

St. Barnabas on the Desert  
Memorial Acceptance and Fine Arts Committee

Minutes: June 27, 1999

This special meeting was called following the 10AM service to approve the conceptual design for the Stations of the Cross Memorial.

Members Present: Nancy Harvey, Wilma Bartholomay, Ann Goodman, Dee Gillanders, Nancy Coppin, Wendy Pitha, Peggy Iacobelli, Joby Lamont, Tom Baker, Nancy Fagan, Peggy Withers, Tammy Underwood.

Joby Lamont made the following motion:

**The committee recommends the purchase of fourteen (14) distinct Stations of the Cross designs to be designed and created as per the wooden prototype by Allen Ditson. The designs will be mounted on the sanctuary columns, and will be removable. Each will have a wooden base with candle. The cost of the Memorial will be \$7000.**

Wendy Pitha seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Peggy Iacobelli  
Secretary

## **Station of the Cross**

In the weeks preceding Easter and Holy Week, Christians pray the Stations of the Cross. The stations lead worshipers through a time of prayer and meditation as they remember and reflect upon the passion of Christ. Roman Catholic, Anglican, Episcopalian and Lutheran parishes use these stations (also called the Way of the Cross or Via Dolorosa) in preparation for Easter. The traditional 14 stations are found along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, where they mark a spot where Jesus paused, stumbled, or spoke to someone on his way to the cross.

The 14 Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross or Via Crucis, commemorate Jesus Christ's last day on Earth. They begin with his condemnation and end with his burial:

Jesus is condemned to death

Jesus is made to bear his cross

Jesus falls the first time

Jesus meets his mother

Simon of Cyrene is made to bear the cross

Veronica wipes Jesus' face

Jesus falls the second time

The women of Jerusalem weep over Jesus

Jesus falls the third time

Jesus is stripped of his garments

Jesus is nailed to the cross

Jesus dies on the cross

Jesus is taken down from the cross

Jesus is laid in the tomb

## Stations of the Cross

580 words

By Marga Fritze

Credit is due to Darlene J. Best for her history of the Stations of the Cross brochure written in 2000.

Given by Robert G. Kaufman in loving memory of Grace M. Kaufman.

Consecrated on April 09, 2000.

Followers of Jesus from the earliest days have told the story of his passion, death, and resurrection. Some historians believe that the devotional practice of the Stations of the Cross most likely began with the early Byzantine pilgrims. These pilgrims (under the guidance of the Franciscans who were given custody of the Holy Places of the Holy Land in the 1300s) memorialized the journey made on Good Friday by stopping (or, making "Stations") for prayer and meditation at the traditional locations of the key events surrounding the crucifixion.

The custom arose throughout Europe of setting up reproductions of the stations when it was no longer easy to visit the Holy sites. Villages all over Europe had replicas of the Way of the Cross and small shrines commemorating the places installed along the route to Jerusalem in the 1500s. The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of Sorrows, the Via Crucis, or the Via Dolorosa, traditionally consist of a series of 14 crosses that correspond to an actual location of an event that took place on Christ's journey from the Lions Gate in Jerusalem to Mount Calvary.

The Stations of the Cross at St. Barnabas were designed and executed by mid-century modern artist Allen Ditson at his studio in Paradise Valley. The Stations consist of 14 carved wooden bas-relief plaques and hang on the side-aisle pillars in the Sanctuary during the Lenten season. Ditson, and his wife Lee Porzio, designed and created the majority of the liturgical art in the sanctuary at St. Barnabas, as well as a few pieces in the chapel. They were considered some of the leading artists in the mid-century modern era and it was through their continued efforts and the generous contributions of the individual parishioners that St. Barnabas on the Desert has maintained a coordinated and integrated interior design.

The Stations of the Cross are intended for viewing and meditation during the Lenten season. The purpose of the Stations is to help us make a spiritual pilgrimage to the important scenes of Christ's suffering and death. This is accomplished by passing from Station to Station with prayers at each and meditation on the various events. No specific prayers have

been written for this devotion - it is only necessary that there be a movement from one station to another, and that you pray and meditate on each incident.

The Stations of the Cross begin at the Northeast side aisle and consist of the following:

**FIRST STATION:** Jesus is condemned to death.

**SECOND STATION:** Jesus takes up the Cross.

**THIRD STATION:** Christ's first fall.

**FOURTH STATION:** Christ meets his mother.

**FIFTH STATION:** Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the Cross.

**SIXTH STATION:** Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.

**SEVENTH STATION:** The second fall.

**EIGHTH STATION:** Christ meets the women of Jerusalem.

**NINTH STATION:** The third fall.

**TENTH STATION:** Jesus is stripped of his garments (also referred to as the "Division of the Robes")

**ELEVENTH STATION:** Christ is crucified.

**TWELFTH STATION:** Christ dies on the cross.

**THIRTEENTH STATION:** Christ is taken down from the cross.

**FOURTEENTH STATION:** Christ is laid in the tomb