



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

*Merle Alma Suzanne  
Simpson*

8th October 1931 - 19th August 2021

**Celebrant:** Fr Kevin O'Reilly  
**Organist:** Margaret Adams  
**Singer:** John Egan

*ENTRANCE HYMN*  
**"On Eagles Wings"**

*GREETING*

**Fr O'Reilly:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And with your spirit.**





*SPRINKLING OF HOLY WATER*  
*LIGHTING OF THE PASCAL CANDLE*

*EULOGY*

*TIME OF REFLECTION*  
**"How Great Thou Art"**

*OPENING PRAYER*





## *FIRST READING*

### **A reading from Corinthians 13V 1-13**

If I have all the eloquence of men or angels,  
but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming  
or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding  
all the mysteries there are,

and knowing everything and if I have faith in all its fulness,  
to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all.

If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece,  
and if I even let them take my body to burn it,  
but am without love, it will do me no good.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous;  
love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish;  
it does not take offence, and is not resentful.

Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins  
but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse,  
to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end, but if there are gifts of prophecy,  
the time will come when they must fail;  
or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever;  
and knowledge- for this too, the time will come when it must fail.

For our knowledge is imperfect  
and our prophesying is imperfect;  
but once perfection comes all imperfect things will disappear.

When I was a child, I use to talk like a child,  
and think like a child, and argue like a child,  
but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me.

Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror;  
but then we shall be seeing face to face.

The knowledge that I have now is imperfect:  
but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short,  
there are three that last: faith, hope and love:  
and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**





*RESPONSORIAL PSALM*

**“The Lord Is My Shepherd”**

The Lord is my shepherd and I want to follow.  
Wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.  
Over the mountains, the water and byways,  
Valleys and highways, he’s waiting for me.

**Refrain: I want to go to meet him there  
To lay myself down in his love.**

**The Lord is my shepherd and I want to follow,  
Wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.**

And while on the journey to where we are going  
He promised to be there to help us along  
And over the mountains we will walk on together  
To know all the wonders he’s given to me. **Refrain:**



## *GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**I am the resurrection and the life, said the Lord;**  
**Whoever believes in me will never die.**  
**Alleluia!**

## *GOSPEL*

**Fr O'Reilly:** The Lord be with you.  
**All:** And with your spirit.

**Fr O'Reilly:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew  
**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.

**Fr O'Reilly:** 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 the sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the  
cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy are you when  
people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny  
against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will  
be great in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## *HOMILY*



## *PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL*

**Fr O'Reilly:** We come to our loving Father, asking him to give eternal rest to those who sleep in Christ and comfort and hope to the living.

With faith and love we pray.

**Reader:** We pray that God will accept our praise and thanksgiving for Merle's life. Care for her as she enters eternal life.

We pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the Lord Jesus, who blessed those who mourn, will look upon Merle's family and friends who gather around her today. May we prepare for the hour of our death as worthily as Merle did.

We pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Let us pray for Merle's family who have gone before her, may Christ the good shepherd reunite them into his kingdom.

We pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Let us pray for carers, nurses, doctors and those who cared for Merle, including Dr Mona Andraous and Dr Jane Hill.

We pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** God of our salvation, you reward the just and console those who mourn. Hear this families prayers in the name of your risen Son who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**



## *THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST*

**Fr O'Reilly:** Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

**All:** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy church. Amen.

### *PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS*

#### *EUCHARISTIC PRAYER*

**Fr O'Reilly:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Fr O'Reilly:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Fr O'Reilly:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right and just.

**Fr O'Reilly:** And so with the angels and all the Saints we declare your glory, as with one voice we acclaim:

**All:** 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.

**Fr O'Reilly:** The mystery of faith.

**All:** We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

**Fr O'Reilly:** Through Him, with Him and in Him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.



## *THE COMMUNION RITE*

**Fr O'Reilly:** At the saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** Deliver us, Lord; we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and coming of our saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory  
are yours now and for ever.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your church, and graciously grant him peace and unity in accordance with your will? Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And with your spirit and my soul shall be healed.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

**All: 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.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** Behold the Lamb of God; behold him who takes away the sins of the world, Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word.**



## *COMMUNION HYMN*

### **“ Hail Queen Of Heaven”**

Hail, Queen of heaven, the ocean star,  
Guide of the wanderer here below,  
Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care,  
Save us from peril and from woe.

Mother of Christ, Star of the sea  
Pray for the wanderer, pray for me.  
O gentle, chaste, and spotless Maid,  
We sinners make our prayers through thee;  
Remind thy Son that He has paid  
The price of our iniquity.

Virgin most pure, Star of the sea,  
Pray for the sinner, pray for me.  
Sojourners in this vale of tears,  
Blest advocate, to thee we cry,  
Assuage our sorrows, calm our fears,  
And soothe with hope our misery.

Refuge in grief, Star of the sea  
Pray for the mourner, pray for me.  
And while to Him Who reigns above  
In Godhead one, in Persons three,  
The Source of life, of grace, of love,  
Homage we pay on bended knee:  
Do thou, bright Queen, Star of the sea,  
Pray for thy children, pray for me.





*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

*PRAYER OF COMMENDATION*

*SONG OF FAREWELL*

**Response: Receive her soul and present her to God the most High.**

**Fr O'Reilly:** Saints of God, come to her aid!  
Hasten to meet her, angels of the Lord! **Response**

**Fr O'Reilly:** May Christ, who called you, take you to himself,  
May angels lead you to Abraham's side. **Response**

**Fr O'Reilly:** Eternal rest, grant unto her, O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon her. **Response**

*RECESSIONAL HYMN*  
**"Amazing Grace"**







*Fold her in your arms, Dear Father, and let her henceforth  
be a messenger of love between our hearts and yours.*



**ALAN HARRIS MCDONALD**  
EST. 1928