

Alice O'Keefe

August 7th 1922 - August 23rd 2018



Entrance Hymn

The Galilee Song

Deep within my heart, I feel voices whispering to me.
Words that I can't understand; Meanings I can't clearly hear!

Calling me to follow close, lest I leave myself behind!
Calling me to walking into evening shadows one more time!

*So I leave my boats behind!
Leave them on familiar shores!
Set my heart upon the deep!
Follow you again, my Lord!*

In my memories, I know how you send familiar rains
falling gently on my days, dancing patterns on my pain!
And I need to learn once more in the fortress of my mind,
to believe in falling rain as I travel deserts dry!

*So I leave my boats behind!
Leave them on familiar shores!
Set my heart upon the deep!
Follow you again, my Lord!*

As I gaze into the night down the future of my years,
I'm not sure I want to walk past horizons that I know!
But I feel my spirit called like a stirring deep within,
restless, 'til I live again beyond the fears that close me in!

*So I leave my boats behind!
Leave them on familiar shores!
Set my heart upon the deep!
Follow you again, my Lord!*

Welcome and Introduction

Fr Mike Pullar

Lighting of The Paschal Candle

Alan Moylan

Fr Mike Pullar - Through her Baptism Alice was enlightened by Christ.
All - May that light guide her to eternal life

Blessing of The Coffin

Fr Mike Pullar - In the waters of Baptism Alice died with Christ and
rose with him to eternal life.
All - May she now share eternal life with Christ in glory

Placing of Life Symbols

Placing of the Pall

Denise Ward & Jenny Hearn

Words of Remembrance

Merton Howard

Opening Prayer

Fr Mike Pullar - Almighty God in you, your good people find peace and rest, we pray for Alice who has laid down the burden of her years. Her life's labors have ended, and her battle is fought, we entrust her to your care. Reward her for her faithfulness and raise her up on the last day to rejoice in your presence forever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

First Reading

From the Book of Proverbs Chapter 31

Read by Jacinta Dore

Who shall find a valiant woman? Who shall find a woman of strength?

A pearl of great price is she.

All who are with her have confidence in her and benefit from her experience.

She works diligently, taking pride in her inner resources and strength.

She opens her heart to the needy, she is generous with the poor,
yet she does not neglect her family's needs nor her own priorities.

She is known for her dignity and strength and she laughs at the days to come.

She speaks with wisdom and she teaches in a kindly way.

Those who are close to her, praise her.

May all value who she is and may all applaud her integrity.

This is the Word of the Lord

All - Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 131

Read by Jacinta Dore

Lord, you know that my heart is not proud,
and my eyes are not lifted from the earth.

Response - My soul is longing for your peace, near to you, my God.

Lofty thoughts have never filled my mind.
Far beyond my sight all ambitious deeds.

Response - My soul is longing for your peace, near to you, my God.

In your peace I have maintained my soul,
I have kept my heart in your quiet peace.

Response - My soul is longing for your peace, near to you, my God.

As a child rests on his mother's knee,
so I place my soul in your loving care.

Response - My soul is longing for your peace, near to you, my God.

Israel, put all your hope in God.

Place your trust in him now and evermore.

Response - My soul is longing for your peace, near to you, my God.

Second Reading

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy Chapter 4

Read by Jill Howard

Be always careful to choose the right course; be brave under trials;
perform your whole duty as a servant of God.

As for me, my life is already being poured away as an offering
and the time has come for me to be gone.

I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish.

I have kept the faith.

All that there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me,
which the Lord, the righteous judge will give me on that day;
and not only to me but to all who wait with faith for his appearing.

The Word of the Lord

All - Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Blessed are those who die in the Lord,
let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 14: 1-6
Read by Fr Mike Pullar

Jesus said to his disciples: Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
Trust in God still and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father's house;
if there were not I should have told you.
I am going now to prepare a place for you.
And after I have gone and prepared you a place
I shall return to take you with me,
so that where I am you may be too.
This is the Gospel of the Lord
All - Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Family

Fr Mike Pullar

Prayers of the Faithful

Read by Denise Ward, Robin Reardon, Jenny Hearn & Maureen O'Keefe

Fr Mike Pullar - Dear friends, as those who knew and loved Alice,
we are gathered today to give thanks to God for the
life and love she shared with us.

With confidence, let us place our need before our loving God.

We thank you Lord, for our memories of Alice. May her laughter,
generosity and her sense of humor (right to the end)
remain an inspiration to all her family and friends.

Lord, hear us.

All - Lord, hear our prayer

We give thanks for all those who have cared for Alice in her final years,
especially all the staff at St John's Village who made her
comfortable and happy, and most recently the staff at
Northeast Health Wangaratta and for all those who care for
the sick and elderly in our community.

Lord, hear us.

All - Lord, hear our prayer

We pray for all our deceased relatives and friends and particularly
Alice's sisters Nell, Kath and Agnes, and her brothers Tom and Laurie,
May they all share an everlasting home with our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Lord, hear us.

All - Lord, hear our prayer

We pray for all Alice's many nephews and nieces and
grand nieces and nephews. We will all miss her wicked sense of humor.
Wangaratta will not be the same.

We ask that you bless and guide them in their journey through life.

Lord hear us.

All - Lord, hear our prayer

Offertory Hymn

Gentle as Silence

Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence
Of all that I love here on earth.
All the beauty I see, He has given to me,
And his giving is gentle as silence.

Every day, every hour, every moment,
Have been blessed by the strength of His love.
At the turn of each tide, He is there at my side,
And his touch is as gentle as silence.

There've been times when I've turned from his presence,
And I've walked other paths, other ways,
But I've called on his name, in the dark of my shame
And his mercy was gentle as silence.

Procession of Gifts

Alan Moylan, Peter Ward & Elaine Coolahan

Eucharistic Prayer

The Mystery of Faith: **We proclaim your Death O' Lord and profess
your resurrection until you come again.**

Communion Hymn

Come As You Are

Come as you are, that's how I want you.
Come as you are, feel quite at home.
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven;
come as you are, why stand alone?

No need to fear, love sets no limits.
No need to fear, love never ends.
Don't run away shamed and disheartened.
Rest in my love, trust me again.

I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.
Each time you fail to live by my promise,
why do you think I'd love you the less?

Come as you are, that's how I love you.
Come as you are, trust me again.
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.
All will be well, just come as you are.

A Life in Pictures

What A Wonderful World - Louis Armstrong

Prayer of Commendation and Farewell

Fr Mike Pullar

Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of Alice.
May our farewell express everyone's affection for her, may it ease our sadness
and the sense of loss of her family and friends and strengthen their hope.
It is our faith that we shall meet again when the love of Christ,
which conquers all things, conquers even death itself.

Blessing of The Coffin

Saints of God, come to her aid, come to meet her angels of the Lord.
All - Receive her soul and present her to God the most high

Alice, may Christ who called you, take you to himself;
may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

All - Receive her soul and present her to God the most high

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.
All - Receive her soul and present her to God the most high

Into your hands, God of mercies, we commend Alice in the sure and certain hope that,
together with all who have died in Christ she will rise with him on the last day.

We are thankful for the blessings Alice received in this life,
they are signs of your goodness to us and our unity with all the saints.

Almighty God listen to our prayers and open the gates of paradise to Alice
and help her family and friends here to be comforted with
assurance of faith until we all meet in Christ and are with you and Alice forever.
We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Recessional Music

Danny Boy - Daniel O'Donnell

Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your fields,
and until we meet again
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

*Alice's family would like to thank you
for your love and support.*

*They invite you to join them following
the service at for light refreshments at the
Gateway Hotel
Ryley Street, Wangaratta*

