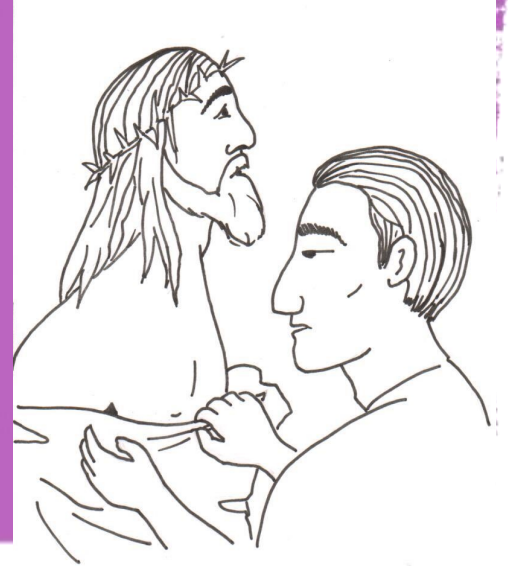
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10th Station: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS



Sister Annie Demerjian with tailor Takla al Safadi in a workshop in Maaloula, Syria. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“They took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, ‘Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.’ This was to fulfil what the scripture says, ‘They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.’” (*John 19: 23-4 RSV-CE*)

Syria: Coats for children

Many of you will know some of the difficulties that the people of Syria have faced over the past few years. Christian people have faced war, fighting and poverty, and many have been treated badly because of their faith. Summers in Syria are very warm, but winter time can be very cold. In November 2020, ACN helped Sister Annie Demerjian to provide 25,000 winter coats for children in Syria. Sister Annie said, “*Together, we can put a smile on the faces of the children.*” Children in many towns and cities across Syria will have received their coats this Christmas: a sign of God’s love and faithfulness!

Let us pray

Jesus, help us to remember that everything we have comes from you. We pray for all those in Syria who have lost everything, and pray in thanks for all those people doing something to make the situation better.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

11th Station: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

Renovation of partially destroyed cultural
centre of Saint Matthew in Bartella, Iraq.
©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“Jesus carried his cross out of the city to a hill called Golgotha. There they nailed him to the cross. Two criminals had been sentenced with him. Their crosses stood to the left and to the right of Jesus’ cross. Pilate had an inscription placed at the top of Jesus’ cross. It read: This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

(God Speaks to His Children, ACN’s Child’s Bible, pp 125-126)

Iraq: supporting young people

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.” **(Galatians 2:20 RSV-CE).** These words from the Bible are very true for the Christian people of Iraq. They have faced a great deal in the past few years, including war, persecution, poverty and homelessness. At times they must have felt that they were there with Jesus on the cross in their suffering. Many people have been simply focusing on survival. Now that life for Iraqi Christians is becoming a little easier, the Church is able to expand its efforts beyond simply helping people to stay alive and offering spiritual and pastoral support. Father Jens Petzold is a priest in Kurdistan in north-eastern Iraq. Fr Jens says, “We are focusing on young adults who are in need of education and training. We want to expand their horizons.” He, along with many other people, are trying their best to breathe life back into the Christian communities of Iraq, and create a place of hope for children and young people.

Let us pray

We pray for all those people in desperate situations, especially those who are experiencing a lot of suffering.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.



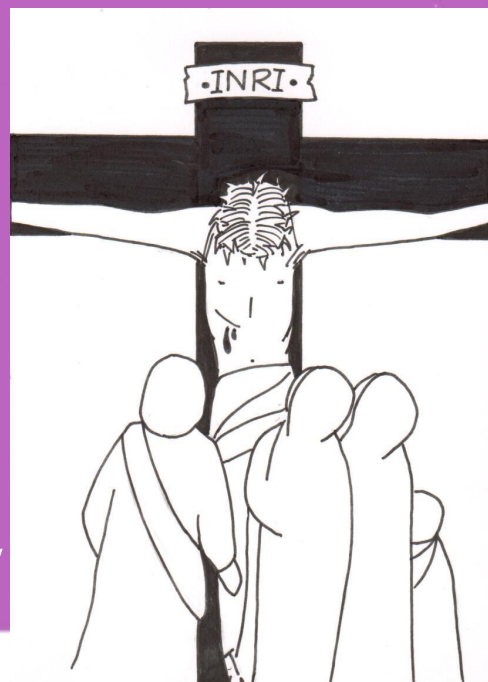
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12th Station:

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS



The family of Akash Bashir standing by a picture of him. They are praying for his canonisation. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“Four women stood at the foot of Jesus’ cross: his mother; his mother’s sister, the wife of Clopas and Mary Magdalene. The disciple whom Jesus loved stood near his mother. When Jesus saw his mother, he said to her: From now on he is your son. And to the disciple he said: From now on she is your mother. From that time on the disciple took Mary to his own home and cared for her. Jesus now knew that he had accomplished everything. He said: It is accomplished. Then he bowed his head and died.” (*God Speaks to His Children, ACN’s Child’s Bible, pp 126-127*)

Pakistan: laying his life down for his friends

Life for Christian people is difficult in Pakistan, and people take big risks when they head to Mass on a Sunday. Akash Bashir was a 20-year-old young man who had decided he wanted to take a shift as a guard at his church. Tragically, in 2015, Akash was killed whilst he protected the church and the people inside from someone who wanted to destroy them. He saved many lives through the sacrifice he made. His family has been praying and campaigning since 2016 for Akash to be declared a saint. It is a long process, but they know that Akash is in heaven, and they hope that they will see this great title given to him one day. Akash’s Mum, Naz, said, “People love him. Akash is already our saint.”

Let us pray

Jesus, it is hard to understand why the people we love might get hurt or die. Remind us that our faith will always help us when we experience loss, and that you will be with us in anything that happens to us. We pray for the souls of those who have passed away, and pray that they are with God in heaven.

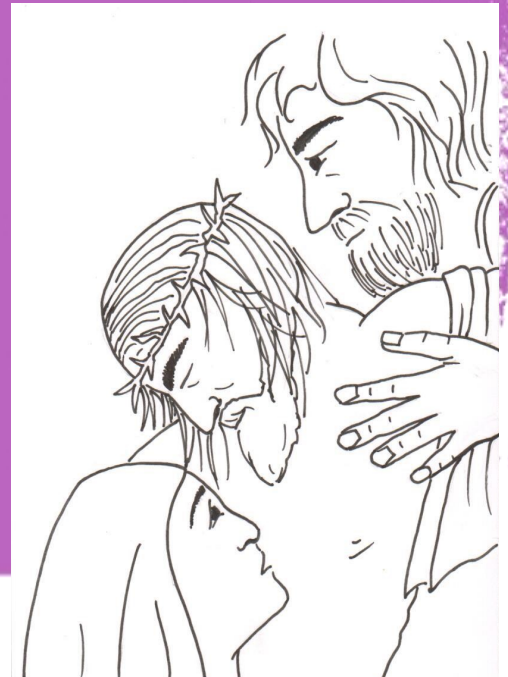
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All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

13th Station: JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS



Young people in the Diocese of Alexandria at their summer camp in 2019, where they prayed, deepened faith and had fun. Unfortunately, the 2020 camp did not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“Joseph of Arimethea was a man of influence. He belonged to the council of Jews, but was also waiting for the dawning of God’s Kingdom. In the evening, he went to Pilate and asked: Let me take the body of Jesus down from the cross and bury it. Pilate gave Joseph permission to bury Jesus’ body.” (*God Speaks to His Children, ACN’s Child’s Bible, p. 127*)

Egypt: joy in the sadness

Usually from June to September, young people in the Diocese of Alexandria in Egypt are able to take part in a summer camp organised by the Church. By attending the camps, the children and young people can deepen their faith, gain a better knowledge of the Bible and enjoy spending time with other young Catholics. Catholics are a very small minority in Egypt, so this time is so important for children and young people to feel connected to their faith. Sadly, in 2020, these summer camps were not able to happen as they usually would, but, aware of the importance of the camps for Egypt’s young Catholics, the organisers instead held the events online. ACN helps support these camps, to make sure that young Catholics feel connected to their faith.

Let us pray

Jesus, you were treated so cruelly in your death, but treated with great love and care when being taken down from the Cross. May we always treat those around us with love and care—especially when people in a difficult situation have been suffering.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy... All: Hear our prayer.

All: I love you, Jesus, my love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended you. Never permit me to separate myself from you again. Grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

14th Station: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB



Children in the Diocese of Bo in Sierra Leone reading their copies of the ACN Child's Bible. ©ACN



Reader: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you

All: Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture

“Joseph bought linen, took the body of Jesus down from the cross, wrapped it in the linen and placed it in a tomb that had been dug out in the rock face. Then he rolled a large stone in front of the entrance to the tomb. Two women, Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Jesus, watched him and saw where he laid the body of Jesus to rest.” (*God Speaks to His Children, ACN's Child's Bible, p. 127*)

Sierra Leone: Child's Bible

We hear the scripture above, read from **God Speaks to His Children**, the ACN Child's Bible. Our final scripture in today's Stations of the Cross is towards the end of the Child's Bible. This little red book is a great resource used by children all across the world. Maybe you have one in your home or classroom? In the Diocese of Bo, in Sierra Leone, Father Antonio is trying to make sure that as many children as possible in his Diocese are able to receive a copy of the Child's Bible. It has been translated into over 190 different languages, allowing children all over the world to read it in their own native language. Many priests, religious Sisters, schoolteachers and lay people in parishes around the world use the Bible stories from the Child's Bible to make sure that the faith of their children and young people does not become something stale and lifeless, but something that stays alive.

Let us pray

Jesus, we pray today for everyone who is mourning somebody, that you may bring them your peace. We pray that you bring the love of God into each of our lives, and give us the courage to share the stories of Jesus with those around us.

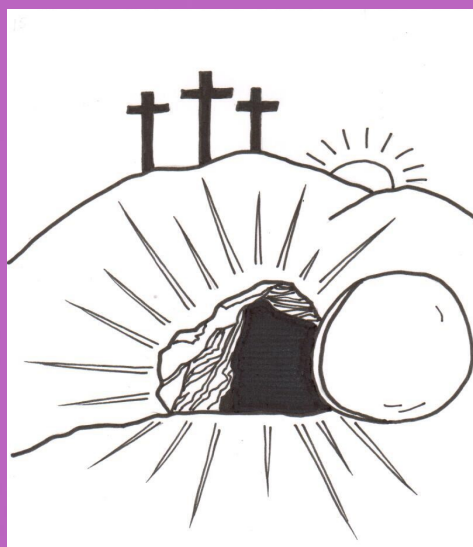
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RISEN JESUS, WE PRAISE YOU!



Easter in Homs, Syria, 2016. ©ACN



Easter display in the Diocese of Homs, Syria (2016). ©ACN

As Christians, we know that for Jesus, death was not the end.

We know that after being laid in the tomb on Good Friday, Jesus rose on Easter Sunday.

Easter brings the promise of new life and reminds us that Jesus — and Jesus working through us — has the power to change and transform our lives and our world.

Jesus, help us always to trust in you, and in the plan you have for each of us.

A PRAYER FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS



©ACN

A Syrian girl praying the Rosary in front of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima in Damascus, Syria (2020). ©ACN



A young girl in El Alto, Bolivia, taking part in the prayer initiative '1 million children praying the Rosary'. ©ACN

We pray together for the needs of millions of men, women, children and families around the world who suffer because of their faith.

Loving God, we pray that all of your children across the world may know how much you love them. We pray that, where life has become very difficult, you will make a clear path for them.

We pray for their protection, and for each of them to know that
“...under His wings you will find refuge”
(Psalm 90 (91):4 RSV-CE)

We pray that you give each of them the strength and courage to keep going, and let them know that you will never abandon them.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

“My grace is sufficient for you.” (2 Corinthians 12:9 RSV-CE)



A young boy of the Samburu Catholic community of Barsaloi - in the central part of Kenya - holds in his hands a risen Christ sitting on the cross.
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“Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to believe.” (John 20:29) RSV-CE



Children in the Diocese of Karonga, Malawi, receive copies of 'God Speaks to His Children' in their language of Tumbuka. ©ACN

ACN, its project partners and thousands of suffering Christians around the world are deeply grateful for the part you are playing to care and pray for God's people everywhere.

We pray especially for those who are faithful, even under the threat of persecution or death.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is a Pontifical Foundation of the Catholic Church, supporting the Catholic faithful and other Christians where they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need.

Founded on Christmas Day 1947, ACN supports around 5,000 projects across the world each year.

For regular updates from the suffering Church around the world or to find out more information, please visit

www.acnuk.org

Thank you for your prayers and support for our brothers and sisters in Christ across the world.

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Please keep in touch with your local office. Details are listed below.

Contact details for ACN's National Office:

Tel: 020 8661 5154
Email: schools@acnuk.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/acnuk
Twitter: @acn_uk
Instagram: aidtothechurchinneed_uk @aidtothechurch

Contact details for ACN's North West Office:

Tel: 01524 388739
Email: nw.office@acnuk.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/acnuk.northwest
Twitter: @ACNUK_NW
Instagram: @acnuknw

Contact details for ACN's Office in Scotland:

Tel: 01698 337 470
Email: acn.scotland.office@acnuk.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/acn.scotland.office
Twitter: @ACN_Scotland



Girl with filled shopping basket in Syria. Aid to the Church in Need has provided support for the Christians of Aleppo during the Covid-19 pandemic crisis.

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