

Station 14 : Jesus is Laid in the Tomb



“So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.”

(Matt 27:59-60)

Gently, Joseph of Arimathea wrapped the body of Jesus in a linen cloth and placed it on a ledge, in a tomb that was probably a burial cave cut from the soft limestone rock. To protect the body from wild animals a large rock is placed at the entrance of the tomb. Those who love Jesus mourn their loss: it seems that all is lost. The vision of God’s reign, so central to the life and ministry of Jesus, seems now a distant dream.

Moments in the life of Mary MacKillop

“God’s work does not depend on any of us.”

Mary MacKillop, 1898

Mary MacKillop died in Alma cottage, North Sydney on August 8th, 1909. Initially she was laid to rest in the Gore Hill Cemetery but in 1914 her remains were transferred to the Chapel at Mount St convent where she was placed in front of the altar of the Blessed Virgin. Later Joanna Barr Smith paid for the beautiful marble tomb that has become her final resting place. This has become a place of pilgrimage as thousands of pilgrims come each year to visit this sacred place.

Moments in my life ...

- + If you knew that this was your last day how would you spend your time?
- + What would you want to say to the significant people in your life?

Take a moment to reflect in silence upon these aspects of your life. We tend to take life for granted and live in an unreflective manner. The death of a loved one can pull us up short and help us to re-prioritize what is really important. We come to a deeper understanding of what gives life meaning.

Prayer

Jesus you call me to be open to every aspect of my life, to be aware of its beauty, its gift. You invite me to live with intention, to embrace each day. Constantly draw me toward all that is good, so that through my actions others may experience a glimpse of your goodness.

Forgive me Lord for the times when apathy in given free reign and I become blind to all that life holds. Encourage me to ponder on life’s meaning. Help me to graciously accept the process of ageing and to find wisdom in the passing of time. May I finally delight in your presence and find my rest in you.

Stations of the Cross: A Journey with St Mary of the Cross MacKillop – Valerie DeBrenni

Available for purchase @ \$7.95 from Mary MacKillop Place Bookshop, Mount Street, North Sydney, or on line:

<https://www.sosi.org.au/product/stations-of-the-cross-a-journey-with-st-mary-of-the-cross-mackillop/>

Image: Station 14, Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel, North Sydney