



*We bring our sister
Cathy
to her final resting place*



*Sr Cathy Dean rsj
Burial at Melbourne General Cemetery
28th July, 2020*



BLESSING OF HER GRAVE

We come with loving tenderness to return Cathy
to the womb of Mother Earth,
a sacred place of waiting,
a place enshrining our memories of love and laughter,
of joy and sadness,
of rich times and difficult places in our lives.
God of the Universe, God of love and compassion,
bless this tiny piece of earth
which is so special for us.
May it be for us a place of healing and hope.

SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER

SCRIPTURE John 11: 21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

And Jesus said to Martha, "Your brother will rise again."
Martha said, "I know he will rise again at the
resurrection on the last day." Jesus said: " I am the
resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even
though they die, they will live, and whoever lives and
believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
"Yes, Lord," Martha said, "I believe you are the Christ,
the Son of God, the one who was to come into the
world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Cathy, you were called by God and, inspired by the charism of Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods, you answered the call and lived faithfully as a Sister of St Joseph for 35 years. May we be inspired as you were, to be gracious and welcoming to all we meet. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all Sisters of St Joseph with whom you shared life, community and ministry. May we support each other by prayer and faith as we grieve and cherish your memory. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those you have cared for in your ministry and those who have cared for you. May they continue to receive this flow of love through the kindness of others. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray today for your family and friends who will miss your loving presence and company. May they be blessed and comforted as they give thanks for your life of generous service. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: O Compassionate and Faithful God,
You are the author and sustainer of our lives.

You are our final home,
and we know that Cathy is at home in You.

One day may we stand together with all the
saints who praise You for your Eternal Care

We ask this in the name of Jesus
whom you raised from the dead. Amen

Let us all pray : Our Father ...

Leader: Oh nurturing earth,
Receive Cathy's body created by the hand of God
and now returned to your embrace.
Receive her as your own, earth to earth, and dust
to dust in the sure and certain hope of our
resurrection into eternal life.



As Cathy is lowered into the earth we pray:

Into the earth that has nurtured you all your life
Into the soil from which all life springs

All: We let you go.

Into communion with the sunshine of our world
Into the water and rains of this soil.

All: We let you go.

Into at-oneness with the wind and air of our planet
Into the stars and stardust of our beginnings

All: We let you go.

Into the presence of the One who is Love itself

All: We let you go.

Into the One in whom you have lived and moved and
had your being
Into the heart of the sacred mystery of God.

All: We let you go.

Let us bow our heads and pray for God's Blessing:

God of endless ages, from one generation to the next,
you have been our refuge and strength.

Accept our prayer for all who are buried here.

Give them a place in your Kingdom,
where hope is firm for all who love,
and rest is sure, for all who serve.

Amen

**All: Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord
And may perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.
Amen**



During the scattering of petals / soil:

STRONG AND CONSTANT

I will be God who walks with you.
You will be always within my hand.
Take your heart and give it all to me.
Strong and constant is my love!
Strong and constant is my love!

Should you wander far away from me,
I will search for you in every land.
Should you call, then you will truly know.
Strong and constant is my love!
Strong and constant is my love!

When you know sorrow within your life.
I will come, I will embrace your heart.
Through your pain you will discover Me!
Strong and constant is my love!
Strong and constant is my love!

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"in Saint Joseph's care I leave you.."

Mary MacKillop 1873