

# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

## Stations of the Cross

March 29, 2024

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# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

## GOOD FRIDAY

### The Way of the Cross for Justice and Peace

OPENING SONG | In a Time of Pain

Francis Patrick O'Brien



1. In a time of pain when con - fu - sion reigns, will you  
2. When our lead - ers fail, when the dark pre - vails, be the  
3. When the weak - est ones have no place to run from the  
4. Teach us what is just and in whom to trust; by your



hear our burn - ing cry? When the wound won't heal  
path that will guide our way. When our an - ger burns  
ter - ror that haunts their days, Who will give them peace,  
wis - dom we will a - bide. May the ones with pow'r,



as the truth's re - vealed, when our an - guish just won't die:  
may we strive to learn to re - veal the light of day.  
make their night-mares cease? Who will drive their dark a - way?  
in this cru - cial hour, seek the Spir - it as their guide.



Come save us as you saved your Son, who was faith - ful  
Come save us as you saved your Son; in your truth we will  
Come save us as you saved your Son, who em - braced each  
Come save us as you saved your Son from cor - rup - tion's



to the end. God of jus - tice reign; through our sin and  
 be set free. Teach us how to deal with the hurt we  
 child in pain. May your heal - ing balm bring a peace and  
 dead - ly toll. May we rise at last from our shad - owed



shame be sal - va - tion, God, and friend.  
 feel; may we rise from this Cal - va - ry.  
 calm that will make us whole a - gain.  
 past with your love as our guide and goal.

**INTRODUCTION AND OPENING PRAYER**

**FIRST STATION**

*Jesus is condemned to death*



*As we move to the first station, all join in singing:*



At the cross her sta-tion keep-ing, Mar-y stood in sor-row, weep-ing, When her Son was cru-ci-fied.

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

**READING**

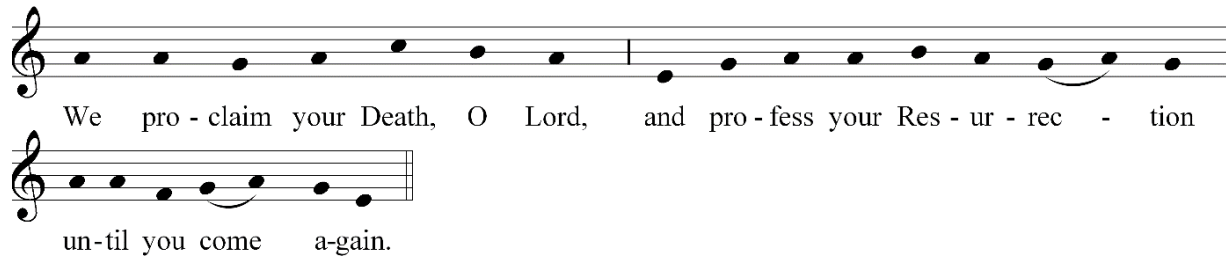
**PRAYER**

Presider: Jesus, you were condemned by those you had come to serve and abandoned by those you had come to love. When we are tempted to condemn, discard, and judge those around us, walk with us and fill our hearts with compassion and understanding. And may we always stand against state-sanctioned death.

We ask this this in your name.

All: **Amen.**

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the second station, all join in singing:*

**While she waited in her anguish,  
Seeing Christ in torment languish,  
Bitter sorrow pierced her heart.**

## SECOND STATION

*Jesus takes up his cross*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

### READING

### PRAYER

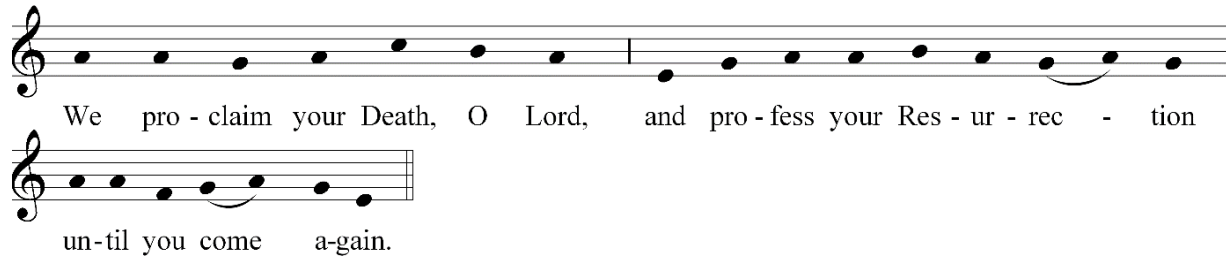
Presider: Jesus, you know what it means to stand alone in front of those who reject and insult you. In the next couple of days, we will renew our baptismal promises and recommit ourselves to living as your followers. May we recognize the burdens others carry and reject all perspectives and beliefs that are contrary to the Gospel.

Walk with us when we feel that we are unable to make a difference. Help us to be kind. And teach us to share your love.

We ask this this in your name.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the third station, all join in singing:*

**With what pain and desolation,  
With what noble resignation,  
Mary watched her dying Son.**

### THIRD STATION

*Jesus falls for the first time*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

### READING

### PRAYER

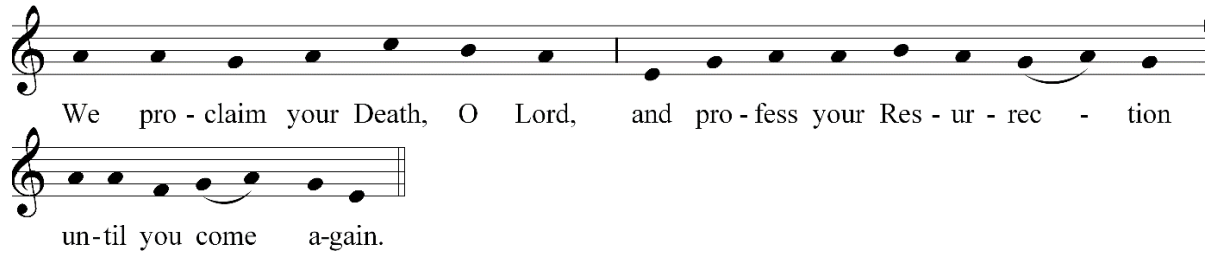
Presider: As Christians, we are called to live in the world and not apart from it. Our call to be holy means that we have to rise above the standards our culture sets for us. In talking about social and racial justice, we must rise above the harmful language or actions that contribute to racism. May we grow increasingly comfortable talking about diversity. May we take the time to appreciate or learn about a culture that is not our own. In our response to the call to combat racism and embrace the beauty of our differences, we honor the dignity of all human life.

Lord, make us instruments of your justice.

We ask this this in your name.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un - til you come a - gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the fourth station, all join in singing:*

**Ever patient in her yearning,  
Though her tear-filled eyes were burning,  
Mary gazed upon her Son.**



## FOURTH STATION

### *Jesus meets his mother*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

## READING

## PRAYER

Presider: Loving God, Mary has always cared for Jesus' every need, and now, in Mary's arms, Jesus finds comfort along the walk to Calvary. Caring for Jesus in this dark moment reminds us of other difficult times for the Holy Family—like leaving their home to travel to Bethlehem and fleeing Herod's persecution by escaping to Egypt.


Just like the Holy Family, many in our world are refugees.

In 2023, over 114 million people were forced to flee their homes due to conflict, persecution, and human rights violations. That means that more than 1 out of every 74 people on Earth is forcibly displaced from his or her home.

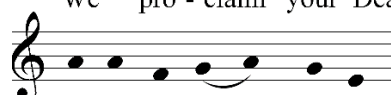
We are a human family; let us find ways to welcome our displaced brothers and sisters into our country, schools, and parishes.

All: **Amen.**

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion



un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the fifth station, all join in singing:*

**Who, that sorrow contemplating,  
On that passion meditating,  
Would not share the Virgin's grief?**

## FIFTH STATION

*Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

### READING


### PRAYER

Presider: Loving God, help us commit ourselves to act in solidarity with those who are poor, with those who are victimized by unjust systems, with those who have food insecurity, with those who experience homelessness, and with those whom society treats as outcasts. Many 'Simons' must respond to meet the pressing human needs in shelters, soup kitchens, houses of hospitality, and places of sanctuary. Give us your help to overcome any reluctance to associate with those who struggle without basic human needs. And help us choose compassion over personal convenience, and self-sacrifice over selfishness. May our global family, made up of many different cultures and religions, grow closer as one family united in you.

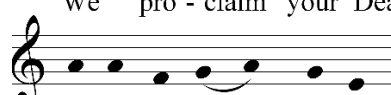
We ask this this in your name.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion



un-til you come a-gain.

Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the sixth station, all join in singing:

**Christ she saw, for our salvation, Scourged  
with cruel acclamation, Bruised and beaten  
by the rod.**

## SIXTH STATION

*Veronica wipes the face of Jesus*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

## READING

## PRAYER

Presider: Lord Jesus, help us remember that nothing we do for the sake of love is done in vain. Walk with us, that we, like Veronica, may have the strength to reach out to those we so often ignore—to those that society forgets—and perform small things with great love. Help us to grow in empathy, compassion, and acts of solidarity in the face of injustice.

We ask this in your name.

All: Amen.

All join in singing:

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the seventh station, all join in singing:

**Christ she saw with life-blood failing,  
All her anguish unavailing,  
Saw him breathe his very last.**



**SEVENTH STATION**

*Jesus falls for the second time*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

**READING**

**PRAYER**

Presider: Loving God, let us never underestimate how you can work through our hands. Help us to commit ourselves to persevere as agents of your desire for the transformation of society. Teach us what it means to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We ask this this in your name.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the eighth station, all join in singing:*

**Mary, fount of love’s devotion,  
Let me share with true emotion  
All the sorrow you endured.**

**EIGHTH STATION**

*Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

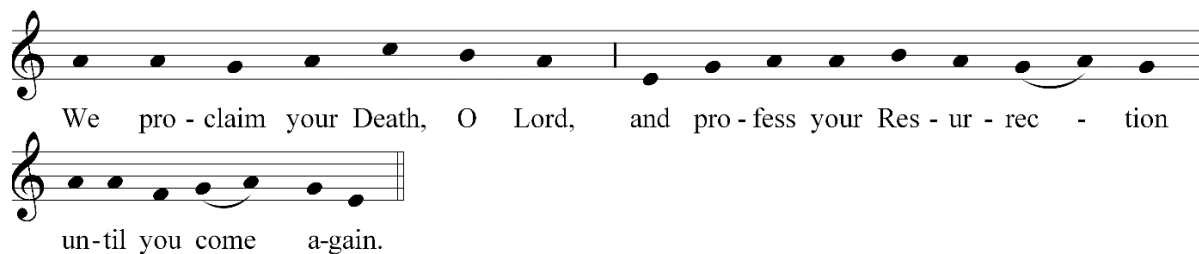
**READING**

**PRAYER**

Presider: Jesus, you always invite and never impose. You always seek to speak to people, and not just about them. Walk with us and guide our efforts, that we may create spaces of encounter and dialogue which serve the needs of your people, rather than our own needs.

All: **Amen.**

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the ninth station, all join in singing:*

**Virgin, ever interceding,  
Hear me in my fervent pleading:  
Fire me with your love of Christ.**

**NINTH STATION**

*Jesus falls for the third time*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

**READING**

**PRAYER**

Presider: Jesus, you felt the darkness of violence around you. The crowds surrounded you and you fell once more. Walk with us. When we feel afraid, help us to be brave. Bless us with the courage to speak out to change

our world, so that all of our sisters and brothers can live in a world free of violence and injustice.

We ask this this in your name.

**All: Amen.**

*All join in singing:*

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the tenth station, all join in singing:*

**Mother, may this prayer be granted:  
That Christ's love may be implanted in the depths of  
my poor soul.**

## TENTH STATION

*Jesus is stripped of his garments*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

## READING


## PRAYER

Presider: Lord Jesus, all life comes from you. You have created a natural world with wondrous resources and beauty. Walk with us so that we many truly value all that you have made, and in turn be good stewards of your gifts for the common good of all. Mend the lives of those who are stuck in the vicious cycle of poverty and help us be agents for change in the world.

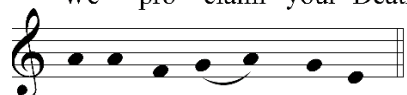
We ask this this in your name..

**All: Amen.**

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion



un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the eleventh station, all join in singing:*

**At the cross, your sorrow sharing,  
All your grief and torment bearing,  
Let me stand and mourn with you.**

## ELEVENTH STATION

*Jesus is crucified*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

### READING


### PRAYER

Presider: Jesus, no one should ever die of thirst. Walk with us as we seek to bring justice to those who are crushed under the weight of poverty. May we come to understand that access to safe drinking water should not be a privilege for the few but a right to be shared by everyone.


We ask this this in your name.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*



We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion



un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the twelfth station, all join in singing:*

**Fairest maid of all creation,  
Queen of hope and consolation,  
Let me feel your grief sublime.**

**TWELFTH STATION**

*Jesus dies on the cross*



Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

**READING**

**PRAYER**

Presider: Jesus, you know what it's like to feel alone—lost and afraid, betrayed and abandoned. Walk with us and help us see in you an example of how to accompany and walk with others who live in fear and face death because of hunger, thirst, and conflict. Move our hearts to pray for our sisters and brothers whom we may never meet but who are always loved by you.

We ask this in your name.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the thirteenth station, all join in singing:*

**Virgin, in your love befriend me,  
At the judgment day defend me.  
Help me by your constant prayer.**

**THIRTEENTH STATION**



## *Jesus is taken down from the cross*

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

### READING

### PRAYER

Presider: Jesus, make us instruments of your care. Give us your eyes to clearly see and respect the beauty and the dignity of every human life. Be with us as we accompany those who have reached the end of their earthly existence, that they may experience your warm and loving embrace.

We ask this this in your name.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows. All stand. As we move to the fourteenth station, all join in singing:*

**Savior, when my life shall leave me,  
Through your mother's prayers receive me  
With the fruits of victory.**

### FOURTEENTH STATION

## *Jesus is laid in the tomb*

*Related Catholic Social Teaching | **Environmental Rights***

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.  
All: Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.



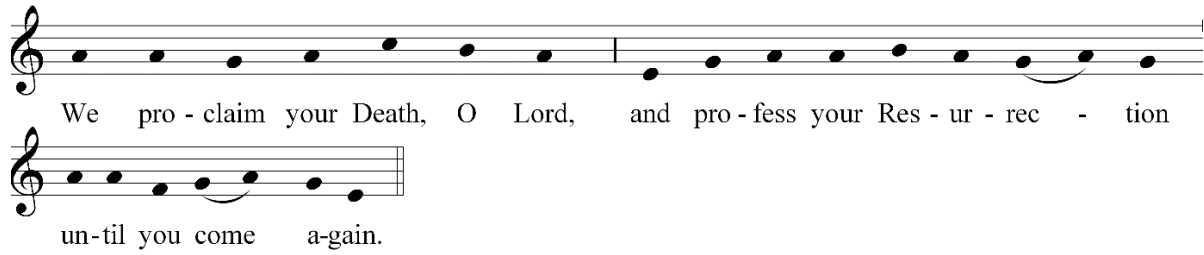
**READING**

**PRAYER**

Presider: As we commemorate the Passion and Death of Jesus, may we grow in our desire to be stewards of God's creation and signs of hope and peace in the world, and may we always give God glory by our lives.

All: Amen.

*All join in singing:*



The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text: "We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of text: "un-til you come a-gain.".

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

*Those who are able are invited to kneel in silence. A prayer follows.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## CLOSING PRAYER

Loving Jesus,  
we have walked the way of the cross with you.  
We have witnessed your sorrows and sufferings  
and have experienced the hope and joy that a single moment  
of love can give.

We know that your global human family encompasses  
each and every one of us—  
from communities in distant parts of the globe  
to our own villages, cities, and country.

All over our world, you are at work.  
And you call us to work alongside those who are trapped in  
systems of violence, injustice, oppression, and poverty.

On this day when we commemorate the crucifixion,  
we pause to consider all the ways that we are  
hanging on to our brokenness.  
Ways that we participate in suffering.  
And the ways that we perpetuate the crucifixion.

As the Body of Christ now on earth,  
we are both crucifiers and crucified.  
As humanity suffers;  
and as our earth suffers,  
we, the Body of Christ suffer, too.

As we recall the suffering and death of your Son,  
may we be conscious of the brokenness that still exists in this world,  
the signs of hope that surround us,  
and our responsibility to finish the work  
of bringing the kingdom to fruition.

Walk with us and bless our efforts to love and serve one another.

We ask all this in your name.

**All: Amen.**

## FINAL BLESSING





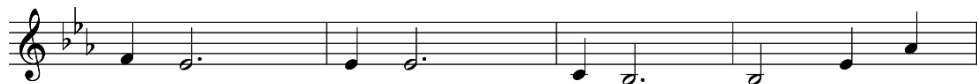
1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4. Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
5. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
6. Were you there when they rolled the stone a - way?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
 Were you there when they rolled the stone a - way?



Oh! Some-times it caus - es me to



trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble, Were you



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 there when they nailed him to the tree?  
there when they pierced him in the side?  
 there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 there when they laid him in the tomb?  
 there when they rolled the stone a - way?