



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

John Russell Cooper

5th April 1947 - 26th January 2023

CELEBRANT

Father Bernard Thomas

OPENING SONG

"How Great Thou Art" by The Tenors

PALL BEARERS

Led by Stella

Lach Cooper

Ben Cooper

Mick Marien

Tim Cooper

James Cooper

Barry Kennedy

PLACING OF THE
CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

By Tim Cooper

PLACING OF THE
LIFE SYMBOLS

Read by Karla Williams

OPENING PRAYER

Father Bernard Thomas

FIRST READING

Read by Mick Marien

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

There is a season for everything,

A time for every occupation under heaven.

A time for giving birth...a time for dying.

A time for planting.....a time for ploughing

A time for laughter....a time for tears

A time for mourning,.....a time for dancing

A time for throwing stones away....a time for gathering them up

A time for embracing.....a time to refrain from embracing

A time for searching.....a time for losing

A time for keeping.....a time for letting go.

What does a person gain from the efforts they make?

I contemplate the task that God gives us to labour at.

All that is done is apt for its time; but though he has permitted us to consider time in its wholeness, we cannot comprehend the work of God from its beginning to end.

When a person eats and drinks and finds happiness in their work, this is a gift from God.

This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Read by Grace Cooper

R) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R)**

- 2 He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his 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. **R)**

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

- 4 Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R)**

SECOND READING

TIMOTHY 4:6-8

Read by Roz Kensell

As for Me, my life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to depart. I have fought the good fight to the end. I have run the race to the finish! I have kept the faith! All there is to come for me now is the crown of uprightness which the Lord, the upright Judge, will give me on that day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his appearing.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia

God loved the world so much that he gave us his only Son,
That all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Alleluia

THE GOSPEL

Father Bernard Thomas

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

There are many rooms in my Father's house.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you.

I am going now to prepare a place for you,

and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said: 'Lord, we do not know where you are going,
so how can we know the way?'

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

THE HOMILY

Father Bernard Thomas

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Jen Cooper

1 We pray for all creatures on Earth. John had an enduring love of the natural world and was happiest in rainforests and beaches. May our special places be protected for future generations to enjoy and learn from.

John's devoted attention to his dogs Penny, Shibby and Stella are lessons in kindness and compassion that we could all learn from. May all animals enjoy the love and care that John's animals received and we pray that people around the world receive the love and companionship from animals that John always felt.

Lord Hear us

Maggie Cooper

2 We pray for all teachers, the educators of our world. May they continue to be an inspiration in the lives of their students, passing on knowledge and skills to support future generations.

Lord Hear us

Ruby Cooper

3 We pray for John's grandchildren. May they always know how proud he was of them, and the joy they brought into his life.

May they inherit John's love of the natural world, his sense of adventure and his inquisitive nature. May they find signs of their Pop everyday, and know he loved them dearly.

Lord Hear us

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

James Cooper

4 We pray for all aged care workers in Wagga Wagga and around the world. Through their important work, many of our vulnerable citizens receive care, support, love and dignity.

We pray for all the staff from the Forrest Centre in Wagga and in particular Kavita, Derrick and Barb who showered John with respect, care and kindness. May their valuable and essential contribution to the Wagga Wagga community continue and grow.

Lord Hear us

Inga Cooper

5 We pray for the residents of Ingenia Gardens in Wagga Wagga. The love, companionship and support that they provided John will never be forgotten.

May their lives be enriched through having known John and may they be comforted in knowing the respect and friendship that John had for them was of immense importance to him. May all of us learn to look out for each other and support all people within our communities.

Lord Hear us

Lauren Cooper

6 We pray for those who have recently lost loved ones. May they feel the love and support of friends and relatives and have faith that their dearly departed are in God's hands.

May they cherish the beautiful memories of their loved ones and celebrate the contributions that they have made to their families and communities. In particular, we pray for the Kensell and Smith families, the Conallin family and the Wooden family who have all recently lost special people in their lives.

Lord Hear us

PICTORIAL REFLECTION

"Apache"

by The Shadows

"Walk, Don't Run"

by The Ventures

"Unchained Melody"

by The Righteous Brothers



FINAL COMMENDATION

THE COMMITTAL

RECESSIONAL SONG

"Lean On Me" by The Tenors



It is with love and gratitude that the family thank you for your kindness and expressions of sympathy at a time when it is needed and deeply appreciated.

John's family would like to welcome you to the Function Room for light refreshments and to share the many wonderful memories of John's life.



Alan Harris McDonald Chapel
Monday, 6th February 2023