

FUNERAL MASS

FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF

Rita McCann

17th September 1942 - 14th April 2024

AND THE COMFORT OF HER FAMILY



St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge

on

Wednesday 17th April 2024 at 11.00am

Celebrant: Fr. Paddy Hennessy, S.D.B.

ENTRANCE HYMN

The Congregation stands and sings:

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!*

[Words by John Newton]

GREETING AND THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen

Priest: The grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you and remain with you always.

Congregation: And also with you.

Priest: Welcome to the funeral Mass offered for the repose of the soul of Rita McCann and for the comfort of her family.

Coming together as God's family and with confidence, let us ask the Father's forgiveness for he is full of gentleness and compassion.

As we celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

Priest and
Congregation *I confess to almighty God
and to you my brothers and sisters
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault.
Therefore I ask Blessed Mary-ever virgin-
all the angels and saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.*

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting.

Congregation: Amen.

Priest: O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered, accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Rita and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Congregation: Amen.

Priest and congregation say together:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

READINGS

The Congregation sits for the Readings.

Reader: A first reading from the Book of Wisdom (3: 1-3)

*The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
and no torment will ever touch them.
In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died,
and their departure was thought to be a disaster,
and their going from us to be their destruction;
but they are at peace.*

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Responsorial psalm:

Psalm 27: 1, 4, 14

Reader: *The response is "The Lord is my light and my salvation."*

Congregation: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Reader: *The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?*

Congregation: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Reader: *One thing I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in his temple.*

Congregation: The Lord is my light and my salvation;

Reader: *I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!*

Congregation: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Reader: **A second reading from the first letter of St. John (1 John: 3 1-2)**

*See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called children of God;
and so we are.*

*The reason why the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.*

*Beloved, we are God's children now;
it does not yet appear what we shall be,
but we know that when he appears
we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.*

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Congregation stands.

The Reader and Congregation say:

*Alleluia, alleluia!
As long as we love one another
God will live in us,
and his love will be complete in us.
Alleluia!*

Priest: **A reading from the holy Gospel according to saint Matthew**

Congregation: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Priest: *You are the light of the world. Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.*

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way, your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.

Priest: **This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Congregation stands and says the Profession of Faith as in the Apostles' Creed.

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.*

*He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.*

*He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Reader: *We pray for Rita who touched the lives of all of us. Help us to keep alive the values and the ideals she put before us. Her unique qualities call us to become ambitious for the higher gifts of faith, hope and love.*

Lord hear us

Congregation: Lord, graciously hear us.

Reader: *We pray for the carers, nurses and doctors who looked after Rita during these past two years. May God bless them in their family and professional lives.*

Lord hear us.

Congregation: Lord, graciously hear us.

Reader: *We pray for the McCann and O'Reilly families and for the communities in which they live, and, in particular, for our neighbours in Crodaun. My God grant them every blessing in their endeavours.*

Lord hear us.

Congregation: Lord, graciously hear us.

Reader: *We pray for the congregation here present, your families and friends. May God bless and keep us all in His care*

Lord hear us.

Congregation: Lord, graciously hear us.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Congregation sits and sings:

*I'll sing a hymn to Mary,
The Mother of my God,
The Virgin of all virgins,
Of David's Royal blood.
O teach me, holy Mary,
A loving song to frame,
When wicked men blaspheme thee,
To love and bless thy name.*

*O Lily of the Valley,
O mystic Rose what tree
Or flower, e'en the fairest,
Is half so fair as thee?
O let me, though so lowly,
Recite my Mother's fame:
When wicked men blaspheme thee,
I'll love and bless thy name.*

[Music and lyrics by Fr John Wyze]

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

The Congregation stands and says:

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Amen

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And with your Spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

Congregation: It is right and just

Priest and *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.*

Congregation: *Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: The mystery of faith

Congregation: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

Congregation: Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Congregation: *Ár nAthair, atá ar neamh,
go naofar d'ainm, go dtaga do ríocht,
go ndéantar do thoil ar an dtalamh,
mar a dhéantar ar neamh.
Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu,
agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha,
mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin,
agus ná lig sinn i gcathú,
ach saor sinn ó olc.
Amen.*

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Congregation: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will, who live and reign for ever and ever.

Congregation: Amen

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Congregation: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Priest and Congregation:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Priest and congregation:

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The congregation sings:

*Holy God, we praise thy Name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee!
All on earth thy sceptre claim,
All in Heaven above adore Thee;
Infinite thy vast domain,
Everlasting is thy reign.*

*Hark! the loud celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising,
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising;
Fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord.*

[Music by Fr Ignatius Franz; lyrics by Fr Clarence Walworth]

*Soul of my Saviour sanctify my breast,
Body of Christ, be Thou my saving guest,
Blood of my Saviour, bathe me in Thy tide,
Wash me with waters gushing from thy side.*

*Strength and protection may Thy passion be,
O blessed Jesus, hear and answer me;
Deep in Thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,
So shall I never, never part from Thee.*

*Guard and defend me from the foe malign,
In death's dread moments make me only Thine;
Call me and bid me come to Thee on high
Where I may praise Thee with thy saints for aye.
[Words J. Hegarty, Music traditional]*

*Sweet Sacrament divine,
hid in thine earthly home,
lo, round thy lowly shrine,
with suppliant hearts we come;
Jesus, to thee our voice we raise
in songs of love and heartfelt praise:
sweet Sacrament divine.*

*Sweet Sacrament of peace,
dear home for every heart,
where restless yearnings cease
and sorrows all depart;
there in thine ear all trustfully
we tell our tale of misery:
sweet Sacrament of peace.
[Fr. Francis Stanfield]*

A REFLECTION AFTER COMMUNION

GONE FROM MY SIGHT

I am standing upon the seashore.

A ship, at my side, spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength.

I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone."

Gone where? Gone from my sight.

That is all.

She is just as large in mast, hull and spar as she was when she left my side. And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me - not in her.

And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone," there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"

And that is dying...

[Written by Rev. Luther F. Beecher]

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And with your spirit.

Priest: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Congregation sings

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,

Christ be behind me, King of my heart.

Christ be within me, Christ be below me,

Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,

Christ all around me, shield in the strife.

Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,

Christ in my rising, Light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,

Christ be on all tongues telling of me.

Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,

In ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

[Adapted from St Patrick's breastplate by Fr James Quinn, S.J.]