

Mass for the Faithful Departed

Entrance hymn: Blessed are they

Rejoice, and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

1st Reading: Isaiah 49 v 13 -16

Shout for joy, you heavens;
rejoice, you earth;
burst into song, you mountains!
For the Lord comforts his people
and will have compassion on his
afflicted ones.

But Zion said, "The Lord has
forsaken me,
the Lord has forgotten me."

"Can a mother forget the baby at
her breast
and have no compassion on the
child she has borne?
Though she may forget,
I will not forget you!
See, I have engraved you on the
palms of my hands;
The Word of the Lord

Psalm 91:

*Be with me, Lord, when I am in
trouble.*

Be with me, Lord, I pray.

2nd Reading: St Paul to the Romans
8:31b-39

With God on our side who can be
against us?

Since God did not spare his own
Son, but gave him up to benefit us
all, we may be certain, after such a
gift, that he will not refuse anything
he can give.

Jesus not only died for us - he rose
from the dead, and there at God's
right hand he stands and pleads for
us.

Nothing therefore can come
between us and the love of Christ,
even if we are troubled or worried,
or being persecuted, or lacking food
or clothes, or being threatened or
even attacked.

These are the trials through which
we triumph, by the power of him
who loved us.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5 1-9

When Jesus saw the crowds, he
went up the mountain; and after he
sat down, his disciples came to
him. Then he began to speak, and
taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for
they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will
inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and
thirst for righteousness, for they will

be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Homily

Prayer of the Faithful

Celebrant: Our God is Lord of the living and of the dead. We are all in God’s hands. With the trusting of faith then, we present our intentions:

1. We pray with and for those joining us through the webcam.

Lord, hear us.

2. For family and friends who have died in the past year and those who have died in other years, that the love of God will gather us together again in the Father’s House.

Lord, hear us.

3. For all who mourn and grieve and live with the pain and ache of separation. May the Holy Spirit be their strength and consolation.

Lord hear us.

4. For those who died without a loved one near them, or with no one to hold their hand.

Lord hear us.

5. For families who, because of COVID restrictions, could not

honour their deceased loved ones as fully as they would have liked, and who were deprived too of our physical presence and support. May we continue to reach out to them. May the Risen Christ sustain them. Lord hear us.

6. For frontline workers, who gave wonderful care, in very difficult circumstances, to the sick and dying and their families.

Lord hear us.

7. For the many who have died, because of violence, war, hunger and diseases. May the Lord grant us a hunger for to work for a better future.

Lord hear us.

8. For those who have suffered the loss of a baby, before, or around the time of birth.

Lord, hear us.

9. For those affected by the unanswered questions of suicide.

Lord, hear us.

10. For those who die and are not mourned. May the Lord, who never forgets us, gather them to Himself.

Lord hear us.

11. For those recently deceased Lord, hear us.

Time for Silent Reflection

Celebrant: We lift up all these intentions with the unspoken sighs of our hearts.

Ceremony of Light

Celebrant: Let us pray for our parishioners who have died this past year, whom we remember this evening, by name, before the Lord. In lighting four large candles, we remember in prayer those whose funerals took place from other churches, during the year; those who have died in other years; those who have no one to remember them and babies who died before or around the time of birth. May the tender mercy of our God grant them all unending light and peace.

Reading of names

Time for Silent Reflection

Concluding prayer:

Celebrant: Compassionate Lord, someone we love has been taken from us, someone precious and irreplaceable. We ask for strength in times of darkness. Hold on to us even when we find it hard to hold on to you. Be very near, even when we feel you to be very far away. Support us in the weeks, months and years ahead. Grant us the comfort you have promised, your Holy Spirit, to help and guide us. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Offertory Hymn

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain,
Love lives again, that with the dead has been.*

Love is come again like wheat that springs up green

*When our hearts are wintry,
grieving, or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been,
Love is come again like wheat that springs up green*

Communion Hymn:

Time for Silent Reflection

Concluding Prayer

Celebrant: May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ, bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Recessional Hymn:

*May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
May the rain fall softly on your fields
And until we meet again,
May you keep safe,
in the loving arms of God.*