

Jesus
is
taken
down
from
the
cross



The
Thirteenth
Station



THIRTEENTH STATION
**Jesus Is Taken Down
from the Cross**

Meditation

For a moment, the world went dark. Thunder rolled across Jerusalem and the earth shook. Something had happened. The world had changed. But now, no one knows that. The guards have left the crucified to his family. A tomb is made ready. In deep sadness, those remaining watch Mary cradle her son in her arms.

Prayer

Jesus, this moment at Golgotha is even more dark and bleak than the others.

Those who were caring for your lifeless body probably had many thoughts just at this moment. They might have been thinking of your laughter and wisdom, of a time they had shared a meal with you, or of a moment when you had assured them that their sins—even their worst sins—were forgiven. Your mother Mary must have thought about all that had been promised—and once again, the sword pierced her heart.

All of them were probably confused and hurt, wondering what would, what could happen next. But in the midst of this enormous pain, they continued to serve you, quietly, out of love.

I see you cared for by those who love you. Help me do the same. Help me serve humbly and quietly, out of love.

*No one has greater love than this,
To lay down one's life for one's friends.*
(John 15:13)