

The 11th Station: Jesus Is Nailed To The Cross



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

Reading: *Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified him, and with him two others - one on each side and Jesus in the middle.*

Reflection: Keeping in mind that the word excruciating literally means “out of the cross,” we reflect on Jesus and the excruciating pain he suffered as soldiers pounded thick nails through his hands and feet. As he completely surrendered any natural human desire to protect himself, Christ bore this pain – our pain – as a supreme sign of his overwhelming love for God’s people.

Pause For Thought: What does it feel like to be truly loved? Who do you really love? How much do you love them? How much would you be prepared to protect them from all suffering? Why do love and pain seem to go hand-in-hand?

Prayer: Jesus, on the cross you embraced the pain of generations of sinful men and women. As humans who often see pain and suffering behind the eyes of others, we pray that you will guide us by your example of profound empathy. Teach us to share the pain of others, and to be for them signs of your love in their lives.