

We celebrate and give
thanks for the life of
Mary Preston



Born: 17 January 1925
Entered eternal life: 14 August 2021
Celebrant: Bishop Greg O'Kelly SJ





Acknowledgement of Country

Welcome

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Greeting

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: In the waters of baptism Mary died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May she now share with him in glory.

~ Sprinkling of the coffin ~

With this faith community Mary frequently gathered to be nourished at the table of the Lord's Word and the table of the Eucharist. We have been graced by her faith and love as she faithfully lived her baptismal promises. Please join in the entrance hymn as we bring Mary, accompanied by Sisters, into the Chapel.

Entrance Hymn: *Here I am, Lord* © Dan Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky. I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send? *Ref.*

Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Celebrant: In Baptism, Mary received the light of Christ. This light has guided Mary throughout her life and rises with her to new life. May she now enjoy eternal life with the risen Christ.

Placing of the Pall

Celebrant: In Baptism Mary was claimed by Christ and clothed in a garment of white. May Christ now gently enfold her in love and receive her in the embrace of God.

~ *The Placing of Symbols* ~

~ *Eulogy* ~



Opening Prayer

Celebrant: God of life, the day you birth us into being is the day we begin our journey back to you. You are with us every step of the way. Give us the grace to embrace our journey with joy and gratitude. Help us to see the beauty around us – the beauty of nature and the beauty of friendships. Let our gratitude for all your gifts make us aware of your presence and love for us as we long to see you face to face. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 43: 1-4

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name, you are mine. Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you; or through rivers, they will not swallow you up. Should you walk through fire, you will not be scorched and the flames will not burn you. For I am the Lord, you God, the Holy one of Israel, your saviour.

I give Egypt for your ransom, and exchange Cush and Seba for you. Because you are precious in my eyes, because you are honoured and I love you, I will give peoples in exchange for you, in return for your life.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23

Response: You are my Shepherd;
There is nothing I shall want.

You are my Shepherd; There is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters you lead me, to revive my drooping spirit. *Response.*

You guide me along the right path; You are true to your name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff; With these you give me comfort. *Response.*

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. *Response.*

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In God's own house shall I dwell, forever and ever. *Response.*

Second Reading: Timothy 4:6-8

As for me, the time is here to leave this life. I have done my best in the race. I have run the full distance and I have kept the faith. And now there is waiting for me the prize of victory awarded for a righteous life, the prize which the Lord, the righteous Judge will give me on that day - and not only to me, but to all those who wait with love for him to appear. To Him be glory for ever and ever!

The Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God*

Gospel Acclamation: spoken

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Almighty has done great things for me.

Holy is His Name.

Alleluia

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb.



Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among Women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

"The Lord's mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

"The Lord has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants."

Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months and then returned home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Prayers of Intercession

Celebrant: God of mercy and compassion, look kindly upon us as we present our prayers to you.

1. God of all life, as you created Mary and sustained her throughout her life, so now welcome her into the eternal life prepared for her from her birth. God of life, hear us.
All: God of life, hear our prayer.
2. God of our calling, you chose Mary as your own, you called her by name, and she was precious in your sight. Embrace her as your beloved daughter. God of our calling, hear us.
All: God of our calling, hear our prayer.
3. God of faithfulness, Mary was ever faithful in the giving of herself in generous, loving service. Reward her with the crown of righteousness. God of fidelity, hear us.
All: God of fidelity, hear our prayer.
4. God of love, we thank you for Mary's gracious presence in our lives. May each of us treasure our memories of her. God of love, hear us.
All: God of love, hear our prayer.
5. God of healing and nurturing, bless those who cared for Mary in these last years. May they always show your compassion to and genuine care of the people entrusted to them. God of compassion, hear us.
All: God of compassion, hear our prayer.
6. God of mercy, we remember and pray for Mary's parents, Harold and Hannah, and her brothers, Frank, Harold and Ken. May Mary be united with them in their heavenly home. God of mercy, hear us.
All: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: God our Father, you have made us for yourself and promised us the gift of eternal life with you. Hear these prayers which we make in faith, through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Procession of Gifts *Reflective Music*

Holy, Holy

Eucharistic Acclamation

*Dying You destroyed our death,
rising You restored our life,
Lord, Jesus come in glory.*

Great Amen

Our Father

Sign of Peace

Breaking of Bread

Lamb of God

COMMUNION RITE



1. Gentle, Gentle is my Love. Gentle, Gentle is my Love.
Gentle as the morn that steals thru the sky, as gentle as the one who sings to her child.
2. Silent, Silent is my Love. Silent, Silent is my Love,
As silent as the moon, rising from the sea. As silent as the night, softly falling on me.
3. Waiting, Waiting is my Love. Waiting, waiting is my Love.
Faithful is my love, ever new, never changing and I will arise, I will go to his side.
Gentle, gentle is my Love.



Gentle As Silence © Estelle White

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: Loving God, we pray that Mary, who has journeyed from this world,
may by this sacrifice, be cleansed and freed from sin and receive the
everlasting joys of the resurrection.
We ask this through Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

The coffin is sprinkled with holy water and incensed

Song of Farewell

Celebrant: Saints of God, come to Mary's aid.
Hasten to meet her angels of God.
All: *Receive Mary's soul and present her to God Most High.*

Celebrant: May Christ who called you, Mary, take you into eternal life.
May angels lead you home.
All: *Receive Mary's soul and present her to God Most High.*

Celebrant: Eternal rest grant to Mary, O God.
And let perpetual light shine upon her.
All: *Receive Mary's soul and present her to God Most High.*

Recessional Hymn

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach



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