

Celebrating the life of
Margaret Anne 'Marg'
FITZGIBBON



5th June 1946 - 25th December 2018

Aged 72 Years

Mass of Thanksgiving
St. Kilian's Church, Bendigo
1.30pm Wednesday, January 2nd 2019
Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Andrew Fewings P.P.



PLEASE STAND

Entrance Hymn: **Companions On The Journey**

Refrain

**We are companions on the journey,
breaking bread and sharing life;
and in the love we bear is the hope we share
for we believe in the love of our God,
we believe in the love of our God.**

No longer strangers to each other,
no longer strangers in God's house;
we are fed and we are nourished
by the strength of those who care,
by the strength of those who care.

We have been gifted with each other,
and we are called by the Word of the Lord:
to act with justice, to love tenderly,
and to walk humbly with our God,
to walk humbly with our God.

We will seek and we shall find;
we will knock and the door shall be opened;
we will ask and it shall be given,
for we believe in the love of our God,
we believe in the love of our God.

We are made for the glory of our God,
for service in the name of Jesus;
to walk side by side with hope in our hearts,
for we believe in the love of our God,
we believe in the love of our God.

Words and music: Carey Landry © 1985 Carey Landry and North American Liturgy Resources

Welcome & Greeting: *Fr. Andrew Fewings*

PLEASE BE SEATED

Eulogy: Peter Mannes & Karen Doody



Photo Presentation: Supermarket Flowers (*Ed Sheeran*)
Follow the Sun (*Xavier Rudd*)

CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

Lighting of Paschal Candle - *Janine Fitzgibbon & Brendan Fitzgibbon*

Fr. Andrew Fewings: In Baptism, Marg received the light of Christ,
it has guided her through her life.

All: **May this light now lead her into Eternal Life.**

Sprinkling with Holy Water - *Fr. Andrew Fewings*

Fr. Andrew Fewings: In the waters of Baptism, Marg died with Christ and
rose with Him into Eternal Life.

All: **May she now share Eternal Life with Him in Glory.**

Placing of White Pall - *Karen Doody & Marita Bettridge*

Fr. Andrew Fewings: On the day of her Baptism, Marg was clothed in
Christ and given a Christian dignity forever.

All: **May Christ now enfold her in His love and bring her
into Eternal Life.**

LIFE SYMBOLS: *Narration by Ashlee Browell*

Presented by Marg's Grandchildren

PLEASE STAND

Collect (Opening Prayer): *Fr. Andrew Fewings*

God of faithfulness, in Your wisdom You have called Your servant Marg out
of this world; release her from the bonds of sin, and welcome her into Your
presence, so that she may enjoy Eternal Light and Peace and be raised up in
glory with all Your saints.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: *Read by Tricia Campbell*

A reading from the Book of Sirach

Here is a generous woman, whose works have not been forgotten. In her descendants there remains a rich inheritance born of her. They stand by the covenants and thanks to her, so do her children's children. Her offspring will last forever, her glory will not fade. Her body is buried in peace and her name will live on for generations. The people will proclaim her wisdom, the assembly will celebrate her praises.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *(all sing together):* **Trusting Psalm**

Refrain: Lord let Your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You.

The word of the Lord is faithfulness and love,
His love can never be measured.
His beauty is like nothing we have ever seen,
so let us place our trust in Him. **Refrain**

The word of the Lord means a patient gentle God,
His love can never grow weary.
His mercy is as though our sins have never been,
if we can place our trust in him. **Refrain**

The word of the Lord is fire burning strong,
His love can never grow weary.
He will seek and save the lost until we all return,
so let us place our trust in him. **Refrain**

Second Reading: *Read by Elaine Cornish*



A reading from the book of Proverbs

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 initiates good, not evil, every day of her life. She does not neglect her tasks, she willingly works. Broad minded, her understanding of life is a source of nurture for her. She considers her options, then makes her move, investing the experience she already has. She works diligently, taking pride in her inner resources and strengths. When her gifts are encouraged and their value affirmed, she will work wholeheartedly.

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 often speaks with wisdom and she teaches in a kindly way. Those who are close to her, praise her. Charm is superficial and beauty fades, but the woman who is wise is the one to be praised. May all value who she is and may all applaud her integrity.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PLEASE STAND

Gospel Acclamation (*sung*): **Halle Halle Halle**

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Gospel: (*John 14:1-6*) - Priest

The Lord be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. 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. You know the way to the



May His Word Be
In My Heart And
On My Lips



place where I am going.’ Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where You are going, so how can we know the way?’ Jesus said: ‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through Me.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED

Homily: Fr. Andrew Fewings

PLEASE STAND

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Introduction: Fr. Andrew Fewings

We pray to the Lord, may He welcome Marg into His love and peace. May her life be now completed and fulfilled in God’s presence forever.

Reader - Joshua Browell

God our Father, we come here today to celebrate Nanna’s life. We remember the many blessings of love, family and good friends you gave her. We pray that we gain inner strength from our memories of Nanna and make the best of each day on earth, just as she did.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader - Tristan Doody

Lord, we thank you for the special person Nanna was to so many people. She always had love to share with all those she met. Help us to live our lives generously, to help people less fortunate than us and to remember that no matter how hard life gets, there is always someone there to lean on. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader - Ashlee Browell

Lord we give thanks for the exceptional care Nanna has received. We wish to thank the doctors who looked after her through her battle with MSA, especially Dr. Ewa Peijko and Dr. Kaycha Kotchett. Their knowledge and compassion were always a wonderful support to Nanna as time went on.

Lord, hear us.



All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader- Caitlin Doody

Lord we thank you for the amazing caring staff of Home Support Services, Bupa Aged Care Home and the very special staff at Bendigo Hospice Palliative Care who treated Nanna with respect, compassion and love, right up to her last hours with us.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader- Matthew Doody

Lord we rejoice that our Nanna is now reunited with her beloved parents Bill and Mon, her parents-in-law Mick and Ellen, and also her son-in-law Colin. May they all now be enjoying the happiness of eternal life.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Procession: *Robyn Mannes, Gen Mannes,
Marie Mannes and Jan Mannes*

Offertory Hymn: **Welcome Home**

Chorus:

Welcome home! Welcome home!

Welcome home to the land of your freedom and joy!

Welcome home! Welcome home!

Be at peace in the arms of your God!

Welcome home!

“This is My body now given for you!”

This is the gift you have lived!

And just as the Father embraces the Son,

So do we embrace you! Welcome home!



We come to thank you, the people you loved,
For us you have been living word!
The Word you have spoken has nourished our hearts;
Now the Word comes to you! Welcome home!

Deep in the Godhead the Mystery you know;
In the love-span of God do you live!
So now shall your prayer be effective and free;
Pray for us now that you're welcome home!

Let there be music and let there be song,
For the triumph that your life has been!
Hear how God's angels and saints in their joy
Join with us as we sing, Welcome home!

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Mystery of Faith: *(all say together)*

*When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim Your
death O Lord, until You come again.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

Bread Blessed and Broken

Jesus, You're the one I love, You're the one I know
You're the one who makes me strong, Spirit in my soul
From the clouds of yesterday, through the night of pain
Teach me Lord to know Your way, know it once again.

Bread, blessed and broken for us all, symbol of Your love
from the grain so tall, bread, blessed and broken for us all
Bread of life You give to us, Bread of life for all.

May the bread we break today, May the cup we share
Lift the burdens of our hearts, lift them ev'ry where.
Passing on to each of us, a measure of Your love
Love to make us whole again as we share Your word.



Bread, blessed and broken for us all, symbol of Your love
From the grain so tall bread, blessed and broken for us all
Bread of life You give to us, bread of life for all.

- Michael B. Lynch

Fill My House

Fill My house unto the fullest. Eat My bread and drink My wine,
The love I bear is held from no one, All I am and all I do I give to you.

Take My time unto the fullest, find in Me the trust you seek,
and take My hands to you outreaching, all I am and all I do I give to you

Christ our Lord with love enormous, from the cross His lesson taught.
To love all men as I have loved you, all I am and all I do I give to you

Join with Me as one in Christ love, may our hearts all beat as one.
and may we give, ourselves completely, all I am and all I do I give to you.

- P. Kearney

Communion Reflection:

May God Bless You (*Sung By Maria Forde*)

PLEASE STAND

FINAL COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

Invitation to Prayer: *Fr. Andrew Fewings*

Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our sister Marg. May our farewell express our affection for her, may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet her again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

Song of Farewell: (*Sung to the tune of Amazing Grace*)

O come to meet her, saints of God, And take her by the hand;
Receive and lead her safely now into the Promised Land.

May rest eternal now be hers, and day that knows no night;
Through death's dark valley she has passed to endless life and light.



O Come to meet her, saints of God, Bright Angels, now attend
This sister whom we knew and loved has reached her journey's end.

With Abraham and all the saints our sister takes her place;
And faith, for her, gives way to sight she sees God face to face.

O come to meet her, saints of God; embrace her as a friend
And celebrate with joy her birth to life that knows no end.

Prayer of Commendation: *Fr. Andrew Fewings*

Into Your hands, Father of Mercies, we commend our sister Marg 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 give You thanks for the blessings, which you bestowed upon Marg in this life: they are signs to us of Your goodness and of our fellowship with the Saints in Christ. Merciful Lord, turn toward us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of Paradise to Your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with You and with our sister for ever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Recessional Song: Keep a Dream in Your Pocket (*The Seekers*)

COFFIN BEARERS

Brendan Fitzgibbon, Dean Bettridge, Nate Doody
Trevor Doody, Josh Browell, Tristan Doody



Footprints

One night I had a dream...

I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and
across the sky flashed scenes from my life.

For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand;
one belonged to me, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of my life flashed before us,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.

I noticed that many times along the path of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.

I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in my life,
this really bothered me, and I questioned the Lord about it.

“Lord, you said that once I decided to follow You,
You would walk with me all the way;

But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life,
there is only one set of footprints.

I don't understand why in times when I needed You the most,
You should leave me.

The Lord replied, “My precious, precious child. I love you, and I would never,
never leave you during your times of trial and suffering.

When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you.”

Kevin, Karen, Janine, Marita and Brendan together with their families would like to thank you all for your comfort, support and presence here today as they celebrate the life and love of their much loved Wife, Mother and Nanna

Marg Fitzgibbon



Following the Interment at the Axedale Catholic Cemetery,
Marg's family warmly invite you to join them at
Bendigo Domain Village 336-380 McIvor Hwy, Junortoun
for Light Refreshments .

BENDIGO FUNERALS
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