



STATIONS OF MERCY AT CHRIST CATHEDRAL

*Here
Holy space
Grand gateway
Common ground
Golden mean between
The divine and the earthy
Where duality is transcended
Dynamic tension released
Opposites are reconciled
Past, present, future
Intersect, blend
Spirit flows
Now*

Joel Christopher, OP



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of ORANGE



STATIONS OF MERCY at CHRIST CATHEDRAL

Pope Francis has called for a renewed zeal and commitment to doing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The Stations of Mercy on the Christ Cathedral campus provide a way to prayerfully reflect on the Works of Mercy as outlined by Pope Francis in the document proclaiming the Jubilee Year, *Misericordia Vultus* [The Face of Mercy].

Each station is dedicated to one of the works of mercy. This guide provides a description of the station, a brief reflection and a prayer. Whether you visit all the stations or some of them, it is fitting to begin or end your pilgrimage with a visit to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel located next to the Small Gallery at the west end of the building.

Pope Francis writes, “Mercy is the bridge that connects God and humanity, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness.” Through the grace of our merciful Father, may these Stations of Mercy be places where hearts are opened and mercy is found.



1st Station: Welcome the Stranger

Tour Ministry of Christ Cathedral
Cathedral Cultural Center Lobby



2nd Station: Admonish the Sinner

Chapel of Unity and Reconciliation
Cathedral Cultural Center, Third Floor



3rd Station: Counsel the Doubtful

New Hope Crisis Counseling Hotline
Tower of Hope



4th Station: Forgive Offenses

Statue of the Prodigal Son
Cathedral Plaza



5th Station: Heal the Sick

UCI Medical Center
Arboretum Fountain Path



6th Station: Visit the Imprisoned

Orange County Juvenile Hall
Arboretum Fountain Path



7th Station: Bear Patiently With Those Who Do Us Ill

Lamoreaux Justice Center
Arboretum Fountain Path



8th Station: Feed the Hungry, Clothe the Naked, Give Drink to the Thirsty

Christ Cathedral Community Outreach
Helping House



9th Station: Instruct Those Seeking Knowledge and Wisdom

Institute for Pastoral Ministry and
Christ Cathedral Academy
Sculpture of Jesus with the Children in front of
the Pastoral Center and Academy Building



10th Station: Comfort the Afflicted

Mary Hood Chapel
Base of the Crean Tower



11th Station: Bury the Dead, Pray for the Living and the Dead

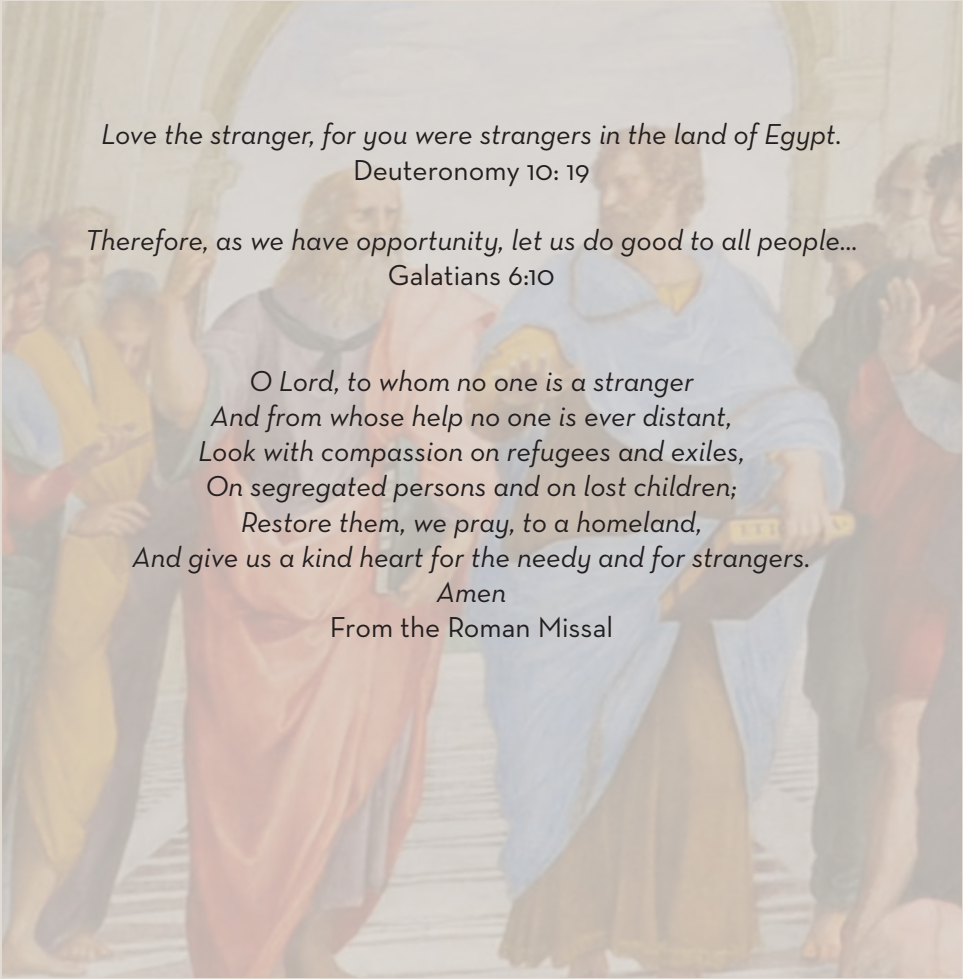
Cathedral Memorial Gardens

1ST STATION

Welcome the Stranger

Tour Ministry of Christ Cathedral
Cathedral Cultural Center Lobby

Being a stranger can be lonely, frightening and intimidating. This is why the Scriptures and Jesus himself give particular importance to welcoming the stranger. Almost every day in this lobby, volunteer docents welcome people from around the corner or from around the world to this campus. This ministry specifically reflects the stated purpose of the Christ Cathedral Campus to “continuously invite all to experience the love of Christ”. It is a welcoming presence that brings the love of Christ to each other and to the world.



Love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 10: 19

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people...

Galatians 6:10

*O Lord, to whom no one is a stranger
And from whose help no one is ever distant,
Look with compassion on refugees and exiles,
On segregated persons and on lost children;
Restore them, we pray, to a homeland,
And give us a kind heart for the needy and for strangers.*

Amen


From the Roman Missal

2ND STATION

Admonish the Sinner

Chapel of Unity and Reconciliation
Cathedral Cultural Center, Third Floor

With the same tenderness of the shepherd who looks for the one lost sheep, Jesus forgives the woman caught in adultery and admonishes her to sin no more. The Chapel of Unity and Reconciliation reflects a charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange which is "to stand in the midst of the unreconciled place." Like Jesus, we do not condemn, ignore or run away from places where there is sin. We stand in the middle of them, giving assurances of God's forgiveness and the promise of our presence to accompany each other in our efforts to live good and holy lives.



*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
To my voice in supplication.*

*If you, O Lord, mark iniquities,
Lord, who can stand?
But with you is forgiveness,
That you may be revered.*

*Let Israel wait for the Lord,
For with the Lord is kindness
And with him is plentiful redemption;
And he will redeem Israel
From all their iniquities.*

Psalm 130

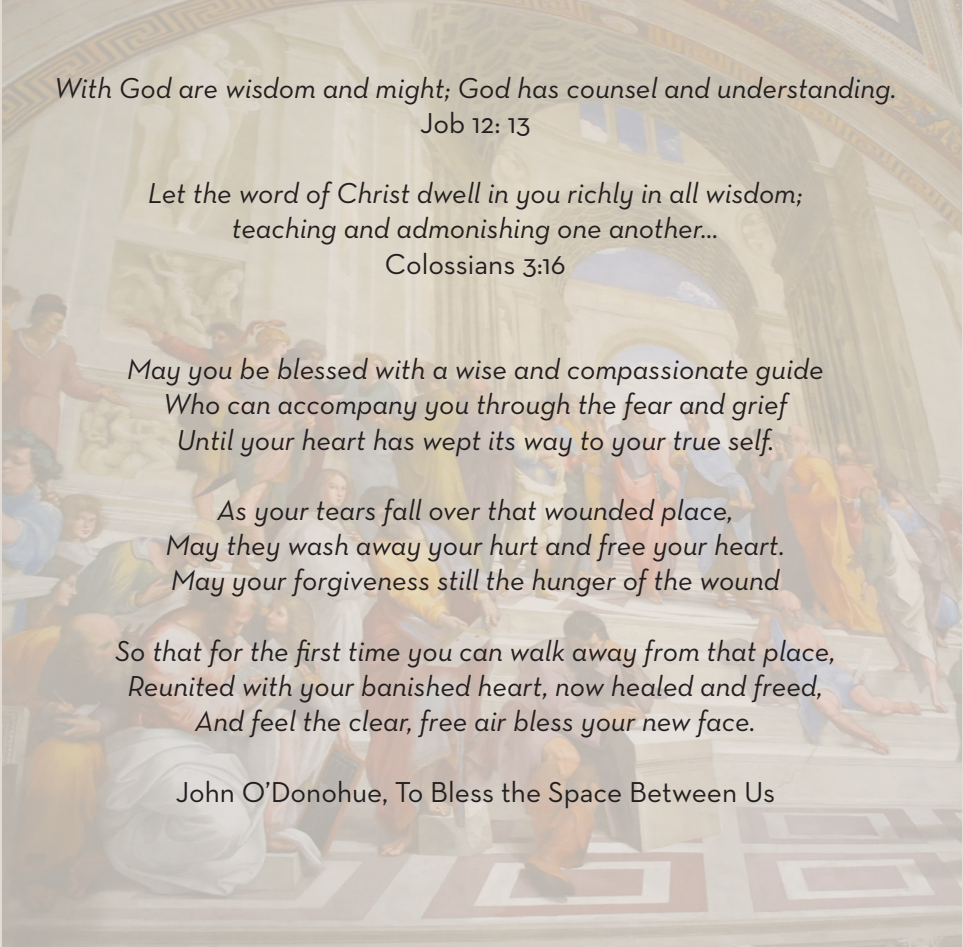
God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
Luke 19: 13

3RD STATION

Counsel the Doubtful

New Hope Crisis Counseling Hotline
Tower of Hope

At times life's events and circumstances can get so overwhelming that we do not know what to do, in whom to confide. Sometimes even God seems distant from us. All of this creates doubt within us that can make it difficult to get through a day. For over 40 years, the New Hope Crisis Counseling Hotline has been ministering to callers who are in tremendous doubt, confusion and pain. Twenty four hours a day trained volunteer counselors are here, praying and offering the solace of Jesus to all who call.



With God are wisdom and might; God has counsel and understanding.
Job 12: 13

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom;
teaching and admonishing one another...*
Colossians 3:16

*May you be blessed with a wise and compassionate guide
Who can accompany you through the fear and grief
Until your heart has wept its way to your true self.*

*As your tears fall over that wounded place,
May they wash away your hurt and free your heart.
May your forgiveness still the hunger of the wound*

*So that for the first time you can walk away from that place,
Reunited with your banished heart, now healed and freed,
And feel the clear, free air bless your new face.*

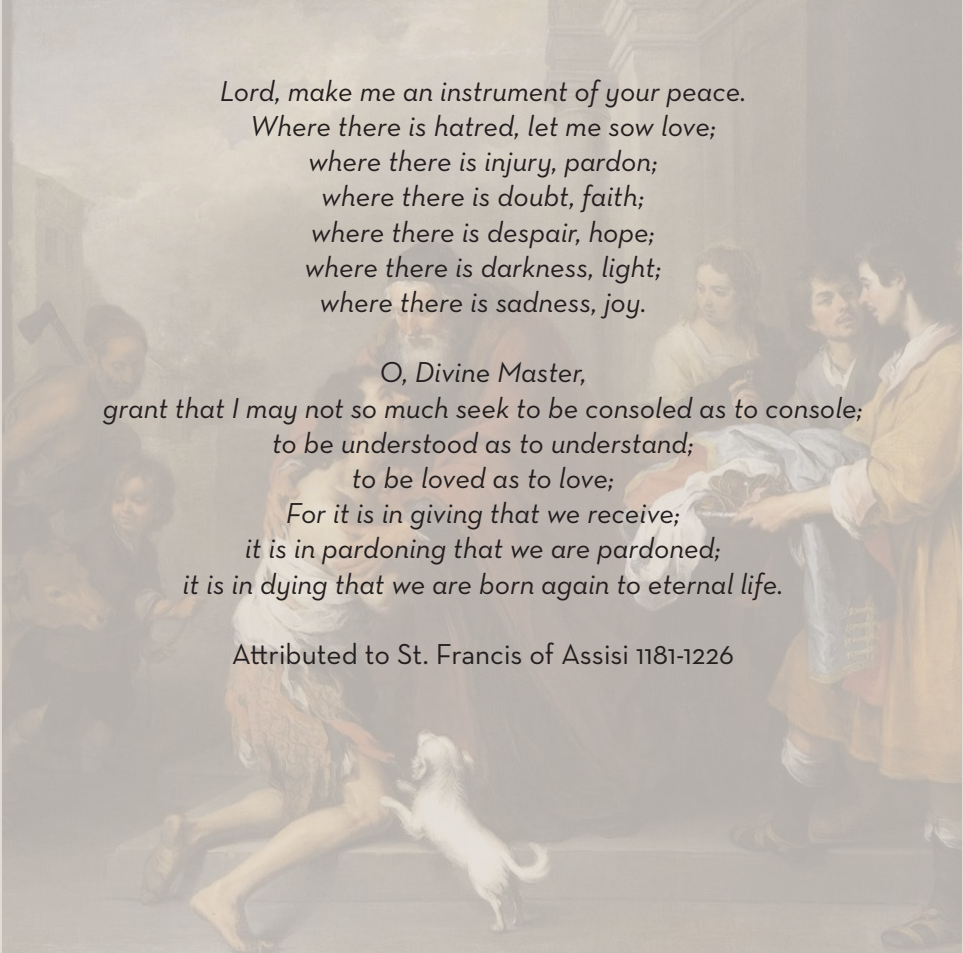
John O'Donohue, To Bless the Space Between Us

4TH STATION

Forgive Offenses

Statue of the Prodigal Son
Cathedral Plaza

It is not natural to forgive. When we are hurt or offended, the natural inclination is to want to give the same hurt back to the offender. The parable of the Prodigal Son teaches us that our Merciful Father is not interested in payback (Luke 15:11-32). It is forgiveness that the Father gives and forgiveness that the Father wants us to give. The parable suggests that the father looked down the road every day hoping his son would return. One day, as this sculpture depicts, his patience was rewarded and he threw his arms around his son with an embrace of forgiveness. Payback is natural. Forgiveness is divine.



*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.*

*O, Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.*

Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi 1181-1226

5TH STATION

Heal the Sick

UCI Medical Center
Arboretum Fountain Path

Looking east from this path is the UCI Medical Center, a place of care and healing for thousands of people every year. It is also a place of suffering for those with injuries and illness. It is a place of grief for those whose loved one did not make it. Doctors, nurses and all manner of medical personnel are often marvelous agents of healing and we thank our Merciful Father for their dedicated work. In our own ways, relying on God's care and mercy, we can be instruments of healing for others as well.

The news about Jesus spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.

Matthew 4:24

Is any among you sick? Call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

James 5:14

*God of healing and compassion, you shower us with your infinite care,
and comfort all in pain and affliction.*

*Look with abundant mercy
on all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.*

*Grant healing and hope to the sick,
the wounded and the dying in their darkest hour,
so that they may witness the power
of your healing presence in the world.*

Amen

Catholic Health Association, USA, Website

6TH STATION

Visit the Imprisoned

Orange County Juvenile Hall
Arboretum Fountain Path

Only about six blocks east of this beautiful path is a place where the beauty of youth has been tainted by crime, resulting in incarceration in the Orange County Juvenile Hall. We are mindful of the heartbreak of parents whose children, instead of being home, now spend their days and nights there. We do not condone the acts that led these young people there. At the same time, we can visit them with the Father's mercy which extends beyond the strictly punitive and includes efforts toward rehabilitation so these children can find their way home again.

*I was naked, and you clothed me. I was sick, and you took care of me.
I was in prison, and you visited me.
Matthew 25:36*

*We all know that life is a journey, along different roads, different paths,
which leave their mark on us.*

*This time in your life can only have one purpose: to give you a hand in
getting back on the right road, to give you a hand to help you rejoin
society. All of us are part of that effort, all of us are invited to encourage,
help and enable your rehabilitation. A rehabilitation which everyone seeks
and desires: inmates and their families, correctional authorities, social and
educational programs. A rehabilitation which benefits and elevates the
morale of the entire community and society.*

*I encourage you to have this attitude with one another and with all those
who in any way are part of this institution. May you make possible new
opportunities; may you blaze new trails, new paths.*

*Pope Francis Address to Detainees at Curran-Fromhold
Correctional Facility, September 27, 2015*

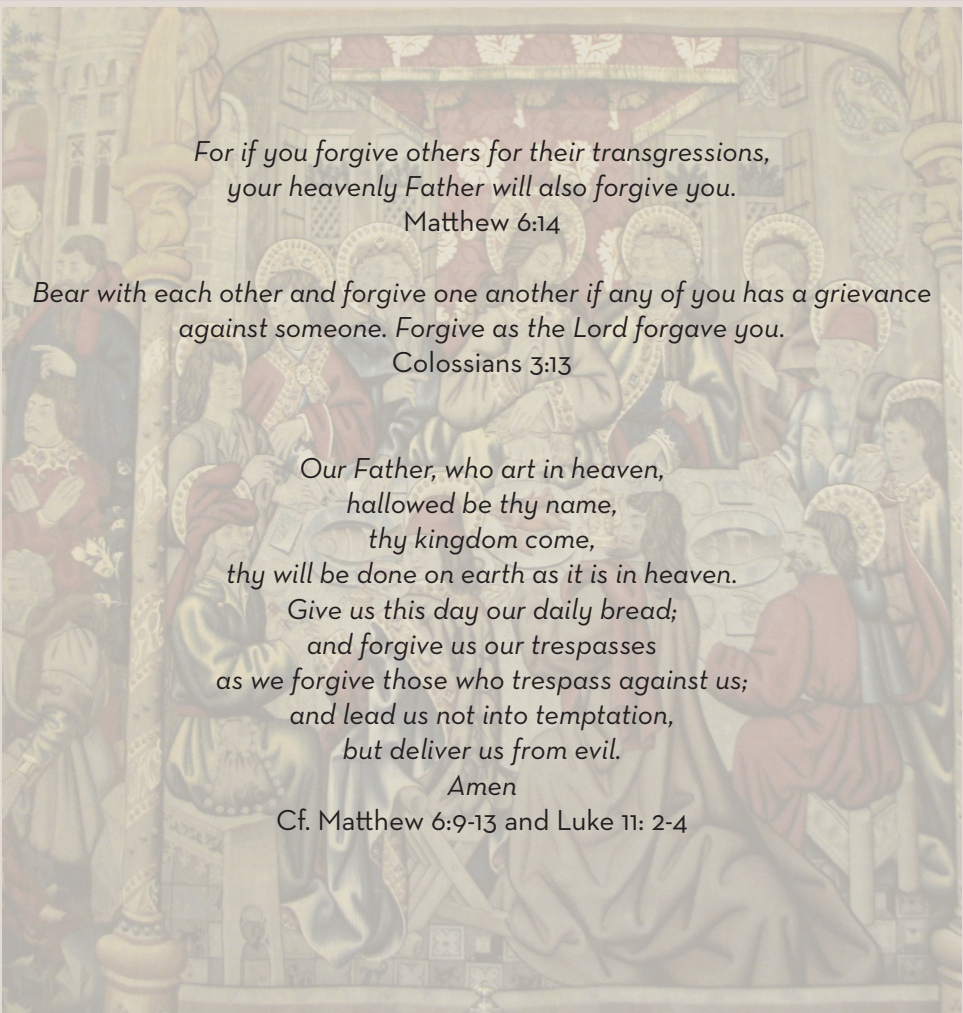
*O God, whose Son humbled himself
And took the form of a slave
To redeem the human race from being captive to sin,
Grant to men and women held in confinement
That they may obtain the freedom you desire for all
Your sons and daughters. Amen
Adapted from the Roman Missal*

7TH STATION

Bear Patiently With Those Who Do Us Ill

Lamoreaux Justice Center
Arboretum Fountain Path

Just a few blocks away to the east is the Lamoreaux Justice Center. Every day during the week people come to that building having been deeply hurt by others or have themselves been the causes of hurt. They hope for justice probably with little expectation or perhaps even desire that it will be accompanied by mercy. Maybe you have been there yourself. Whether we are the recipients or the sources of hurt, it is patience that gives way to justice with mercy.



*For if you forgive others for their transgressions,
your heavenly Father will also forgive you.*

Matthew 6:14

*Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance
against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

Colossians 3:13

*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

Cf. Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11: 2-4

8TH STATION

Feed the Hungry, Clothe the Naked, Give Drink to the Thirsty

Christ Cathedral Community Outreach
Helping House

Jesus says that when we give food to someone who is hungry, a glass of water to someone who is thirsty or clothes to someone who is without, we do these things for him (Matthew 25:31-46). At Helping House, Jesus, in the person of people in need, is being served through the Christ Cathedral Community Outreach. At this house, an annual Thanksgiving meal is served, lunch is provided every Thursday, food is distributed regularly, and emergency needs are attended to. The compassion and generosity of the outreach volunteers brings relief to those who seek refuge here.

"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

"Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

"And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

Matthew 25: 31-40

Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth, but yours
Yours are the eyes through which He looks
With compassion on this world...
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good
Yours are the hands with which
He blesses all the world....
Yours are the hands...yours are the feet...
Yours are the eyes...you are His body...
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.
St. Teresa of Avila

9TH STATION

Instruct Those Seeking Knowledge and Wisdom

Institute for Pastoral Ministry and Christ Cathedral Academy
Sculpture of Jesus with the Children in front of the
Pastoral Center and Academy Building

One of the greatest gifts we can be given is the gift of instruction. Someone has cared enough to instruct us so that we have the knowledge and wisdom to make our way through life. Rooted in the teachings of Jesus and the Church, the Institute for Pastoral Ministry and Christ Cathedral Academy are places where the gift of instruction is given daily to people of all ages. Such instruction is key to fashioning a world that is filled with God's merciful love.

A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after they have been fully trained, will be like their teachers.

Luke 6:40

Jesus said, "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If therefore, the master and teacher have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

John 13: 13-15

A Prayer for Teachers

Heavenly Father,

*who promised that all those who instruct others in the ways of holiness
will shine as stars for all eternity,
fill the hearts and minds of those who teach with true knowledge and the
art of teaching.*

*Give them patience and understanding,
justice and prudence,
humility and fear of the Lord.*

*Grant them wisdom and charity so that with a pure and holy love of God
They will enjoy all these gifts and impart them to their students.*

*Let those they teach be obedient to your laws
and docile to your inspirations.*

*May the blessings of your sevenfold gifts be in all who teach and all who learn
We ask this through Christ, the Teacher, and through the Holy Spirit who is
the Love of the Father and the Son.*

Amen

10TH STATION

Comfort the Afflicted

Mary Hood Chapel
Base of the Crean Tower

The Mary Hood Chapel is open 24 hours a day as a place of prayer for those who come to the Christ Cathedral Campus. At all hours, night and day, those afflicted by grief from losing a loved one at UCI Medical Center, parents afflicted with deep sorrow as their child has just been incarcerated in the Juvenile Detention Center, a distraught ex-spouse just settling a divorce or child custody case as well as people with all manner of affliction seek prayerful comfort in this chapel.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Isaiah 40:1

God comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

1 Corinthians 1:4

Living God,

We pray for all people:

For people who are oppressed and exploited.

For women shut off from a full life by tradition and practice.

For those denied their freedom and dignity by systems and authorities.

For those forced to leave their homelands because of their beliefs.

For those seeking answers and meaning to their lives.

For those who labor too long and too hard to barely feed and clothe themselves and their families.

For those forced to sell their bodies to survive

For those who live lives of quiet desperation at the hands of the powerful.

God, we pray,

Asking that we may once again

Give joyful expression to your creative love

Which breaks down barriers

And unites person to person, community to community

Which gives meaning and hope to empty lives

And makes us reach out to each other in generous self-giving.

So, God,

Fulfill your promise in us for the sake of our brothers and sisters.

Amen

Godong / robertharding

11TH STATION

Bury the Dead, Pray for the Living and the Dead

Cathedral Memorial Gardens

The death of someone we love is a tender time. There is profound grief. Sometimes there is anger. Sometimes there is relief. Relationships with relatives and friends are challenged as we renegotiate life with each other without the person who died. The Cathedral Memorial Gardens respects the physical remains of those who have gone to the Lord. It is a place that witnesses unspeakable sorrow as well as life sustaining hope. With hope in the resurrected Lord, we lay our deceased to rest and pray for them. With this same hope, we pray for each other as together we journey, together in faith.

God saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to God's own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

2 Timothy 1: 9-10

*Loving and Compassionate God,
You understand the pain of loss, and the heartache of bereavement.*

We hold in our hearts all those who have lost a loved one.

*You are a light that shines in our darkest times,
Guide us and heal our brothers and sisters in their sorrow.*

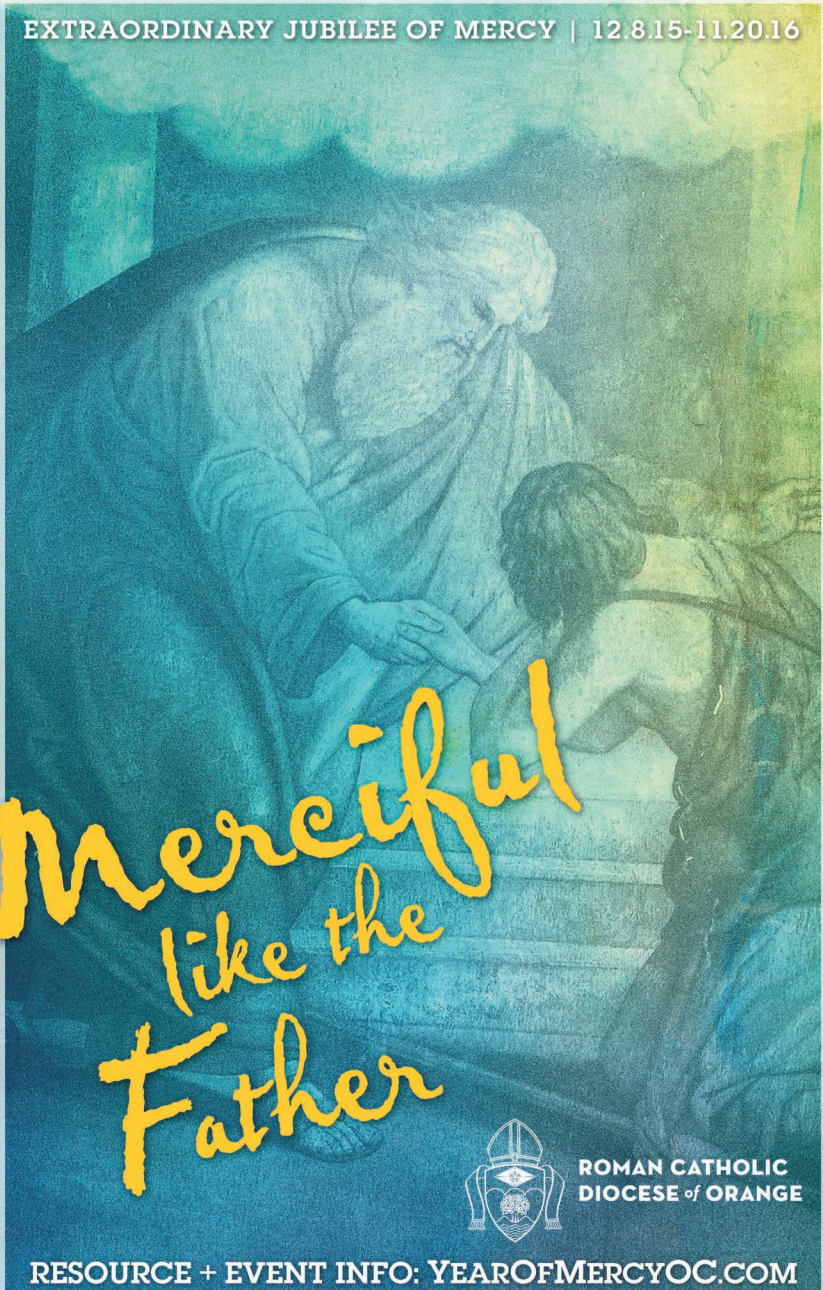
*You comfort us, may we comfort others.
You console and lead us in times of doubt and confusion,
May we follow the light of your love, and spread hope.*

*God of Life,
We thank you for the signs of your light
in the midst of our darkness.
May we be instruments of your compassion
in the heart of your world.*

Amen

Adapted from Sr. Katherine Feely, SND/Education for Justice

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY | 12.8.15-11.20.16



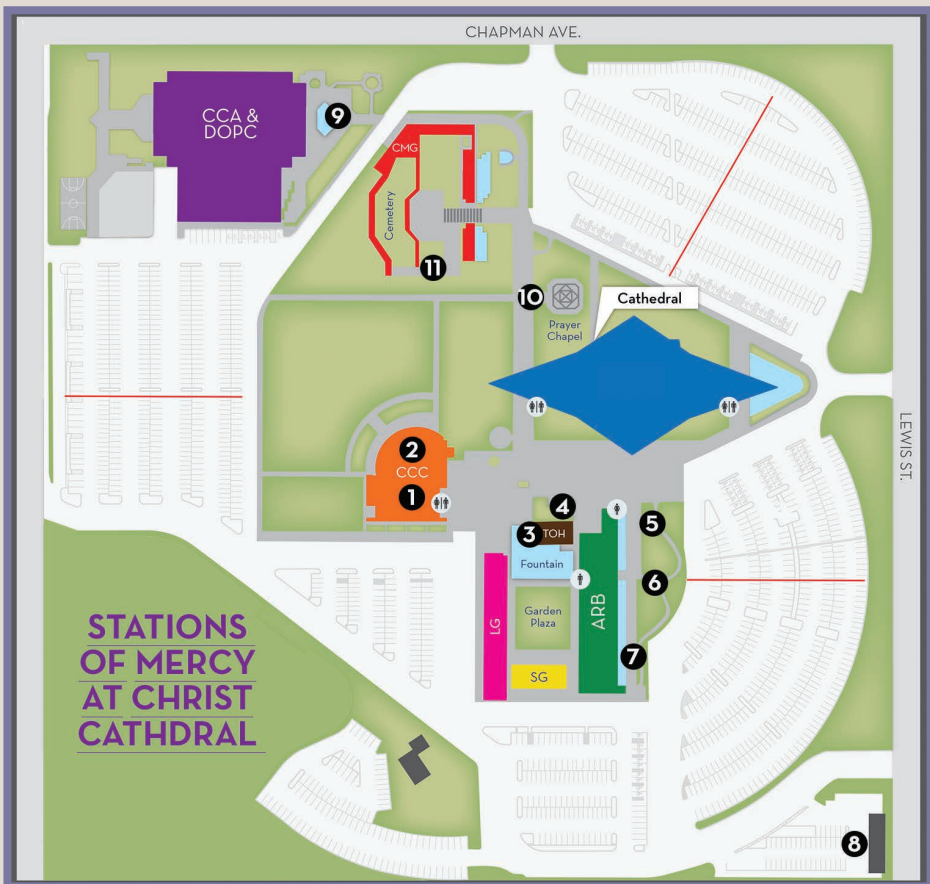
merciful like the Father



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RESOURCE + EVENT INFO: YEAROFMERCYOC.COM

This guide is sponsored by Orange Catholic Foundation as a gift to all the people of our Diocese of Orange and visitors to Christ Cathedral campus.



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