

The Stations of the Cross (also known as the *Via Dolorosa* or Way of the Cross) evolved from a literal physical pilgrimage in Jerusalem into a worldwide symbolic devotion.

## Early Roots: The Literal Pilgrimage (4th – 10th Century)

- **Constantine's Influence (335 AD):** After Emperor Constantine built the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, pilgrims began flocking to Jerusalem to walk the actual path of Jesus' passion.
- **The First "Processions":** Early records from the nun **Egeria** (c. 380s AD) describe Christians gathering at the Garden of Gethsemane on Holy Thursday to walk to the site of the crucifixion.
- **The Rise of "Replica" Shrines:** By the 5th century, leaders like **St. Petronius** (Bishop of Bologna) began building "reproduced" holy sites in Europe for those who could not travel to the Holy Land.

## Medieval Times: The "Spiritual" Journey (11th – 16th Century)

- **Crusaders:** Were among the first to carry processions along the route and in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries and brought the practice back home to Europe when they returned.
- **Franciscan Custodianship (1342):** The Franciscan Order was officially appointed as guardians of the holy sites in Jerusalem. They were instrumental in promoting the devotion and standardizing the route.
- **Naming the "Stations" (1458):** English pilgrim **William Wey** credited with first using the term "**stations**" to describe the specific stopping points.
- **Variety in Number:** No set number of stations - devotional manuals varied wildly, listing anywhere from **7 to 37 different stops**.

## Formalization & Standardization (17th – 18th Century)

- **Indoor Stations (1686):** Pope **Innocent XI** granted the Franciscans permission to erect stations *inside* their churches.
- **Global Expansion (1726):** Pope **Benedict XIII** extended these privileges to all the faithful, not just those associated with the Franciscans.
- **The Number 14 (1731):** Pope **Clement XII** officially fixed the number of stations at **14** and allowed them to be placed in all churches.

## Modern Adaptations (20th Century – Present)

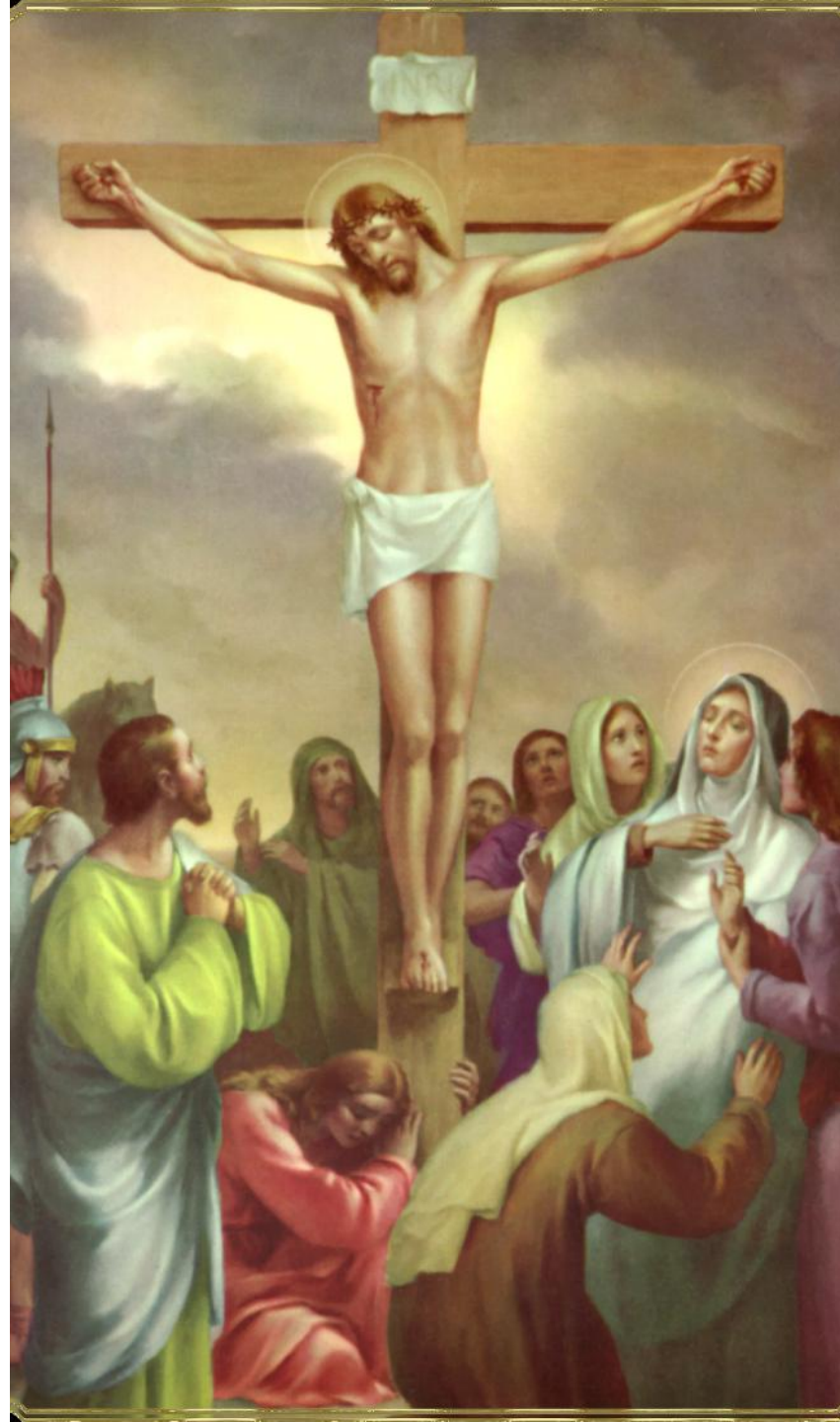
- **Liguori's Influence (1787): St. Alphonsus Liguori** wrote a version of the prayers that remains the most widely used in the United States today.
- **The Scriptural Stations (1991): Pope John Paul II** introduced an alternative "Scriptural Way of the Cross" that replaced traditional scenes (like Veronica wiping Jesus' face) with strictly biblical events.
- **The 15th Station:** In recent decades, many churches have added a **15th station** dedicated to the **Resurrection**, emphasizing that the story of the Cross does not end at the tomb.

**The Stations of the Cross** can be expressed through a wide variety of artistic styles and media – both classical realism and modern/abstract. Liturgically, the only strict requirement for the devotion is **14 wooden crosses**; the artwork itself is technically optional but serves to aid the imagination.



# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings



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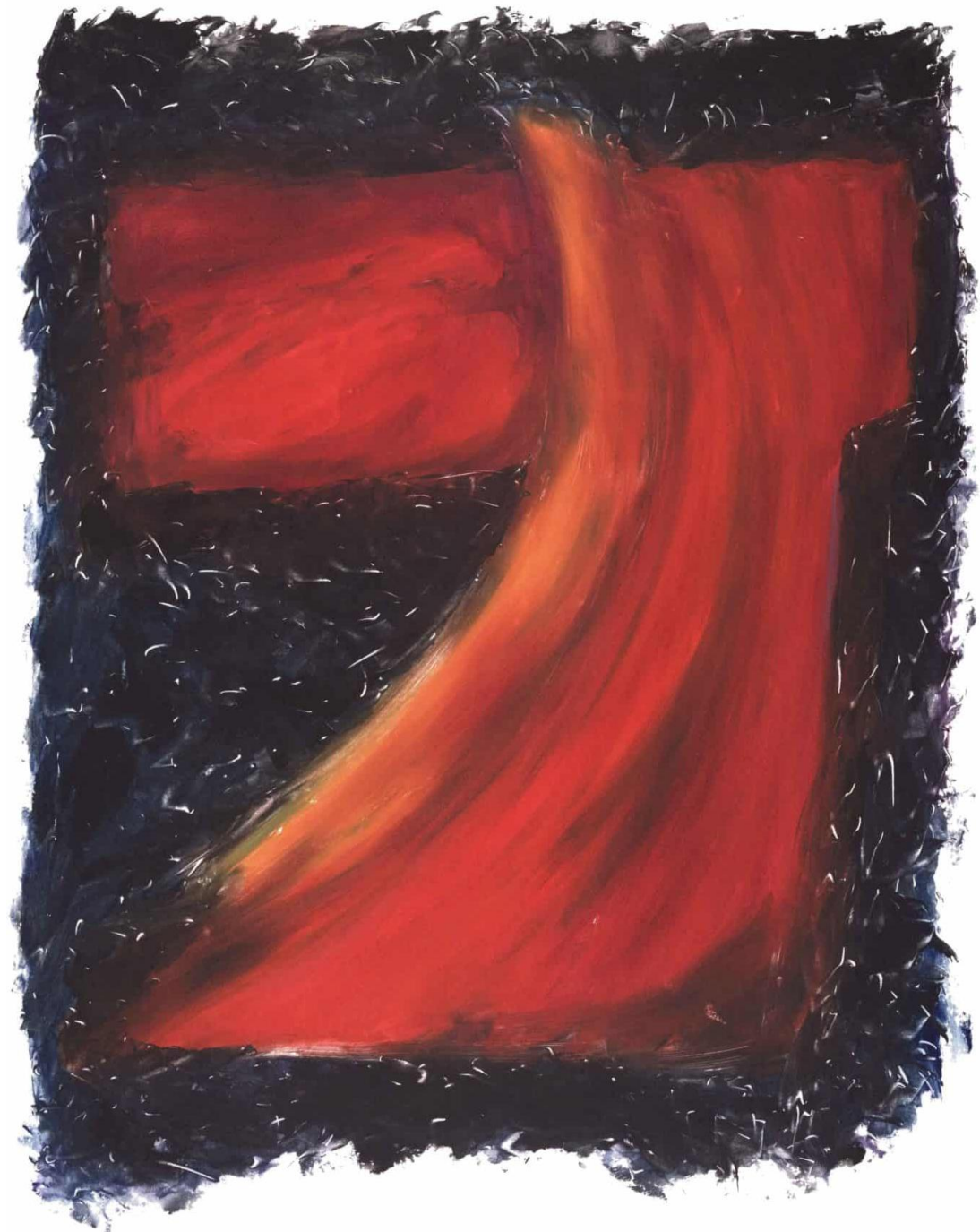
- Oil Paintings
- **Acrylic Paintings+**



# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- **Printmaking**

Protest Art



*The Tenth Station*

*Jesus is crucified*

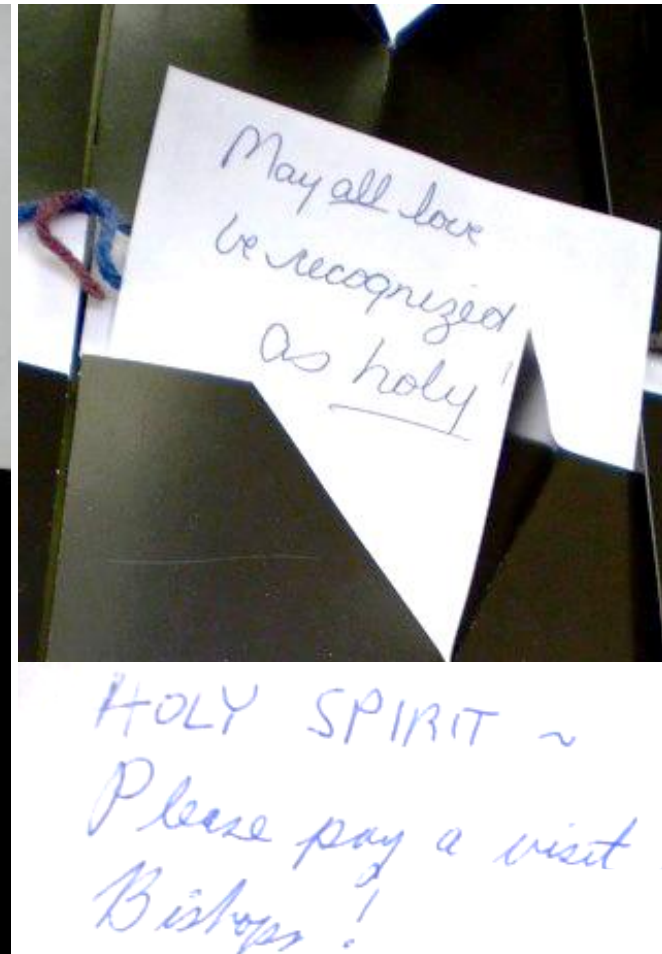
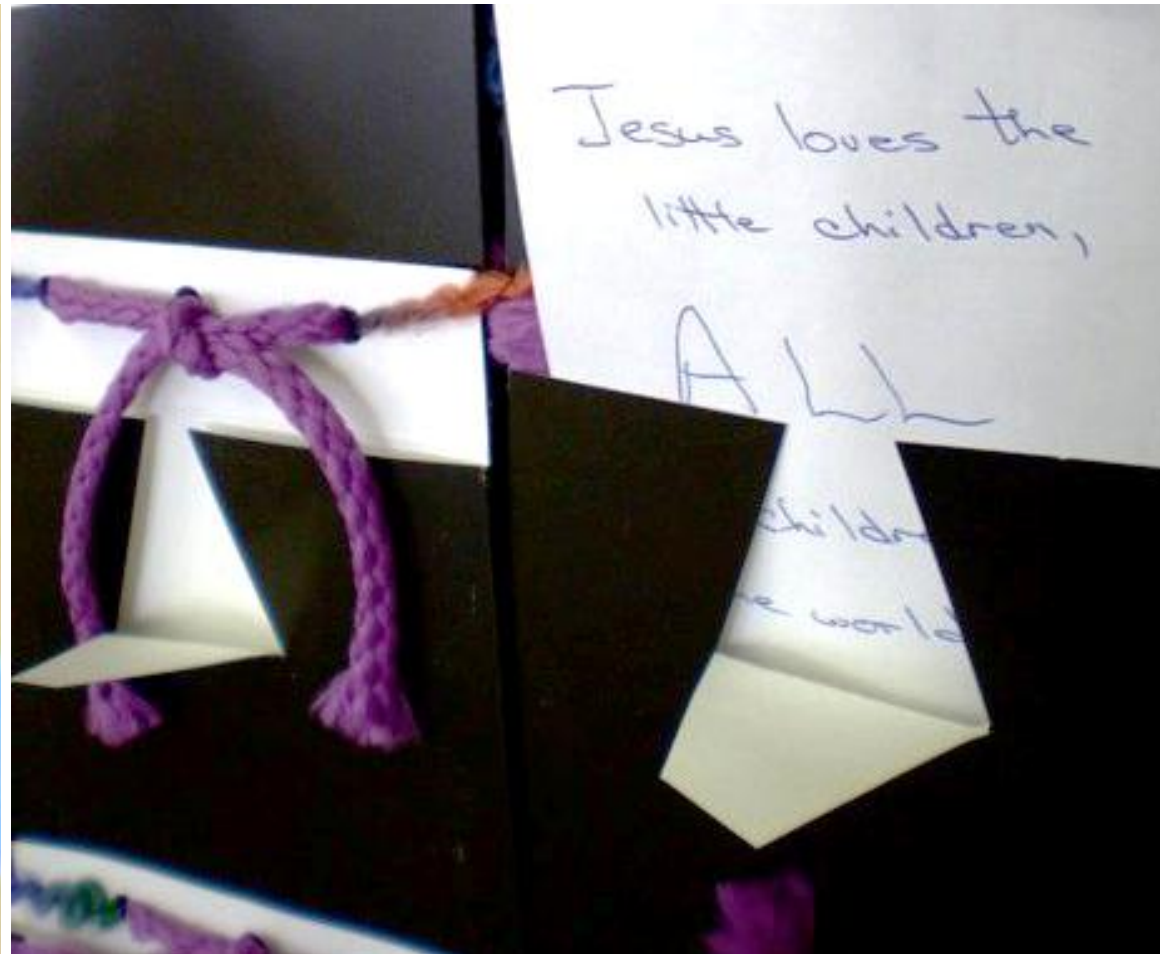
# DVD To Art

*When the (now former) Archbishop of Minneapolis/St. Paul sent out DVDs opposing gay marriage, I felt called as Artist-in-Residence at the Co-Cathedral to counter this propaganda by turning thousands of these unwanted DVDs into art. I created a sculpture titled **The Wave**. – Lucinda Naylor*



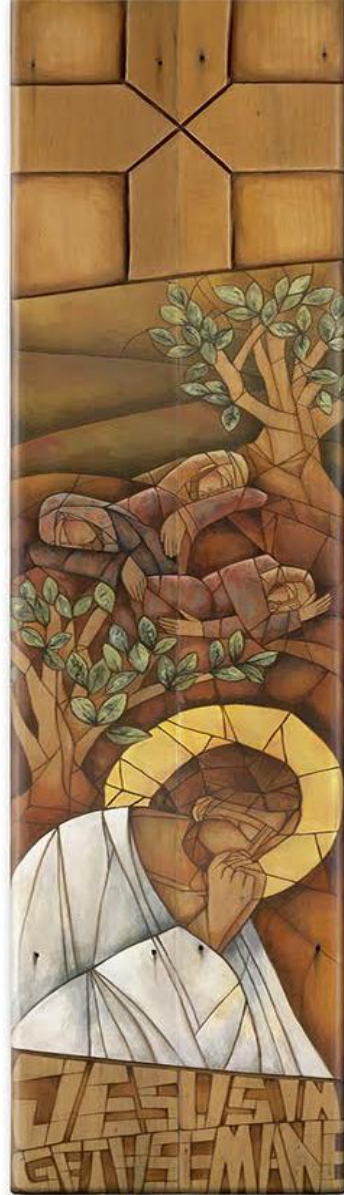
# DVD To Art

*In addition, I invited women to a quilting bee where we stitched together the DVD sleeves. I called it the Wailing Wall because people were encouraged to tuck their thoughts and prayers into its nooks and crannies. – Lucinda Naylor*



# Physical Media & Materials

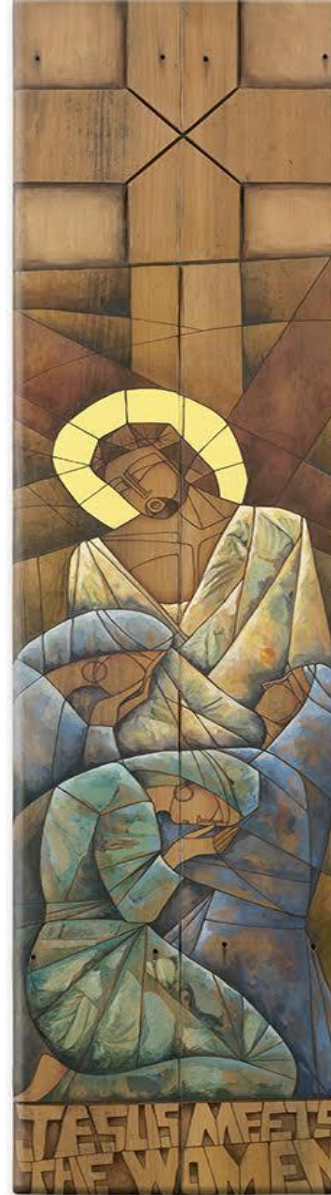
- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- Printmaking
- **Wood Paintings**



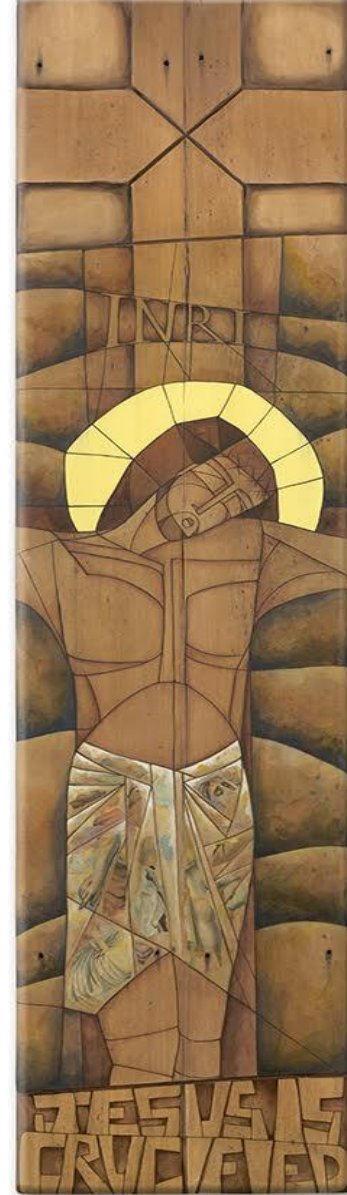
© Dianne Minnaar



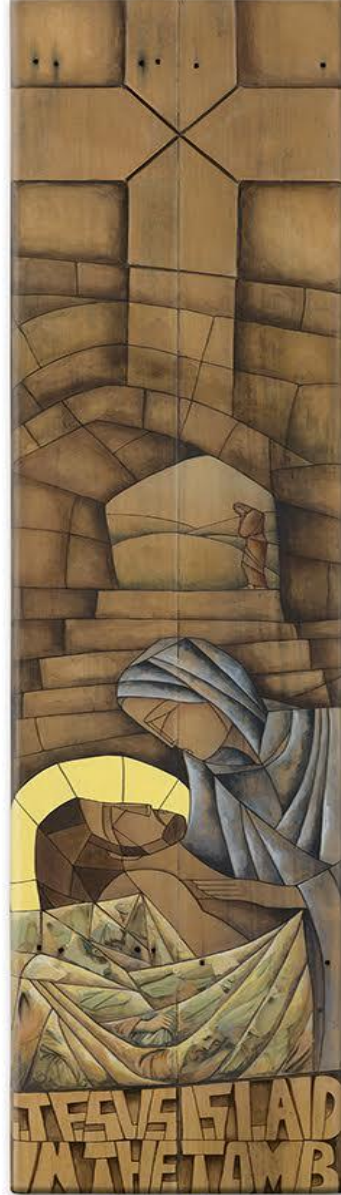
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# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- Printmaking
- Wood Paintings
- **Wood Carvings**



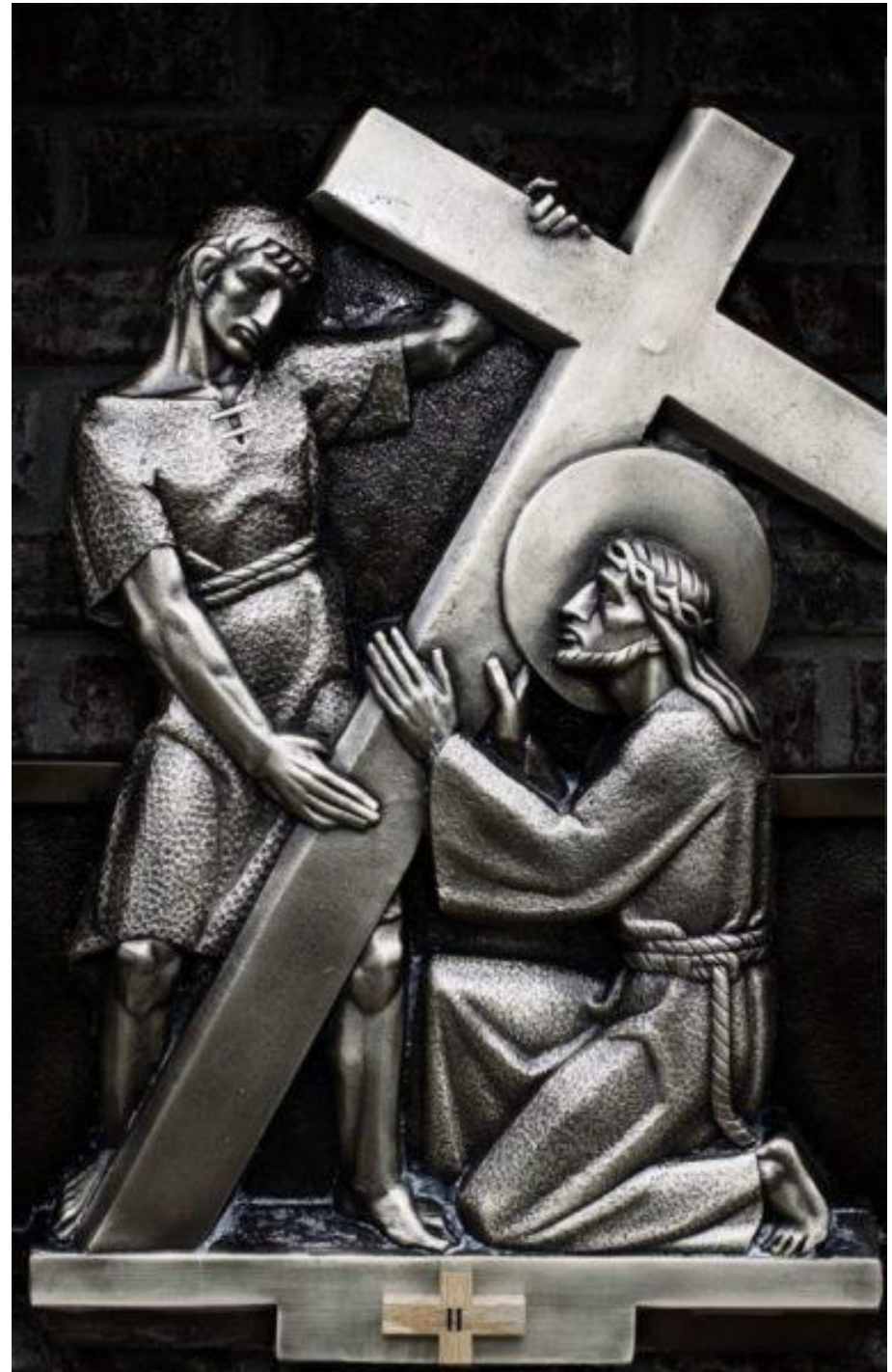
# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- Printmaking
- Wood Paintings
- Wood Carvings
- **Sculptural Reliefs**



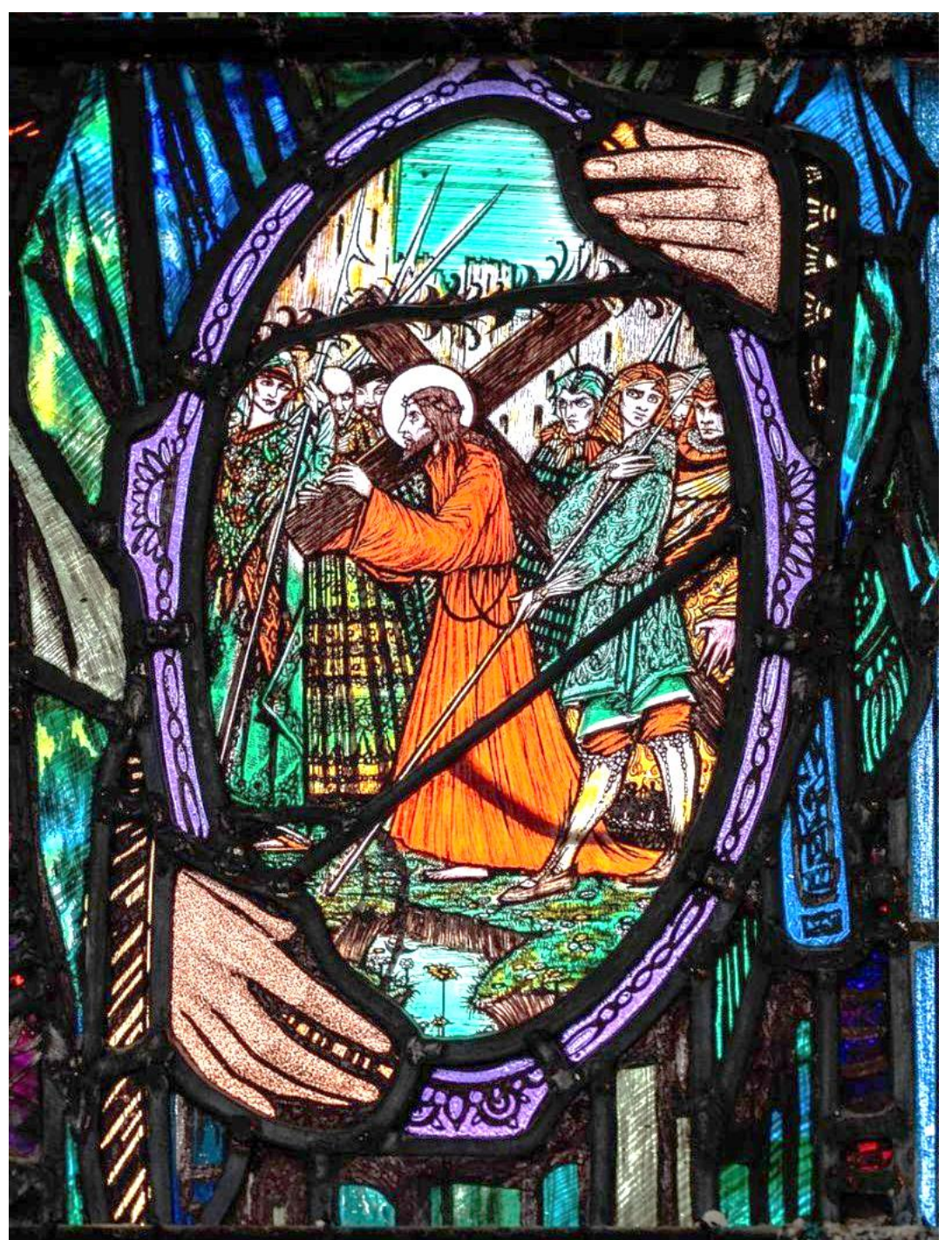
# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- Printmaking
- Wood Paintings
- Wood Carvings
- Sculptural Reliefs
- **Metal Sculpture**



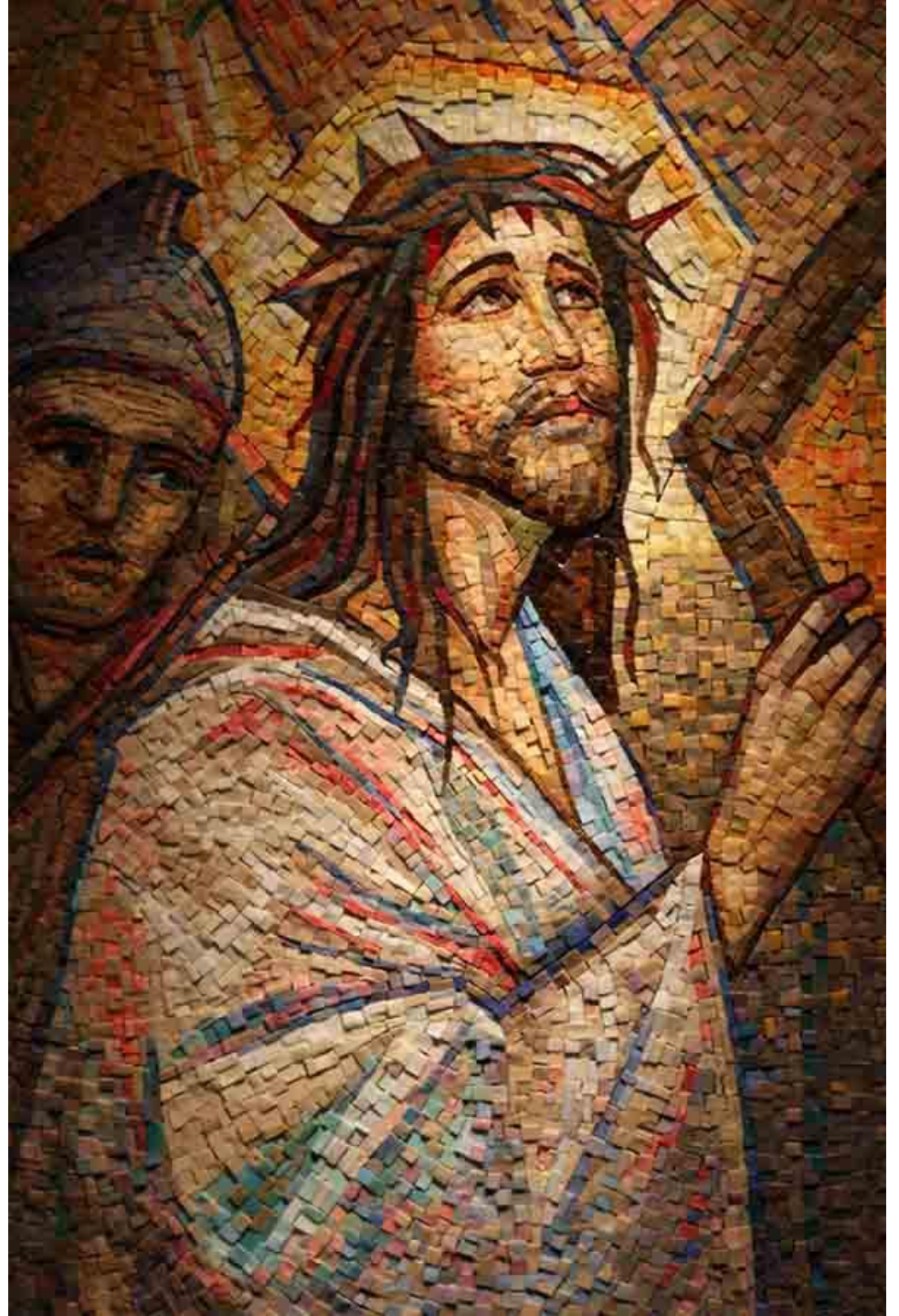
# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- Printmaking
- Wood Paintings
- Wood Carvings
- Sculptural Reliefs
- Metal Sculpture
- **Stained Glass**



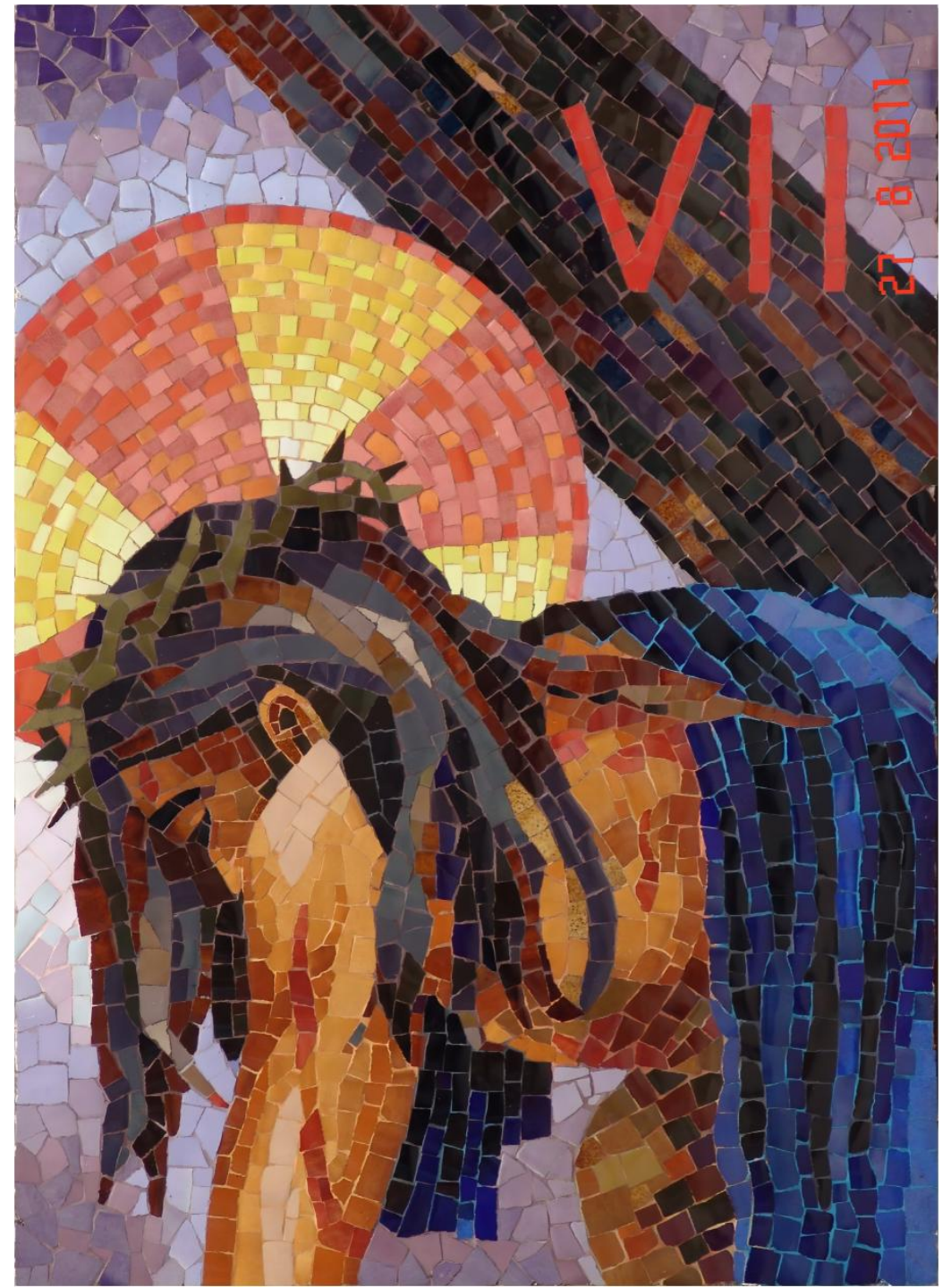
# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- Printmaking
- Wood Paintings
- Wood Carvings
- Sculptural Reliefs
- Metal Sculpture
- Stained Glass
- **Traditional Mosaics**



# Physical Media & Materials

- Oil Paintings
- Acrylic Paintings+
- Printmaking
- Wood Paintings
- Wood Carvings
- Sculptural Reliefs
- Metal Sculpture
- Stained Glass
- Traditional Mosaics
- **Modern Mosaics**



**The Stations** can be experienced indoors or outdoors in a prayer garden or shrine path.



They are even **reenacted** dramatically in some communities.



...including the **Via Dolorosa** in Jerusalem.





# Stations of the Cross

# Comparison: Traditional vs Scriptural Stations of the Cross

	<b>Traditional (Franciscan) Way</b>	<b>Scriptural (Papal) Way</b>
<b>Primary Goal</b>	Emotional empathy and historical piety	Biblical accuracy and Gospel context
<b>Origin</b>	Passed down by early Christians & Pilgrims	1991 (Pope John Paul II version for all Christians)
<b>Focus</b>	The physical exhaustion of Jesus	The psychological/spiritual trials
<b>Uniqueness</b>	3 Falls, meeting Mary, Veronica's veil	Gethsemane, Judas' betrayal, Peter's denial
<b>Basis</b>	Combination of Gospels + Oral Tradition	100% derived from the New Testament

**Both sets invite us to the same conclusion:  
That the "Way" doesn't end in the tomb, but points toward the Resurrection.**

# Traditional Stations of the Cross



**Station 1: Jesus is condemned to death**



**Station 2: Jesus carries his Cross**



**Station 3: Jesus falls the first time**



**Station 4: Jesus meets his afflicted mother**



**Station 5: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his Cross**



**Station 6: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus**



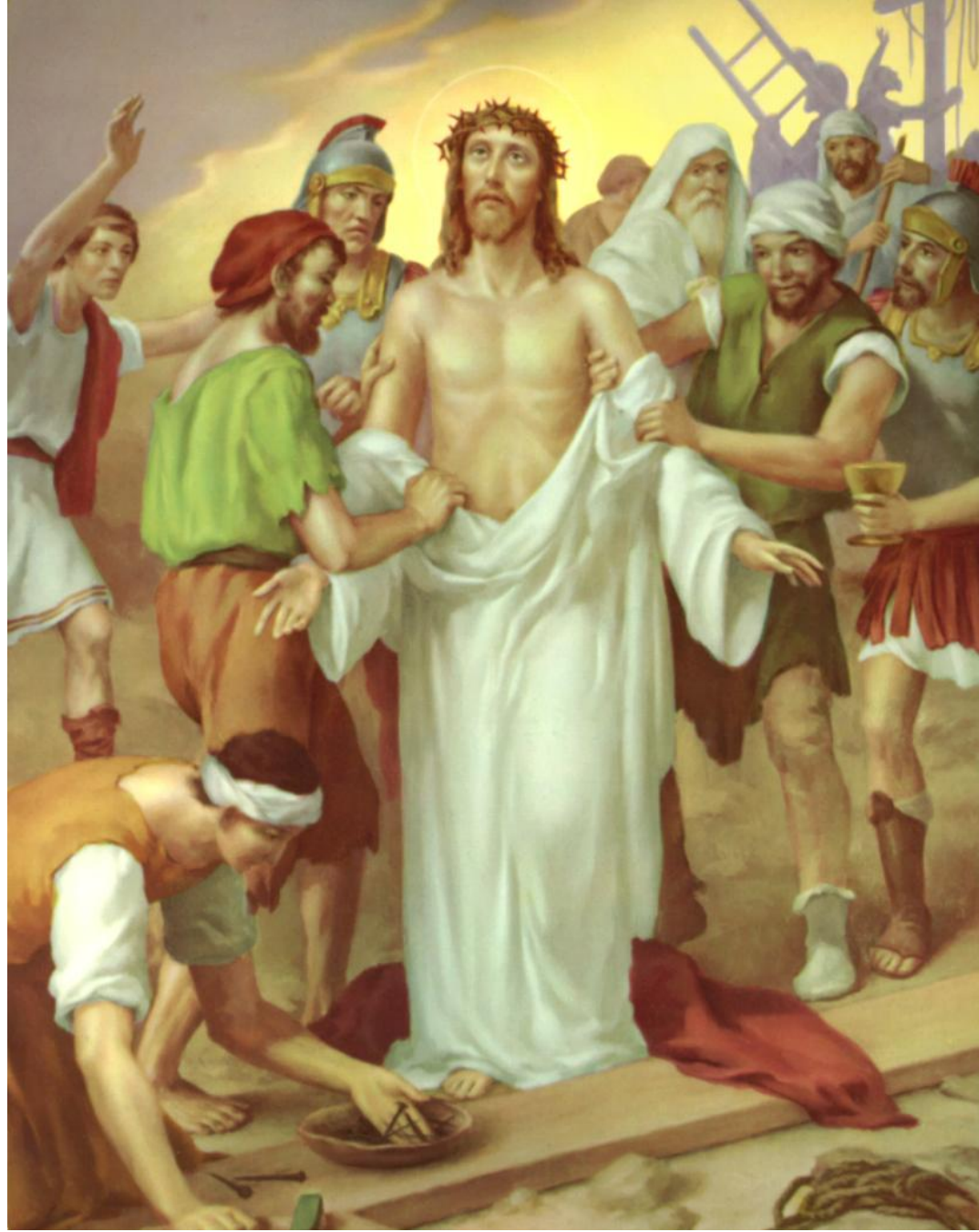
**Station 7: Jesus falls the second time**



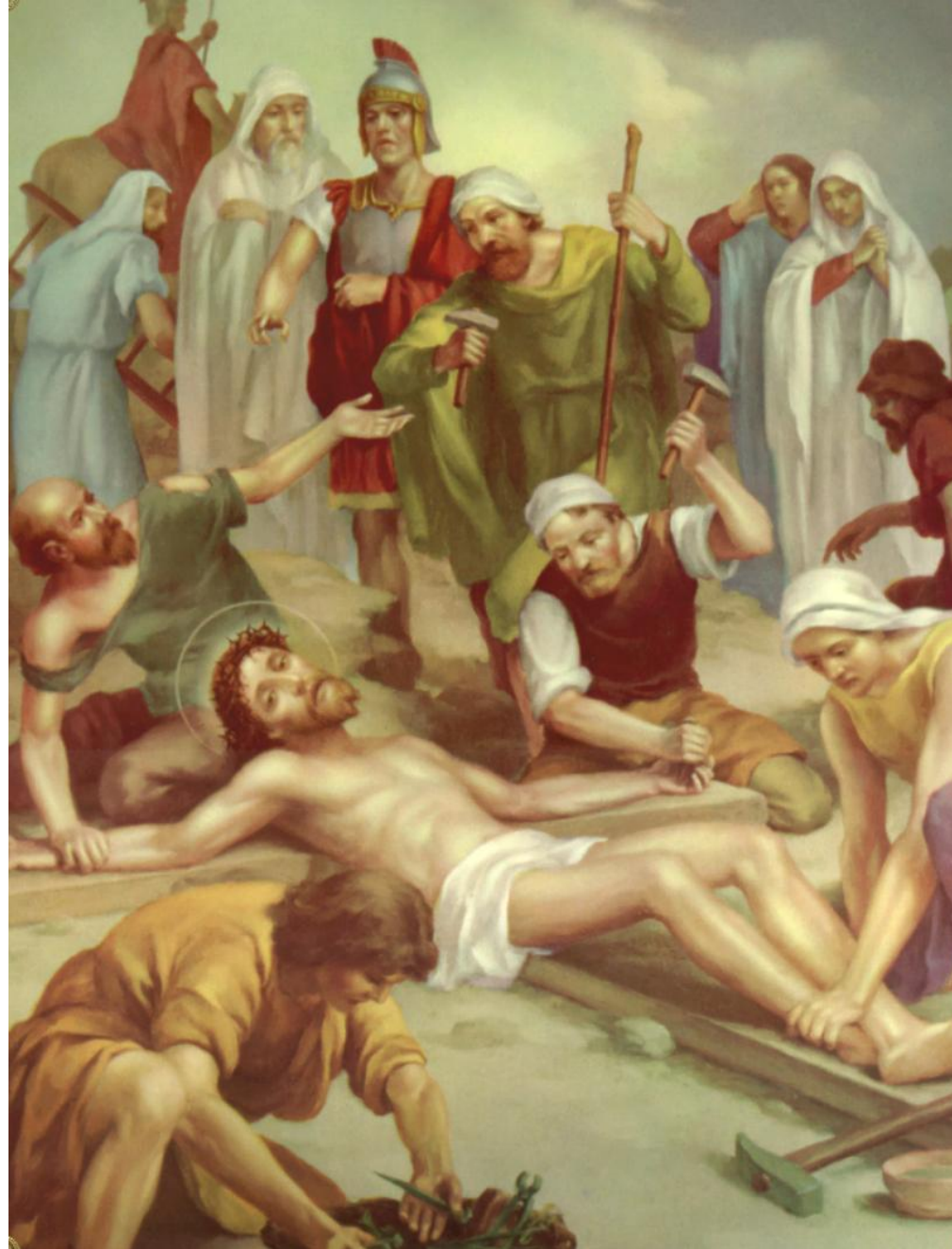
**Station 8: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem**



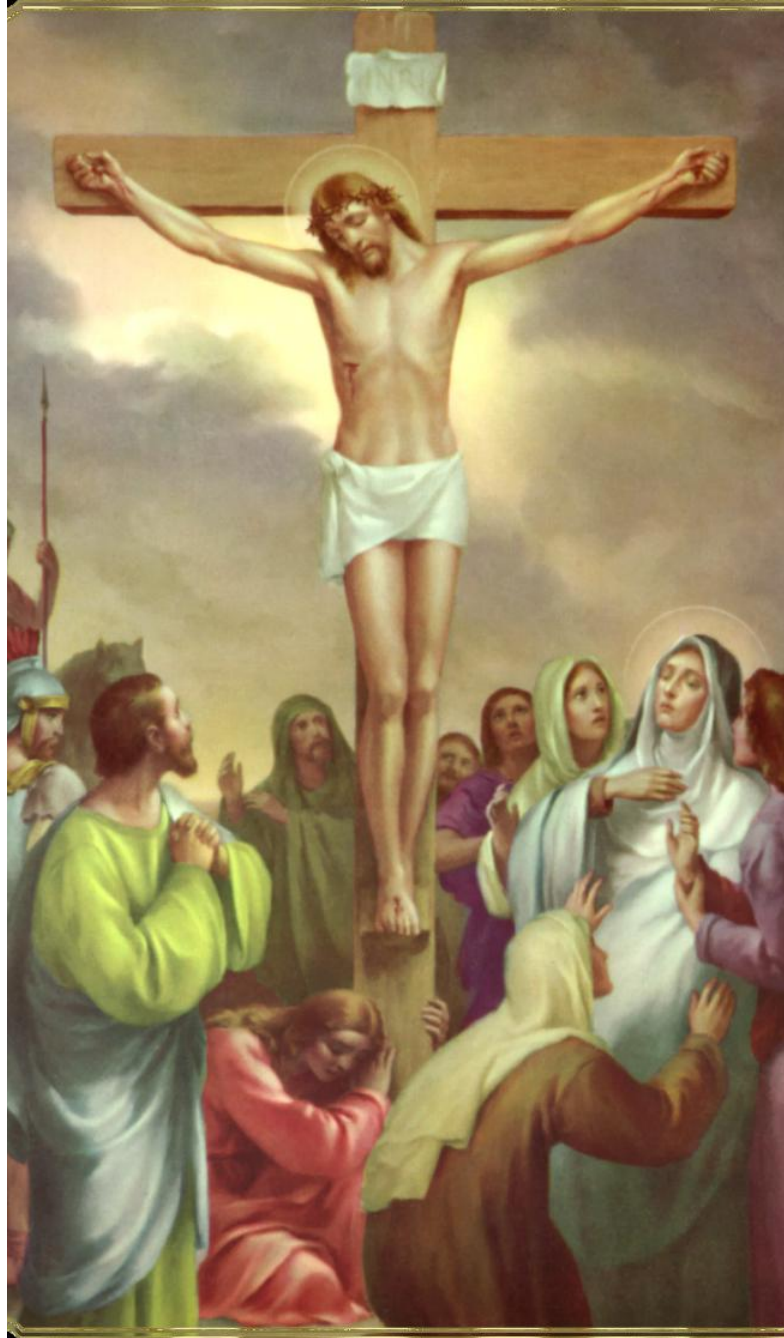
**Station 9: Jesus falls a third time**



**Station 10: Jesus is stripped of his clothes**



**Station 11: Jesus is nailed to the Cross**



**Station 12: Jesus dies on the Cross**



**Station 13: The body of Jesus is taken down from the Cross**

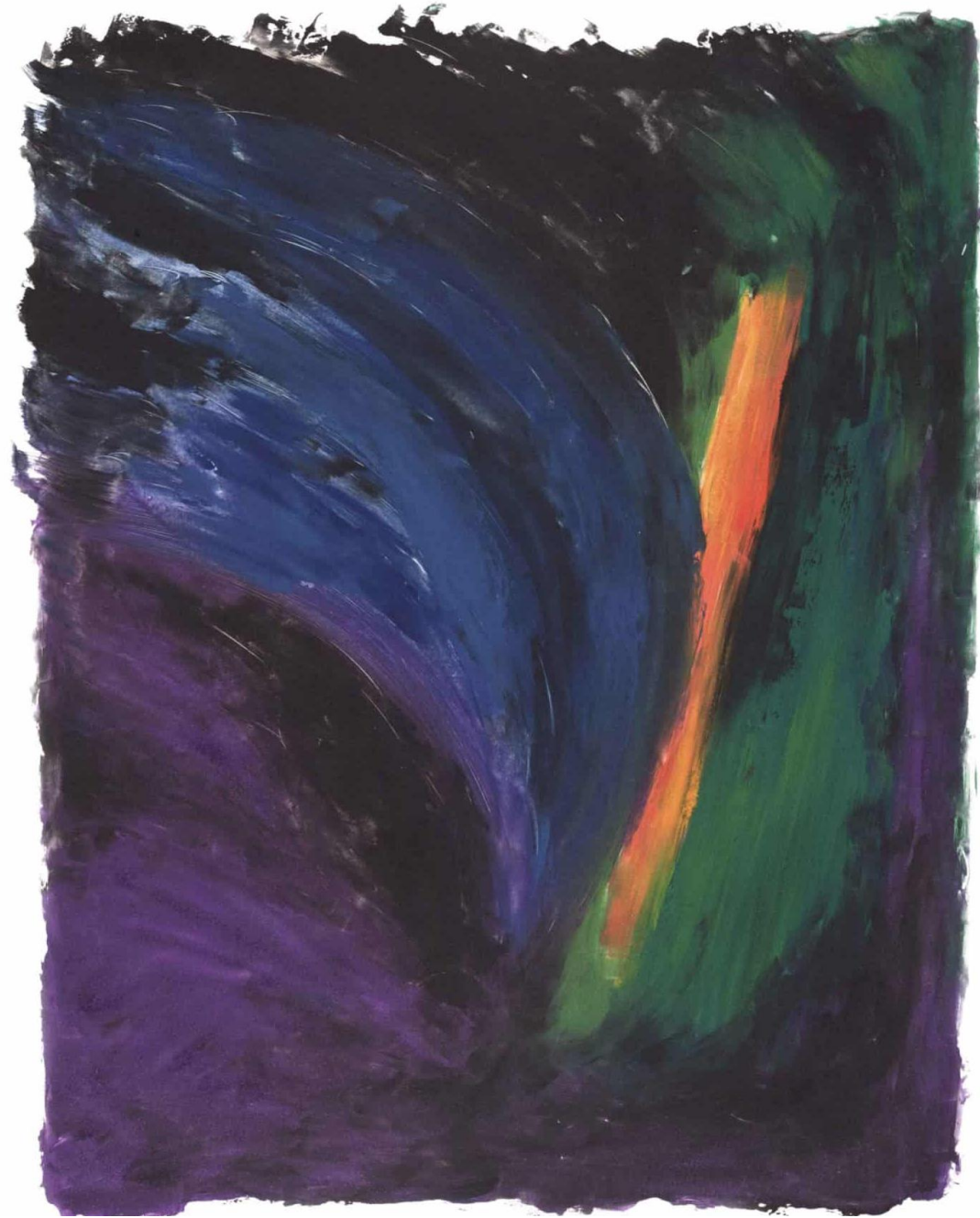


**Station 14: Jesus is laid in the tomb**

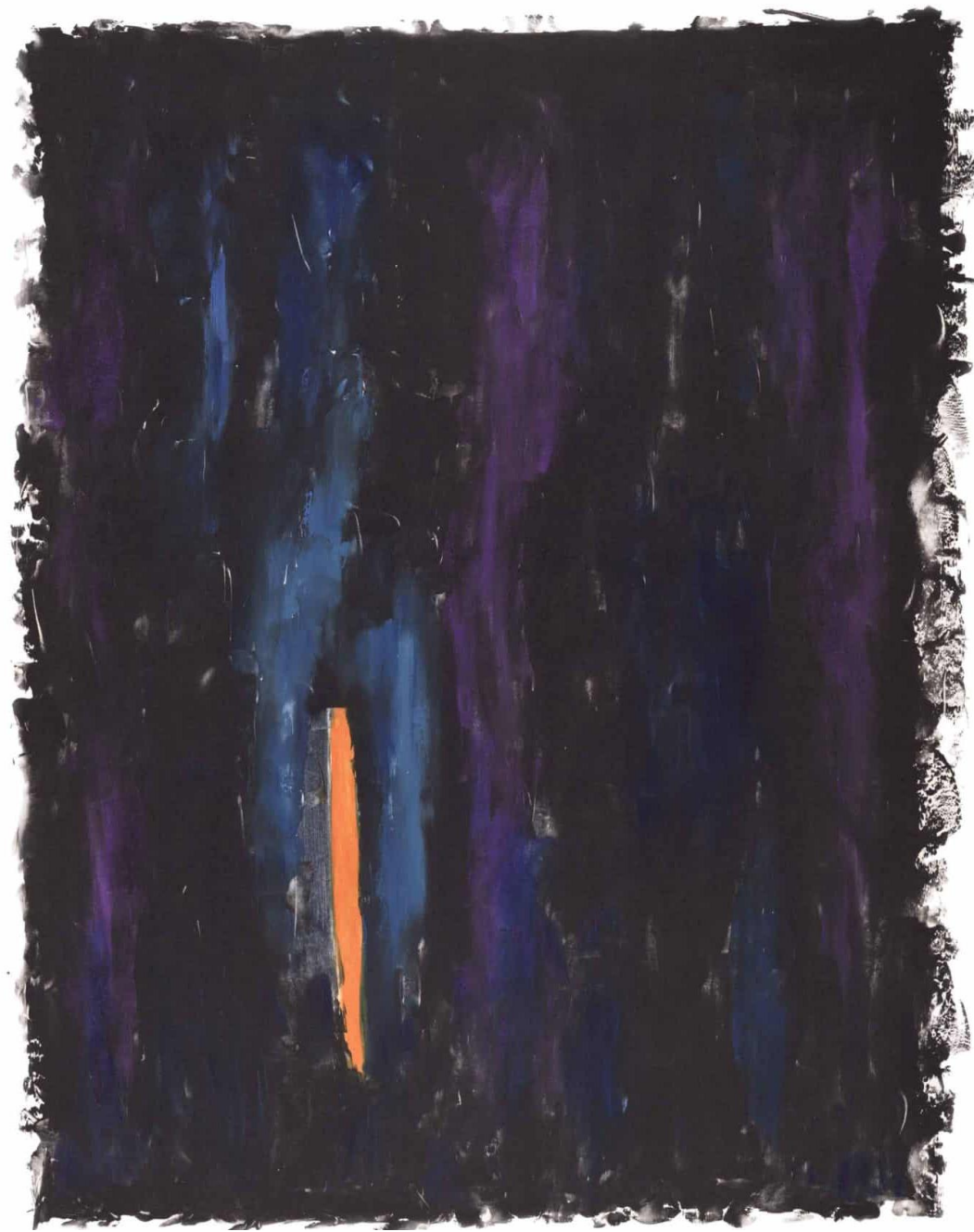
# Scriptural Stations of the Cross



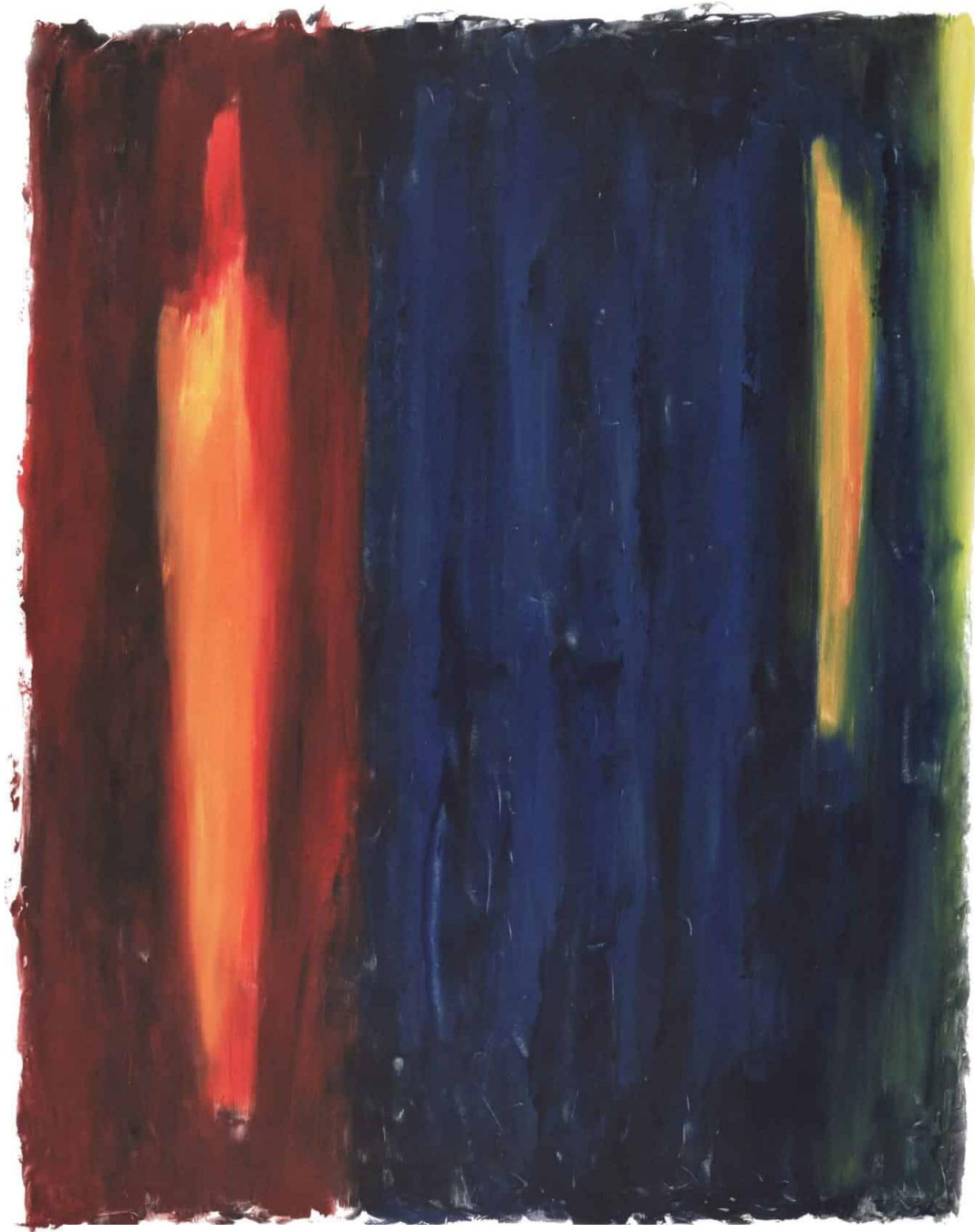
**Station 1: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane**



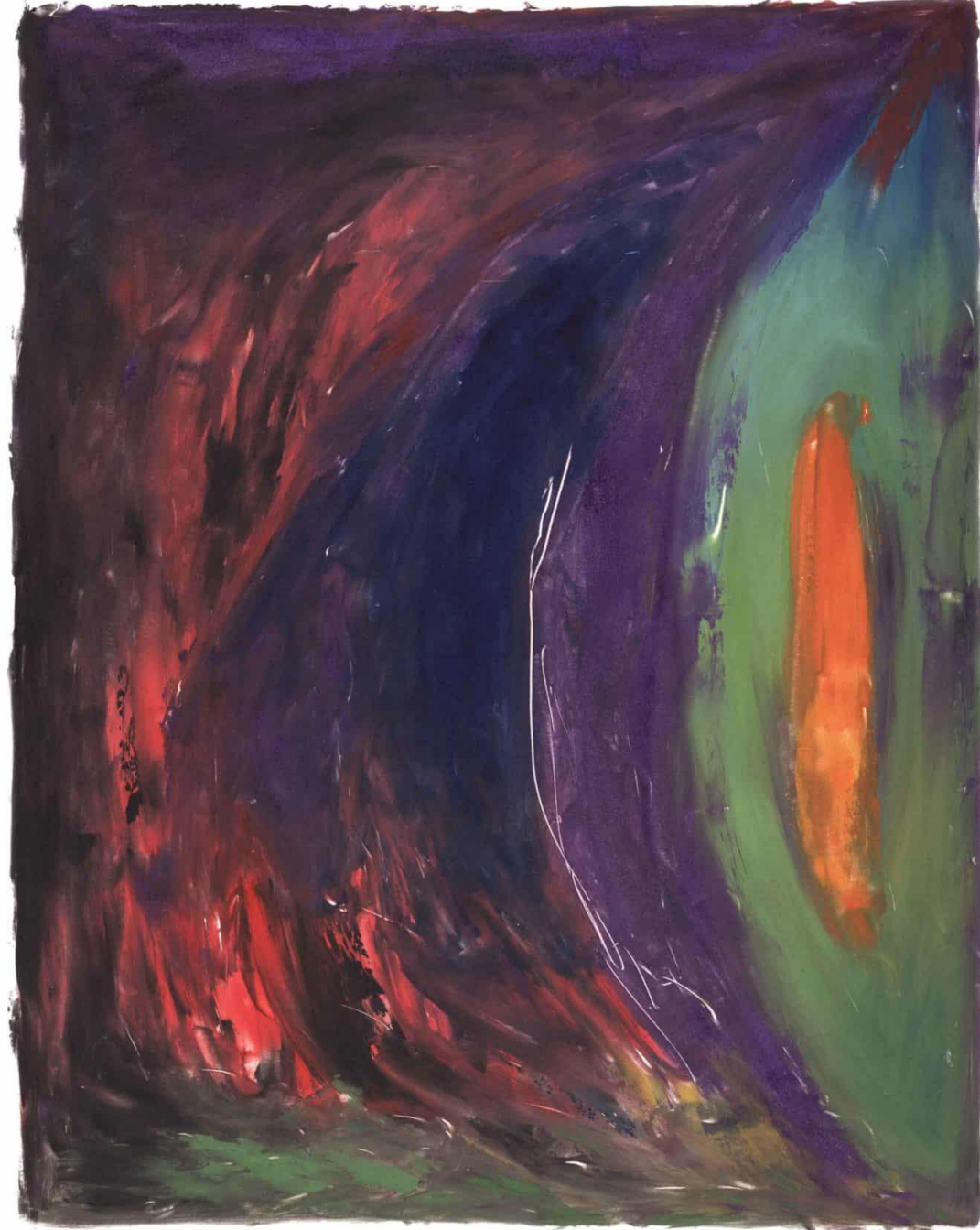
**Station 2: Jesus, betrayed by Judas, is arrested**



**Station 3: Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin**



**Station 4: Jesus is denied by Peter**



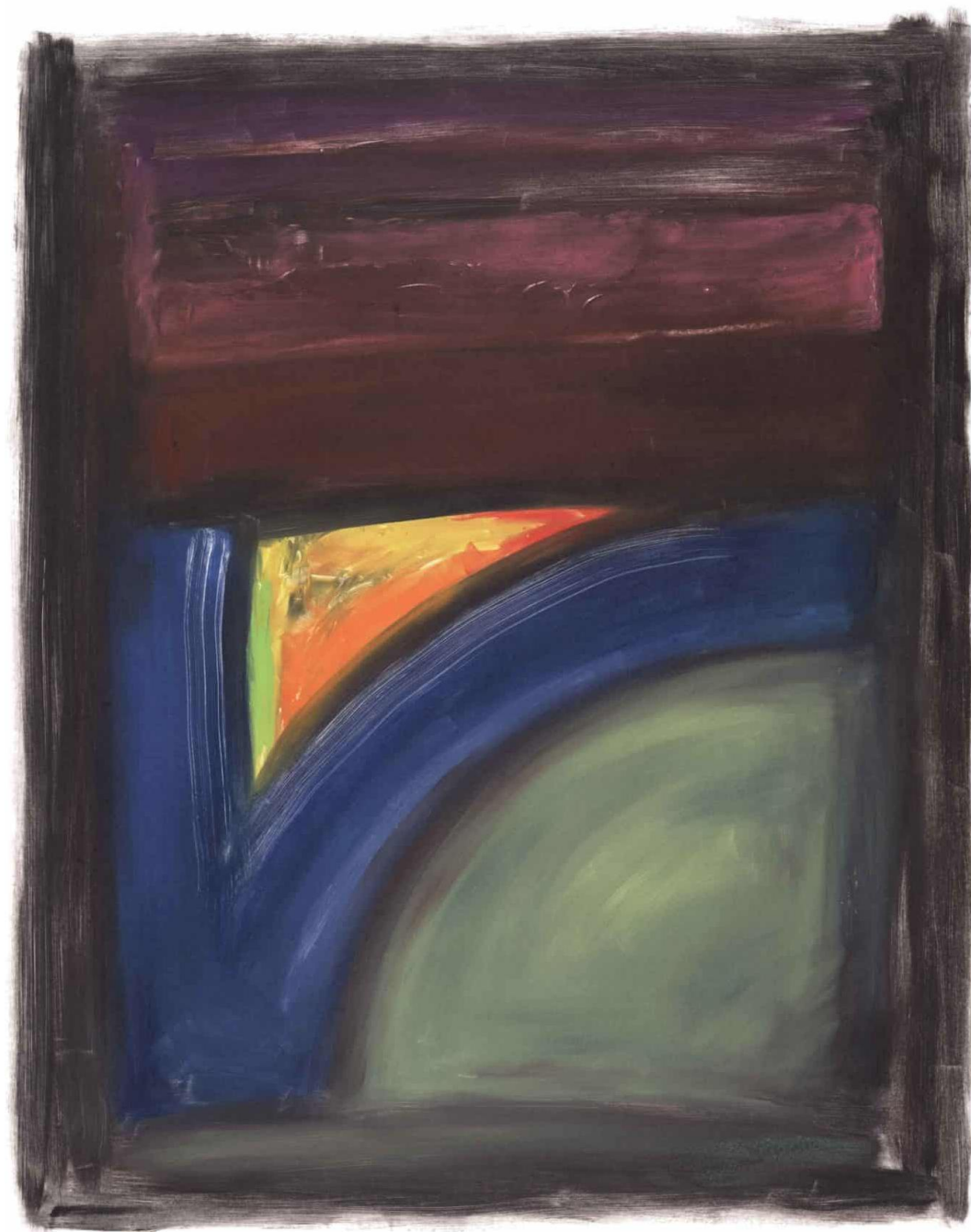
**Station 5: Jesus is judged by Pilate**



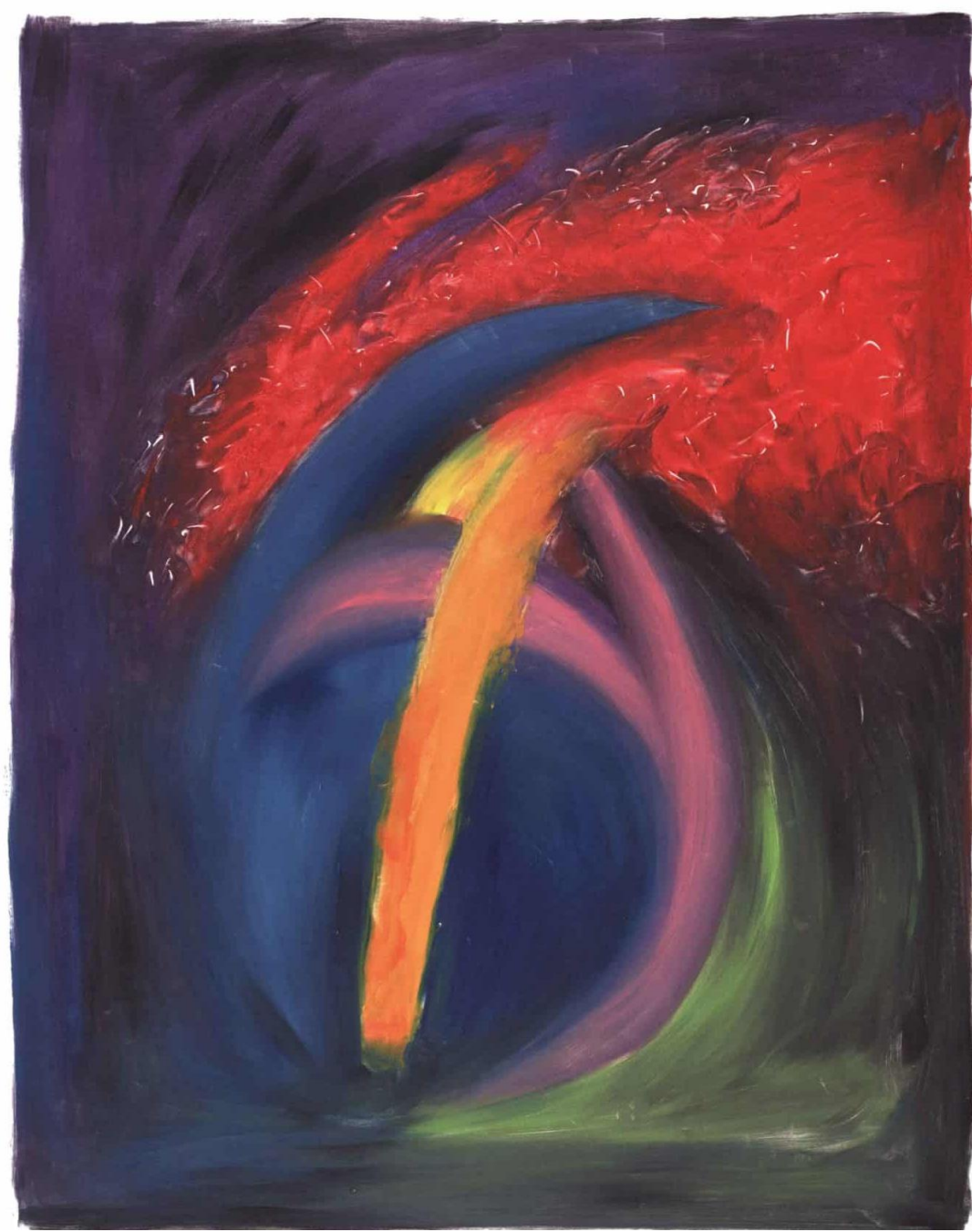
**Station 6: Jesus is flogged and crowned with thorns**



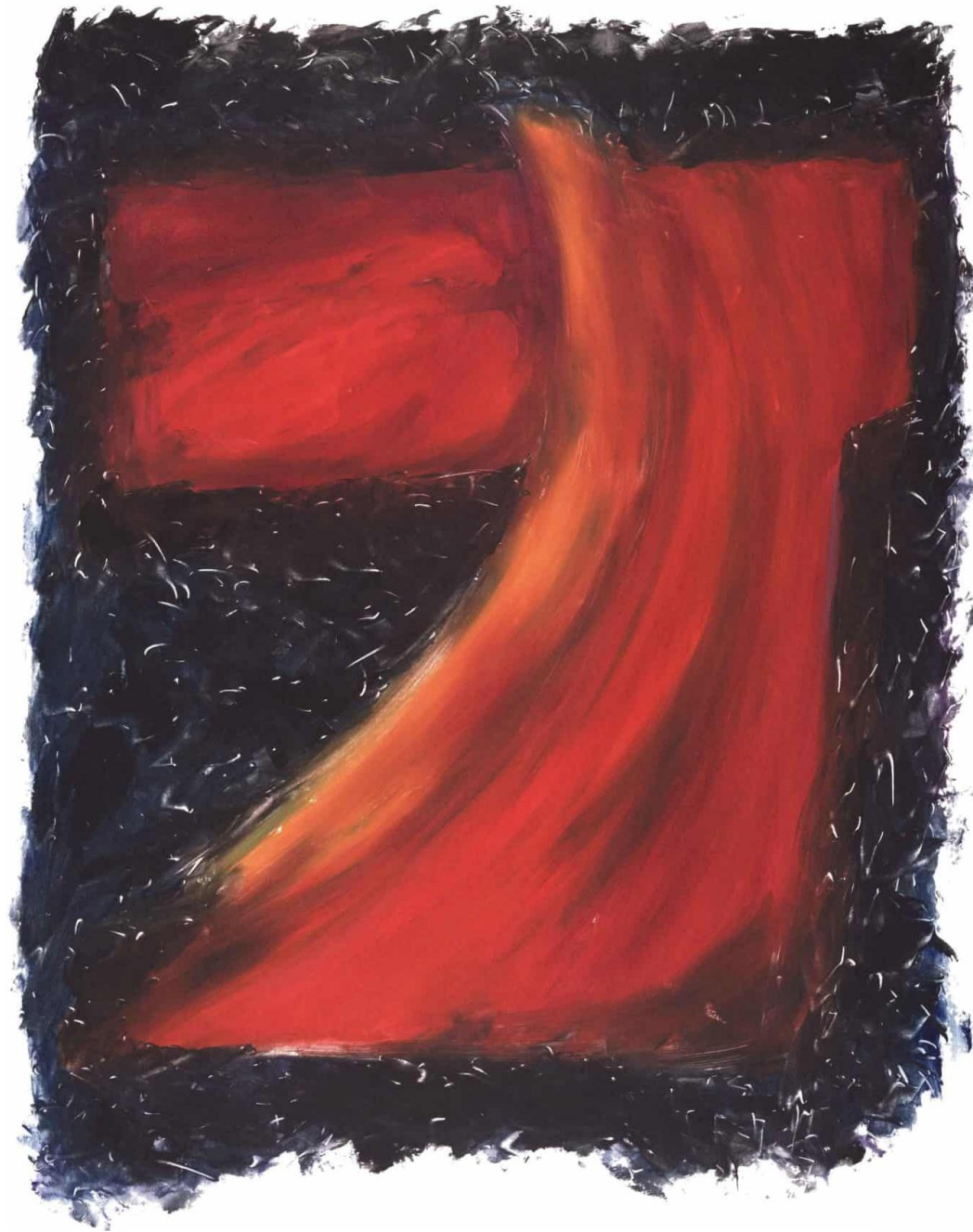
**Station 7: Jesus bears the Cross**



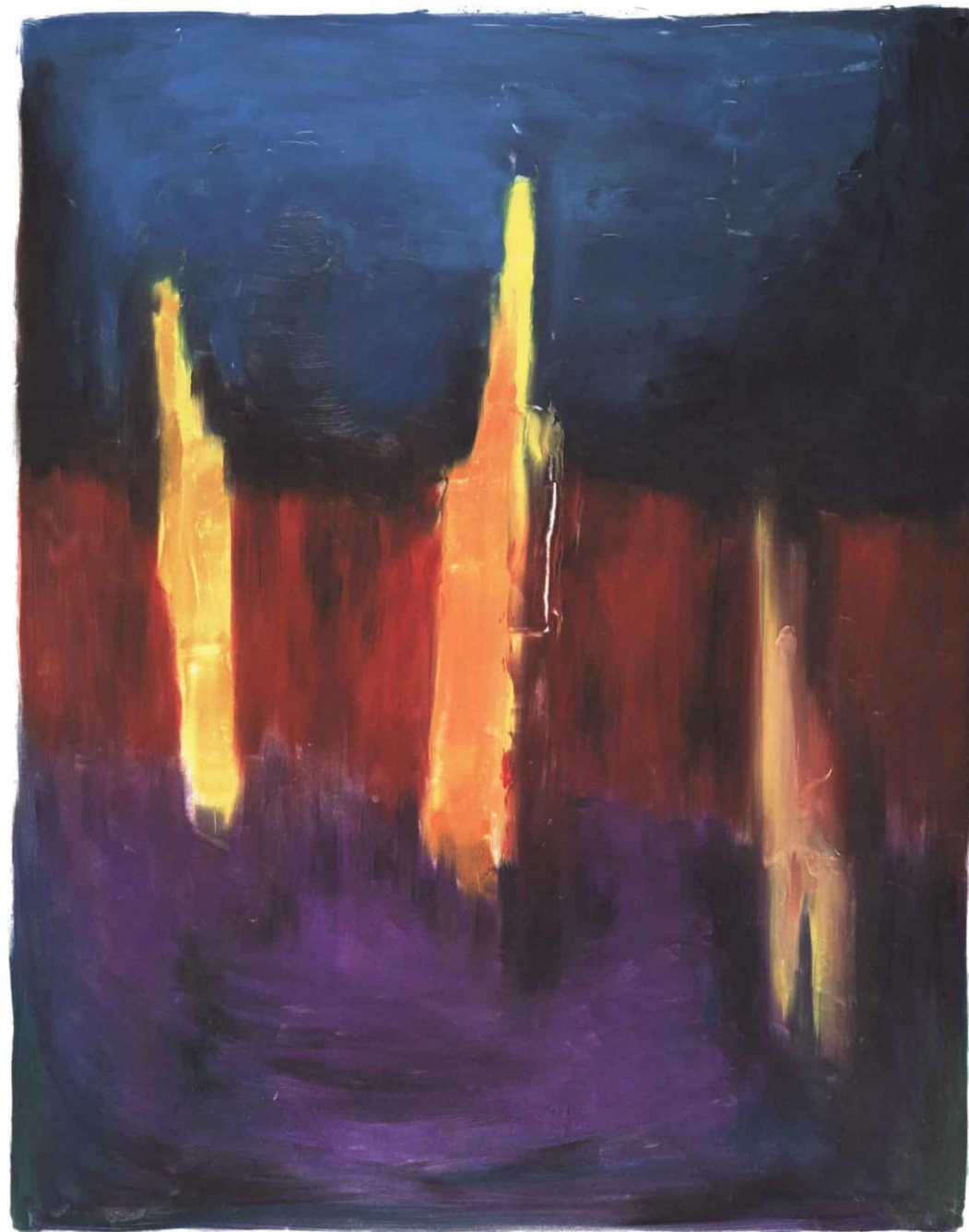
**Station 8: Jesus is helped by Simon of Cyrene**



**Station 9: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem**



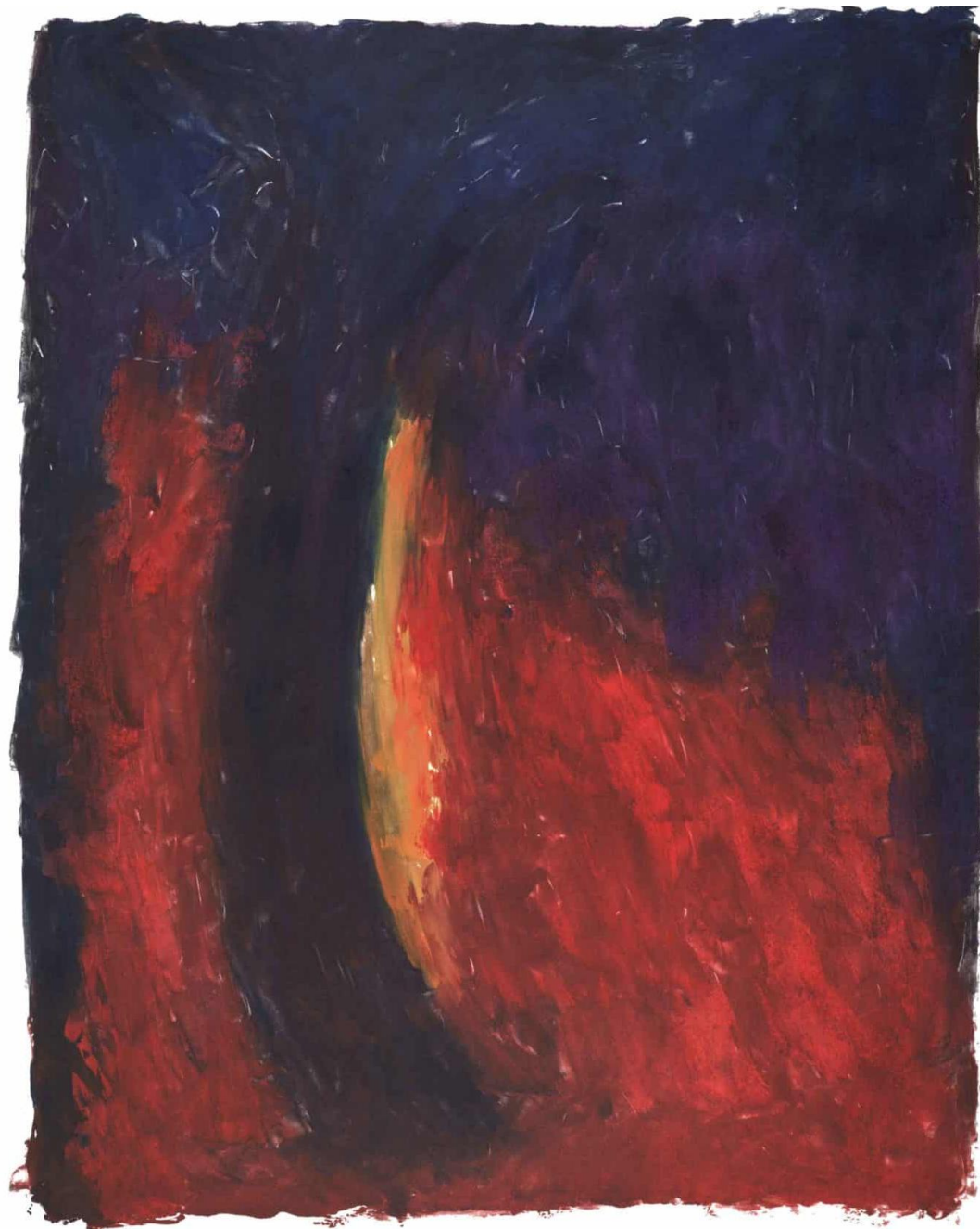
**Station 10: Jesus is crucified**



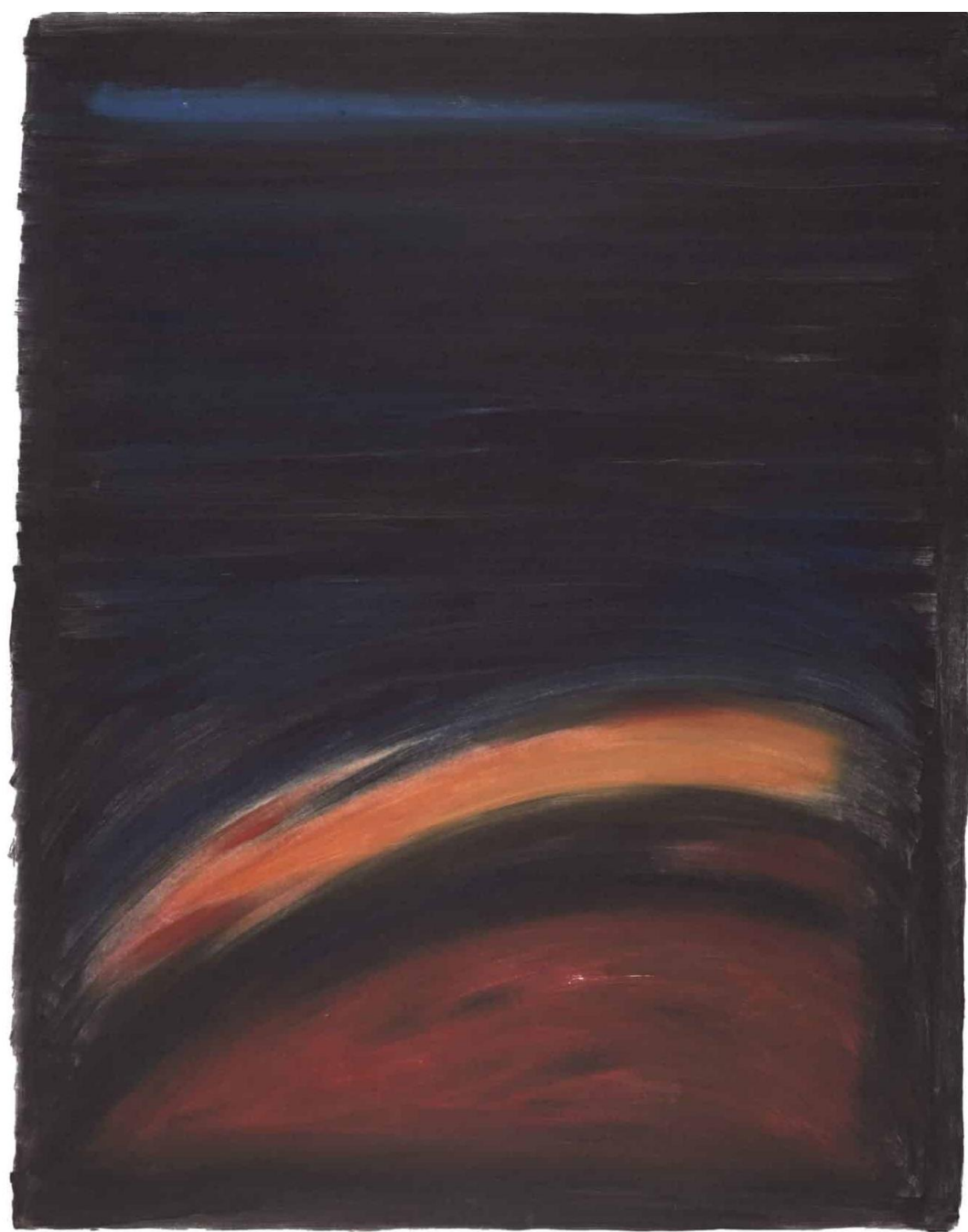
**Station 11: Jesus promises his kingdom to the thief**



**Station 12: Jesus speaks to his mother and the disciple**



**Station 13: Jesus dies on the Cross**



**Station 14: Jesus Is placed in the tomb**

*The Fifteenth Station*  
*Jesus is raised from the dead*

