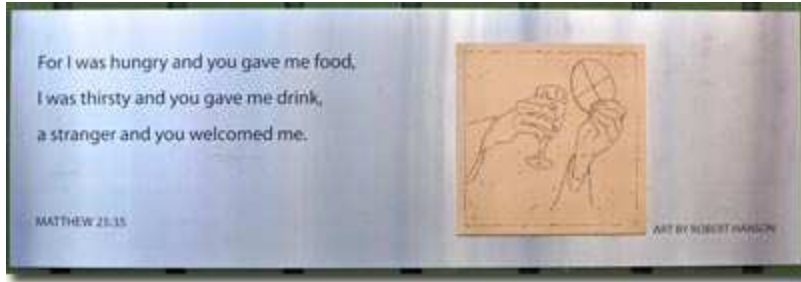


THE STATIONS OF MISSION

A guide to praying with our stations of Christian mission, which express the work of our human hands in service and love.



Opening - Prayer of our Parish



O God of our longing, we stand at your door yearning to be received as we are. We are people searching for a home and recovery from our addictions. We are people suffering from illnesses of mind and body. We are rich and poor and always in need of one another. Open your generous love to all who ache for your grace and companionship.

Hear the prayers of our hearts that sound from the streets and burden our lives. Relieve our hunger for hope. Through the intercession of Blessed Basil Moreau and Saint André Bessette, we ask your healing in the promise of Jesus, the Christ, your Son, living now and forever. Amen.

Station 1 - Matthew 25:35



We believe that the Word of God is the Living Word. As the Living Word is proclaimed for us, our desire is to turn the Word into action, "When I was hungry you fed me, thirsty you gave me a drink, a stranger and you welcomed me."

As we feed people who are hungry.... *Bless us, O God*
As we clothe people who are naked.... *Bless us, O God*
As we visit people who are imprisoned.... *Bless us, O God*
As we love people who are marginalized.... *Bless us, O God*
As we bless people who ache for mercy.... *Bless us, O God*

God of the Word, be our help and strength as we seek to live the teachings of your Son. Our joy is in serving him--feeding those who hunger, offering drink to those who thirst, welcoming the stranger. May our hands be his. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Station 2 - Anointing



We believe in the promise of healing, the strength God gives us in time of need. Ancient gestures of healing and anointing encourage us to touch those who are afflicted, to lay hands on those who suffer.

As we mark people in need of healing.... *Bless us, O God*
As we reach out to all the sick or bedridden.... *Bless us, O God*
As we bless people living in brokenness.... *Bless us, O God*
As we pray for people challenged by disabilities.... *Bless us, O God*
As we anoint people longing for forgiveness.... *Bless us, O God*

God of Healing, make us vessels of your compassion as we reach out to those who are sick in mind, body, and spirit. Assure them of your love and care. May your Son, Christ the Healer, bring comfort to the sick and the afflicted, peace to the lost and lonely, joy to the sorrowing and grieving. Touch us and heal us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Station 3 - Praying



Every day we press our hands in prayer, our words of petition offered in confidence and trust. Prayer is God's gift to us. Prayer is our desire for intimacy with the God who loves us.

As we pray for people living outside.... *Bless us, O God*
As we pray for the end of war and violence.... *Bless us, O God*
As we pray for people living with mental anguish.... *Bless us, O God*
As we pray for our children and their futures.... *Bless us, O God*
As we pray for all believers and the good of the Church.... *Bless us, O God*

God of love, Hear our heartfelt prayers for your people, and for us. May we never lose heart when we pray in trust of your care for us. Give us this gift always, let us never cease to pray. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Praying the Stations is continued on the reverse side of this sheet.

Station 4 - Blessing



Water is the sign of life, cleansing, and renewal. We bless water. We sign ourselves with it. Like a spring that never runs dry, we return again and again to the waters that are the source of our spiritual lives.

As we bless our bodies in prayer and hope.... *Bless us, O God*
As we remember our baptism in Christ Jesus.... *Bless us, O God*
As we recall our commitments in faith and love... *Bless us, O God*
As we bless those longing to join us in baptism.... *Bless us, O God*
As we embrace our baptismal commitment to serve.... *Bless us, O God*

God of All Creation, you renew the earth and refresh our spirits. We worship you as the source of life and of all that is good. May we always return to the blessing font, reaching into the depths of your grace, blessed and refreshed. Whenever we sign ourselves in your name, may we give thanks for your love and goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Station 5 - Serving



We know of our hunger. We see the hunger of others. The food we offer and share satisfies more than the needs of the body. The human soul is fed when we love one another.

As we feed people starving for food and love.... *Bless us, O God*
As we reach out to people living in our neighborhood.... *Bless us, O God*
As we build community with the stranger and the pilgrim.... *Bless us, O God*
As we eat with saints and sinners.... *Bless us, O God*
As we share communion with people surviving poverty.... *Bless us, O God*

God of our Longing, your love alone satisfies our deepest hunger. We pray for those who are hungry and have nowhere to turn. Help us to be generous in our sharing, and compassionate in our service. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Station 6 - Washing



We see those who walk our city streets, who sleep in doorways, who have no where to stay. Tired and lonely, they want a place to rest. We wash their feet, to offer them comfort and care, as Jesus did for his companions.

As we wash the feet of people exhausted on the journey.... *Bless us, O God*
As we remember Christ on the night before he died.... *Bless us, O God*
As we care for people living with diabetes and other diseases.... *Bless us, O God*
As we provide hospitality to every stranger and sojourner.... *Bless us, O God*
As we recall our commitments to embrace the outcast.... *Bless us, O God*

God of Compassion, may we imitate your Son, who taught us to wash feet. Help us as we stoop down to offer our healing touch to those who are tired and alone, and to see them as you see them, your beloved. May your mercy wash over us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Station 7 - Believing



We share the Lord's meal and remember his words, "Do this in memory of me." When we gather at his table, we know we are not only to remember his offering, but to do as he did and taught, "Love one another as I have loved you."

As we break bread in love and communion.... *Bless us, O God*
As we remember the Body of Christ in our midst.... *Bless us, O God*
As we believe in the dignity of all people.... *Bless us, O God*
As we serve the wounds of the Body of Christ on earth.... *Bless us, O God*
As we taste salvation in unity and love.... *Bless us, O God*

God of Life, all goodness comes from you. You gave us the gift of your Son, so that we might have life and have it to the full. May the bread that we eat make us one in him. May the work of our hands always be offered for the glory of your Kingdom. May your creative Spirit continue to inspire those artists who formed and fashioned these works of art. May we be your Son's presence for others, hands to love and serve. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Prayer



Loving and Merciful God,
Be with us, help us, guide us
as we live our faith in service to our neighbor.
May the works of our hands bring healing,
blessing, comfort, and help to your people.
Make us your humble servants,
grateful believers, loving disciples.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen