



Portland-based sculptor Marty Eichinger is making a small replica of the above goatherd from his station number eight, "the women of Jerusalem," originally created as part of a larger-than-life bronze Stations of the Cross. (Courtesy Martin Eichinger)

Stations, figures available

The Cloisters on the Platte, the retreat center built by billionaire Joe Ricketts 30 minutes south of Omaha, Nebraska, has as its centerpiece a half-mile long Stations of the Cross that boasts 60 larger-than-life bronze figures, all created by six artists based in Oregon and Colorado.

It's like one of the grand Catholic projects of the Middle Ages in its size and public access — although Nebraska is a bit of a drive for Oregonians.

That's part of why the stations' various artists decided to join together to make smaller casts of the unique stations available for people to buy.

"There was some feedback from people who went

through the retreat week-ends there," said Portland-based sculptor Martin Eichinger, who created stations six and eight.

Parishes will be able to buy the entire 14 stations with all their figures; individual stations also will be made available, as will individual figures in each station. For instance, Eichinger is making the small goatherd from his station number eight, "the women of Jerusalem," individually available — and also the figure of Jesus from that station, bent under the load of the heavy cross.

Eichinger's station six, "Veronica wipes the face of Jesus," includes the striking figure of Veronica, who is looking up to the heavens as she holds her cloth,

which bears the imprint of Christ's face. Veronica is another individual figure that will be available for purchase.

Ricketts, the founder and former CEO of TD Ameritrade, is the father of Nebraska governor Pete Ricketts and owner of the Chicago Cubs baseball team. He told the Omaha World Herald that the end result of the Stations of the Cross at the cloisters exceeded his "wildest dreams in terms of beauty and emotional impact."

— Kristen Hannum

Learn more

Eichinger Sculpture Studio
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Nobel Prize winner

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hospital where he lay ill from malnutrition and typhoid.

The two then moved to the United States, where Capecchi eventually fell in love with science. Years later, his studies landed him at Harvard, where he rose through the ranks of the faculty but found parts of the academic culture frustrating.

"At Harvard they knew about competition, but they didn't know about synergy," he said. He also felt pressure to deliver results from his experiments immediately but understood some scientific progress

takes time.

Capecchi opted to transfer to the University of Utah, where he had "the luxury of being able to work at my own pace," he said. Since the department was new, "we could bring in people who would love synergy, love talking about science, having fun with science."

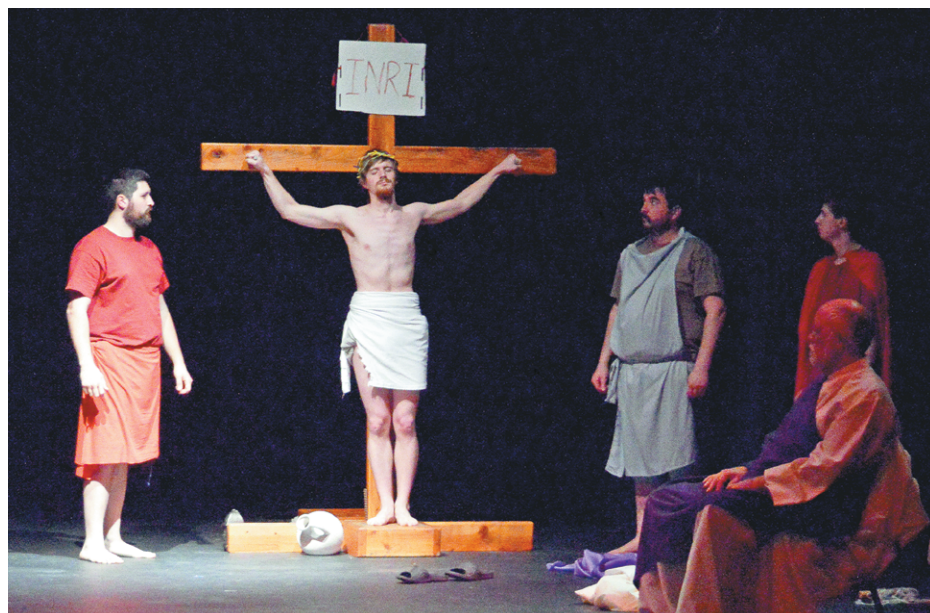
Capecchi closed his talk by reflecting on gene therapy, which employs the same technology he helped develop. It is an experimental technique that uses genes to treat or prevent disease.

There are enormous

possibilities in the field, he said. "But we have to learn how to use it appropriately so we don't use it to do bad things. And that's where wisdom comes in."

Following the lecture, St. Mary's sophomore Katrina Loceniece said she was "very moved" by Capecchi's story and humility. "I liked how he talked about how two brains are always better than one and explained some of the science," she said. "Now I want to go home and look up more and learn more."

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Paul Bocchi, Stephan Herman, Ken Andersen and Robert Moberg look on as Joseph Sagers, in the role of Jesus, is crucified in last year's Astoria Passion play. Moberg, a retired judge, plays Pilate. (Courtesy Hermitage Players)

Passion play in Astoria

"The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus" will be performed by the Hermitage Players Saturday, April 13, at 3:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center in Astoria.

Father David Janes, a retired priest, is the producer. Father Janes has produced Passion plays annually since he was in seminary. He said it's the third year that the Performing Arts Center has asked the group to present the production

in their theater.

The Hermitage Players production uses spare and evocative staging to present the timeless truth of Holy Week. The players present the Passion as it has been presented over the centuries, but against a stark and modern setting. The result, says Father Janes, is a moving experience of the story that is fundamental to Christian faith.

Passion plays have been staged in various

forms for at least 700 years, and in countries as disparate as Sri Lanka and the Netherlands. There has been a revival of interest in these theatrical productions.

Donations will be accepted at the door.

Learn more

Call Fr. David Janes, 503-741-1898.

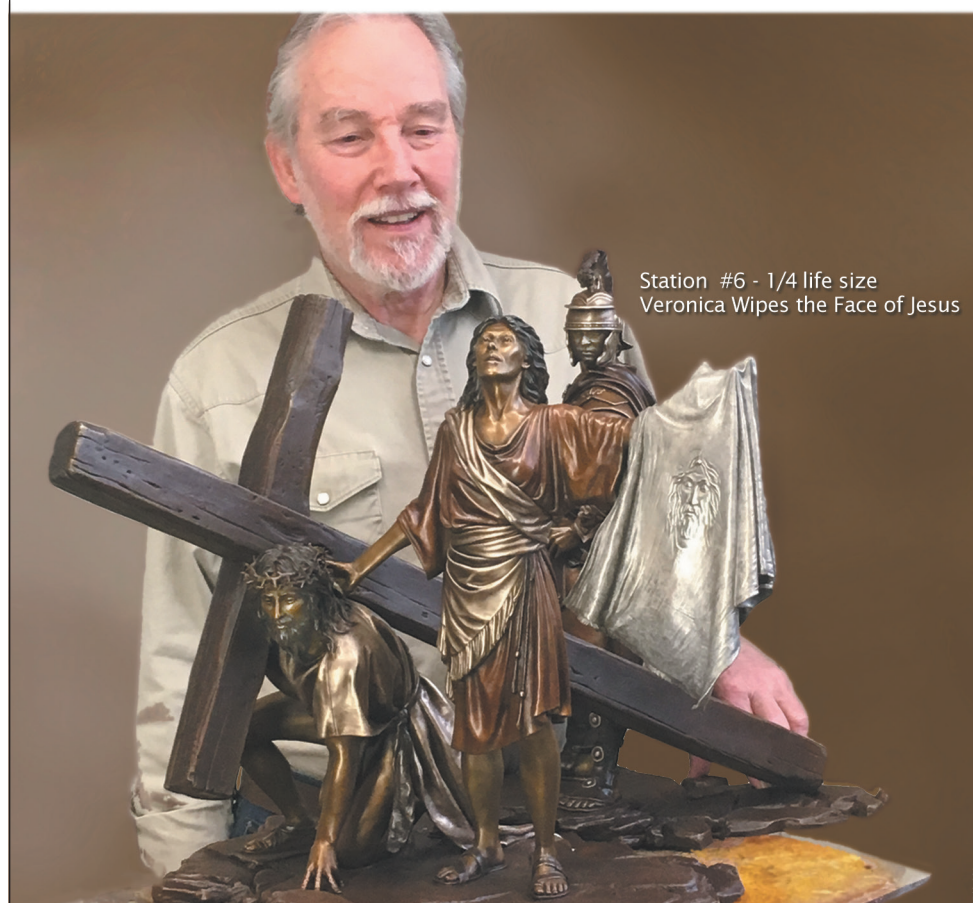
Own the Stations of The Cross

Portland sculptor Martin Eichinger and eight other artists — several being National Sculpture Society fellows — recently completed the Stations of the Cross for Cloisters on the Platte in Nebraska.

The 58 monumental bronze figures, standing seven feet tall, are the largest and most significant Stations of the Cross ever created.

Smaller sets at 1/4 and 1/2 life size (approximately 18" and 36" tall) are being offered to the public. The complete set of 14 Stations, individual Stations or individual figures may be purchased.

Contact Eichinger Sculpture Studio: 503-223-0626, and visit EichingerSculpture.com/cross



Station #6 - 1/4 life size
Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus