

## Rite of Committal for Sister Joan Buffers



Gathering

**Celebrant:** Let us express in prayer our common faith in the resurrection as we commend Joan to God and commit her body to the earth,

**Assembly:** As we come to that mysterious moment of returning Joan to the earth we acknowledge that death, too, is part of the unfolding of nature. Mystical women of the past expressed the mystery in this way:  
God, I still have a great fear as to the way my soul will pass from my body.  
Then the Lord said to me: "It shall be like this. I will draw my breath and your soul shall come to me as a needle to a magnet."

*The Grave is now blessed and sprinkled with Holy Water*

**Committal:**

May God bless and keep you  
May God's face shine upon you  
May God be kind to you  
And give you peace

*During the reading the coffin is lowered into the grave*

**Reader:** Go in peace and may the breath of the Holy Spirit fill your sails and joyfully carry you home

May God bless and keep you  
May God's face shine upon you  
May God be kind to you  
And give you peace

**Reader:** Joan the wind carried a whisper of your name and you heard your beloved call "COME".  
With faith and love you replied your Fiat and we now pray with you

**Assembly:** Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus.

Holy Mary mother of God pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen

**Celebrant:** As a symbol of closure and entrusting Joan's body to the earth, you are invited to place some soil or flower petals on her coffin.



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