

Stations of the Cross

In the Christian tradition, Lent is a time for reflection, for renewal of covenant, and restoration of spirit.



You may travel the Way of the Cross here in the hospital during this Holy Week. We encourage you to do this for yourself and in your own way.

In the pages following you will find the 14 Stations, a short story associated with each, along with prayers and meditation.

From the earliest days, followers of Jesus told the story of his passion, death and resurrection. Pilgrims to Jerusalem were anxious to see the sites where Jesus was. After years, it was more difficult to move about the city and identify the holy sites, and difficult for some people to travel to Jerusalem at all. By the 1500s people all over the world began creating “replicas” of the places along the Way of the Cross in Jerusalem. Eventually, these became the 14 Stations of the Cross. The word station comes from the Latin “to stand”. As one walks along the Way from Jesus’ trial to his crucifixion and burial one stops to commemorate various events. One stands, meditating on Jesus’ experience, saying a prayer, contemplating how this man’s passion is also a part of one’s own life is important. As well, the walking itself becomes a devotion, as one walks “with” Jesus on His way to Calvary.

We have made some suggestions of places around the hospital where you might walk and meditate. But you are certainly free to choose your own locations around your workplace, your neighborhood, your home.

Station 1 and 2: outside room 4115, Main Hospital, Chaplain's Office



STATION ONE JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Jesus is condemned by Pilate. Here he stands, wrongfully accused and sentenced to die. So many on earth have experienced this hatred and fear, been beaten and tortured for no good reason. Jesus stands in solidarity with all who have known this tearing away of life because they did not fit the perceptions or expectations of others. Now, His commitment to entering our lives completely begins its final steps. He has said "yes" to God and placed his life in God's hands. We follow him in this holy surrender, and contemplate with reverence each place along the way, as he is broken and given for us.

PRAYER: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MEDITATION: As I view the scene, I become moved by both outrage and gratitude. I look at Jesus. He has been beaten and mocked; he is bloody. Pilate washes his hands of the whole affair. Jesus is led away – bound.

*This is for me, for love of me. It is for the promise of eternal life. "Lord, not what I will, but what Thou wilt."
The journey begins - Jesus, let me walk with you.*