

# THE LITANY OF THE PASSION



GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH  
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## The Litany of the Passion

In Christianity, the Passion (from the Latin verb *patior*, *passus sum*; "to suffer, bear, endure", from which also "patience, patient", etc.) is the short final period in the life of Jesus. The parts of the four canonical Gospels that describe these events are known as the "Passion narratives".

The Litany of the Passion is based on the Passion narratives. It can be used as a personal devotion, or in corporate worship, allowing one to prayerfully meditate on those sacrificial acts of our Lord in the final hours of his earthly life.

Beginning with the opening petitions for mercy in the Trinitarian formula, the Litany moves to five groupings designed to walk the worshiper through the final hours of Christ's life: with his disciples in the Upper Room, in the public square, on the path to Calvary, on the Cross of Calvary, and in the borrowed tomb. Each grouping is preceded by the versicle *We adore you O Christ, and we bless you*, and the response *Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world*.

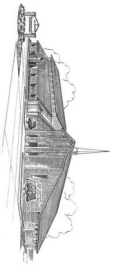
The worshiper is encouraged to pray the Litany slowly and deliberately—never rushing the words, and allowing time for quiet contemplation of the message of the Lord's Passion.



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God the Father, maker of heaven and earth,  
**have mercy on us.**

God the Son, Redeemer of the world  
**have mercy on us.**

God the Holy Spirit, sanctifier of the faithful,  
**have mercy on us.**

Holy Trinity, one God,  
**have mercy on us.**

*Silence follows each line, until the versicle and response.*

Jesus, gathering your disciples at the table:  
Jesus, washing their feet in humility:  
Jesus, offering yourself in bread and wine:  
Jesus, going into the garden to pray:  
Jesus, whose disciples slept while you grieved:  
Jesus, in fear and from a troubled soul, still  
seeking the Father's will:  
Jesus, whom Judas betrayed with a kiss:

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you  
**R. Because by your Holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

Jesus, standing before Ananias and Caiaphas:  
Jesus, spit upon, blindfolded, and struck:  
Jesus, against whom false accusations were made:  
Jesus, denied three times by Peter:  
Jesus, taken before Pilate:  
Jesus, rejected for a murderer:  
Jesus exhibited before the crowds:  
Jesus, condemned by Pilate:

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you  
**R. Because by your Holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

Jesus, crowned with thorns:  
Jesus, mocked by soldiers:  
Jesus, sent out carrying the cross:  
Jesus, whose cross Simon was made to carry:  
Jesus, whom the women mourned:

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you  
**R. Because by your Holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

Jesus, nailed to the cross:

Jesus, lifted high up on the cross:

Jesus, praying forgiveness for us all:

Jesus, giving your mother and beloved disciple  
to each other:

Jesus, granting paradise to the penitent thief:

Jesus, crying out in abandonment:

Jesus, from whose side flowed water and blood:

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you  
**R. Because by your Holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

Jesus, taken down from the cross:

Jesus wrapped in a shroud:

Jesus, buried in a borrowed tomb:

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you  
**R. Because by your Holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

From all evil,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From unbelief and hardness of heart,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From any denial of you,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From sloth and sleep when you call us to watch,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all false judgments and untrue  
accusations,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From acts of cowardice and expediency,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From words that mock and scorn,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From cruelty and disregard of injustice,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all refusal to know our own sins,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all fear to stand by when another suffers,

**Good Lord, deliver us.**

Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant that we  
may die daily to sin and live in righteousness,

**Hear our prayer.**

That we may take up our cross daily and  
follow you,

**Hear our prayer.**

That we may never deny you,

**Hear our prayer.**

That we may never falsely accuse or violently  
attack anyone,

**Hear our prayer.**

That moved to sorrow by your sufferings, we  
may work for the relief of others,

**Hear our prayer.**

That we may receive with gratitude the  
promise of forgiveness and reconciliation,

**Hear our prayer.**

That having followed the way of the cross in  
this life, we may come to the joys of your  
eternal Kingdom,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, remember us when you come into your  
Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us. And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.**