

Eucharistic Celebration
in thanksgiving
for the life and love of
Sister Joan Luff rsj



<i>Entered Life</i>	<i>30 November 1926</i>
<i>Entered Religious Life</i>	<i>10 May 1949</i>
<i>Professed</i>	<i>6 January 1953</i>
<i>Entered Eternal Life</i>	<i>10 January 2023</i>

Holy Family Church
Thelma St
Como

2.00 pm Wednesday 25 January 2023
Celebrant ~ Emeritus Bishop Justin Bianchini



Acknowledgment of Country

Nola Goodwin rsj

Sister Joan is accompanied into
the Church by the sisters of her community

Entrance Song *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

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.

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.

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.

Welcome

Brigette Sipa rsj

Sprinkling with Holy Water

Celebrant:

In the waters of Baptism Joan entered into the mystery of Christ.

May she now enjoy eternal peace.

(Sprinkling)

With this faith community, Joan frequently gathered to be nourished at the table of the Word and the Eucharist. We have been graced by her faith and love.

Ceremony of Symbols

Dianne Colborne rsj

Constitutions

Kathleen Dawe rsj

As we present our Constitutions we honour you, Joan, as a kind and inspiring presence with us over your 74 years as a Sister of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Australian flowers

Ellena Hynes rsj

With this small bunch of Australian flowers and gum leaves we give recognition to your dedicated service, Joan, in various ministries in so many parts of our Country.

Photo of the family

Helen Iddon

Joan, with this photo we remember how dear each member of your family was to you and how much they treasure the memories they hold of you today.

Opening Prayer

Celebrant:

God of life, you invited our sister, Joan, to walk the Josephite journey.

Take her into your hospitable and loving heart to be in the company of St Joseph, St Mary MacKillop, Julian Tenison Woods, her Parents and all the Saints. We ask this through Jesus the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Assembly: Amen

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Maureen Broadhurst

A reading from the prophet Micah

This is what is asked of you, only this:
to act justly,
to love tenderly
and to walk humbly with your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

James Broadhurst

R: My soul clings to you, your hand is there to support me.

God, you are my God, for you I long,
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you like a dry weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the Sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

R: My soul clings to you, your hand is there to support me.

Your love is better than life.
In your name I will lift up my hands,
my soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
on my lips a song of joy.

R: My soul clings to you, your hand is there to support me.

You have always been my help.
I sing for joy in the shadow of your wings.
My soul clings to you,
your hand is there to support me.

R: My soul clings to you, your hand is there to support me.

Welcome the Gospel

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

How happy are the poor in spirit;
Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
They shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
They shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
They shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
They shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
They shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
They shall be called sons and daughters of God
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily



Celebrant: The Gospel we heard today is a litany of attitudes that Christ urges us to embrace so as to enhance our humanity and lead us into the Kingdom.

Reader: That we may follow in the footsteps of all who have found the courage and freedom of being poor in spirit with Christ, we pray as we take strength from the words of Mary MacKillop.

Assembly: Have patience, go on quietly with your work. . . God loves courageous souls.

Reader: That, with Christ, we may hunger and thirst for a just world where the weak and vulnerable are not forgotten and where compassion abounds, we pray as we follow the lead of Mary MacKillop who encourages us to remember how gracious God has been to us.

Assembly: Let us never forget that God has done wonders for us and wonderfully protected us in our helplessness.

Reader: With Christ may we be peacemakers in our families and communities by our words and actions of kindness, patience and forgiveness as we listen to the encouragement of Mary MacKillop.

Assembly: Do not be afraid. Love one another, bear with one another and let charity guide you in all your life.

Reader: For all who have cared for Joan here at South Perth and at Margaret Hubery House, for the love Joan received from her family and Sisters and for the life of love and faith that Joan shared with us, we give thanks and join Mary MacKillop in her prayer.

Assembly: My one constant prayer for those I love is that God in his love may grant them a happy death.

Reader: We pause to hold our personal memories of Joan with gratitude and to pray for our own intentions (pause) We pray to the Lord.

Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Walking daily with trust in God, may this Eucharist guide us and strengthen us in joy, faith and compassion. We ask this through Christ our Way, our Truth and our Life. Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Offerings

Celebrant: Pray, friends that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

Assembly: May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's holy people.

Celebrant: As we gather at your table to farewell our sister, Joan, grant that what we offer with praise may strengthen us all in joy and love. Through Christ, our Lord.

Assembly: Amen

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: It is right and just.

In Loving Memory of



Sr Joan Luff rsj



Holy Holy

Assembly: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Acclamation

Assembly: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your resurrection until you come again.

Amen

Our Father

Lamb of God

Assembly: Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world, grant us peace.



Communion Hymn

Bathe Her In Your Love

Our sister is here
We give her your hand

**Bathe her in your love
Clothe her in your care
Send her along with the wind and a song
And the rains of the earth in her hair.**

Fold her in your arms
Hold her close once more
Cover her life with the calm and the strife
That brings us along to the shore.

Her people will be my people
Her families and fortunes my own
We'll walk hand in hand
And till all the land
until the last seed has been sown.

Light her way back home
Love her as your own
For thus she has been and will be again
And is now forever. Amen.

The winds and the roots will be our gift
The branches in flight why she came
We'll soon let her know she can come she can go
When visions and highways are calling her name.

**Bathe her in your love
Clothe her in your care
Send her along with the wind and a song
And the rains of the earth in her hair.**

Communion Reflection

Emilie Cattalini rsj

Joan, in you we have seen a life unfolding, a life always catching the Spirit-Wind. And in the years of your diminishment you did not waver. With your last breath, tuned into the Breath of the Holy Spirit, came total surrender, like the rose that has bloomed and allows her petals to fall to the ground.

No more sailing from harbour to harbour with your four-seasoned boat! The days are past when it was with youthful zest that you tossed on the waves of discovery and mystery, catching the Wind through the seasons of labour, service and joy.

And when the Wind filled the length and breadth of your dedication, love and adoration, we were blessed with your enthusiasm for our Josephite way of life, with your encouraging wisdom and your unwavering optimism. We could see the Holy Spirit in action in you just as when the trees bow their heads we know that the wind is passing by.

Now we say farewell, dear Joan. Go in peace. The affectionate memories we hold will continue to breathe life in us. May your Spirit-filled sails carry you to the place prepared for you where you can drink from the Spirit's overflowing cup of Love, Joy and Peace forever.

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant:

May the Sacrament we receive, Loving God, strengthen us to walk the way of the Cross and bring us to the glory of the Resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.

Assembly: Amen



Final Commendation and Farewell

Celebrant:

Into your hands, God of Mercies, we commend our sister Joan in the sure and certain hope that, together with those who have died in Christ, she will rise with him on the last day. We give you thanks for the blessings which you have bestowed upon Joan in this life: and our communion with all the saints in Christ. Through Christ our Lord.

Assembly: Amen

(The coffin is sprinkled with holy water and blessed with incense)

Recessional Hymn

Joseph Holy

Joseph holy, faithful guardian,
Spouse of Mary, ever virgin,
Loving teacher of God's Word.

You the model of obedience,
You the poor and humble worker
You the patron of the Church.

Then we ask you, Joseph faithful
Help us always be attentive
Listening, hearing God's own Word.

Celebrant: In peace let us take our sister, Joan to her place of rest.

Sister Joan is accompanied from
the Church by members of her family

In Loving Memory of Aunty Joan



Joan Elizabeth Luff was the second daughter born to Andrew Beaconsfield Luff and Catherine Adelaide Hayes in Fremantle Western Australia on 30 November 1926. Joan grew up in a loving family with her two sisters Alma born in 1923 and Dulcie born in 1930. Both her sisters predeceased her.

Joan entered the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart at Mount Street North Sydney New South Wales on 10 May 1949. She received the Habit on 5 January 1951 and was professed as Sr Concepta of the Blessed Sacrament on 6 January 1953.

Following her profession Sr Concepta returned to Western Australia and began her ministry of primary and secondary teaching in Boulder. For the next 18 years Sister ministered in the wheatbelt and Goldfields with the exception of eighteen months at South Perth.

In June 1971 Sr Concepta was appointed Provincial of the South Australian Province a position she held until 1977 when at the General Chapter as Sr Joan she was elected to the General Council of the Congregation. In 1977 Joan was appointed Secretary General of the Congregation a position she held until May 1990 when she returned to Western Australia.

On her return Joan was appointed Community Leader at South Perth.

Following a time of renewal at Baulkham Hills New South Wales in 1997 Joan began a period of ministry with the Migrants and Refugees.

Then in 1998 Joan was appointed to the Western Australian Archives.

In 2007 Joan was asked to leave her beloved Western Australia to be a companion to the Novice Director at Quakers Hill in the Parramatta Diocese for six months.

On her return Joan returned to the Archives a position she held until her 'retirement' in 2018. It was during this time that Joan inducted our first Lay Archivist.

Joan was admitted to Margaret Hubery House in 2021 where she continued to live out her life in a deep peace and a loving acceptance of the next stage of her ministry.

Sr Joan Luff passed peacefully away at Margaret Hubery House, Fifth Ave, Rossmoyne Western Australia on Tuesday 10 January 2023.

*The Sisters of Saint Joseph
of the Sacred Heart
and the family of Sister Joan
wish to thank you
for your prayerful support
and presence here today.*



*A Tribute from her Family
Aunty Joan*

*A beautiful, intelligent, caring and gracious woman
who loved us all unconditionally.*

*She was genuinely interested in our lives
and delighted in hearing news of our extended families,
our achievements, careers, travel experiences and interests.*

She holds a special place in our hearts.

