

A Service to Celebrate the Life

— of —

***Nancy Gaffney***

*who died 28th July 2019*



*Funeral Mass*

*Our Lady Help of Christians*

*Navan Road*

*Thursday: 1st August 2019*

*10.30am*

*Celebrant: Father Michael Cullen*

*Organist: Noreen O'Donohoe*

*Singers: Pat Morris, Sophie Whelan,*

*Sadhbh Travers (Harp Soloist)*

**Entrance Hymn: “Close to you”** (I watch the sunrise)

I watch the sunrise lighting the sky,  
Casting its shadows near.  
And on this morning,  
Bright though it be,  
I feel those shadows near me.

But you are always close to me,  
following all my ways.  
May I be always close to you,  
following all your ways Lord.

I watch the sunlight shine through the clouds,  
Warming the earth below.  
And at the midday life seems to say,  
I feel your brightness near me.

For you are always close to me,  
following all my ways.  
May I be always close to you,  
following all your ways Lord.

I watch the sunset, fading away,  
Lighting the clouds and sea.  
And as the evening, closes its eyes,  
I feel your presence near me.

Yes, you are always close to me  
following all my ways.  
May I be always close to you,  
following all your ways Lord.

**Reading 1: Jane Farrell** (granddaughter)

**A reading from *The Book of Wisdom***

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God,  
no torment shall ever touch them.  
In the eyes of the foolish, they seem to die,  
their going looked like a disaster,  
Their leaving us to be their destruction;  
but they are at peace.  
For though in the sight of others they were punished,  
their hope was rich immortality.  
Those who trust in him will understand the truth,

those who are faithful will live with him in love;  
for the Lord watches over his chosen ones.

***This is the Word of the Lord***

*Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm: Thomas Shepard “The Lord is my Shepherd” (Sung)**

Refrain; The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want

Verse 1 The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want,

fresh and green are the pastures, where He gives me repose

Refrain

Verse 2; Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my dropping spirit,

He guides me along the right path, He is true to His name

Refrain

**Reading 2: Kevin Gaffney (grandson)**

**A reading from the *First letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians***

We want you to be quiet certain, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, to make sure you do not grieve about them like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus.

God will bring them with him.

With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

***This is the Word of the Lord***

*Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation: “Alleluia” (Sung)**

Alleluia

Speak Lord your servant is listening, you have the message of eternal life,

Alleluia

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

**John Philpott (grandson)**

For all who grieve at the death of Nancy,  
That they may be comforted by faith, family and friends.

*Lord, hear us*  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

**Kathleen Mc Donnell** (niece)

We pray for all gathered here in prayer and faith.  
Lord, gather us all, one day, in your eternal kingdom.

*Lord, hear us*  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

**Evelyn Gaffney** (daughter)

For all deceased relatives and friends.  
In particular we remember our father, Mick Gaffney.  
That the Lord may bring them into the light of His presence.

*Lord, hear us*  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

**Ben Philpott** (son-in-law)

Nancy fought the good fight.  
She finished the race.  
May she now receive the crown of eternal glory Christ won for us with His death  
and resurrection.

*Lord, hear us*  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

**Noah Gaffney** (great grandson)

We pray for our great grandparents who loved us.  
We know they are happy in heaven.

*Lord, hear us*  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

**Therese Gaffney** (daughter-in-law)

We pray for all who cared for Nancy in her later years.  
In particular Rena and the staff and nurses in Ryevale Nursing Home.  
The staff of “All in Care”.  
Nancy’s neighbours and friends in Ratoath Estate who were so kind and  
supportive of her.

*Lord, hear us*  
*Lord, graciously hear us.*

**Offertory: “As I kneel before you”**

As I kneel before you,  
As I bow my head in prayer,  
Take this day, make it yours  
and fill me with your love.

Refrain:

Ave Maria,  
Gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum,  
Benedicta tu.

All I have I give you,  
Every dream and wish are yours,  
Mother of Christ,  
Mother of mine, present them to my Lord.

(Repeat)

**Offertory Gifts:**      **Ella Gaffney** (great granddaughter)  
                                 **Betty Philpott** (daughter)  
                                 **Rita O’Reilly** (niece)

**Sign of Peace: Harp solo** – “Eleanor Plunkett (slow air) T O’Carolan”

**Communion Hymns: “Pie Jesu”** A Lloyd Weber

Pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu  
Qui tollis peccata mundi  
Dona eis requiem, dona eis requiem  
Pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu

Qui tollis peccata mundi  
Dona eis requiem, dona eis requiem  
Agnus Dei, Agnus Dei, Agnus Dei, Agnus Dei  
Qui tollis peccata mundi  
Dona eis requiem, dona eis requiem  
Dona eis requiem  
Sempiternam  
Dona eis requiem  
Sempiternam Requiem  
Sempiternam

***“The Old Rugged Cross”***

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
The emblem of suffering and shame;  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
And exchange it some day for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,  
Has a wondrous attraction for me;  
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above  
To bear it to dark Calvary.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
And exchange it some day for a crown.

**Blessing: *“Jesus, remember me”***

Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.

**Eulogy by: Eamonn Gaffney (son)**

**Recessional: *“The Old Bog Road” – a favourite song of Nancy’s. Recorded by Brendan Hogan in the 1950s. Brendan was a good friend from her home town Borrisokane.***



*“The Old Bog Road*

Author: Teresa Brayton (1868-1943)

My feet are here on Broadway  
this blesses harvest morn  
But Oh the ache that's in them  
for the spot where I was born  
My weary hands are blistered  
from work in cold and heat  
and Oh to swing a scythe today  
through fields of Irish wheat  
Had I the chance the wander back  
or own a king's abode  
'tis soon I'd see the hawthorn tree  
by the Old Bog Road

My mother died last springtime  
when Ireland's fields of green  
The neighbours said her waking  
was the finest ever seen  
There were snowdrops and primroses  
piled up beside her bed  
And Ferran's Church was crowded  
when her funeral Mass was said  
But here was I on Broadway  
and bitter was my load  
when they carried out her coffin  
down the Old Bog Road

Och, Life's a weary puzzle  
past finding out by man  
I take the day for what it's worth  
and do the best I can  
Since no one cares a rush for me  
what need a man to moan  
I go my way and draw my pay  
and smoke my pipe alone  
Each human heart must know it's grief  
Though little be it's load  
So God be with old Ireland  
and the Old Bog Road



*Nancy Gaffney*



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