

A Service to Celebrate the Life

— of —

Catherine O'Higgins

26th of February 2023



Funeral Mass

St. Mochta's Church Porterstown

Monday: 20th March 2023

10.00am

Celebrant: Very Reverend Paul Ward

Sacristan: Joe Molloy

Funeral Ministry Team: Kate Callaghan, Alice Crotty

Soloist: Cecelia Byrne

Organist: Owen Tierney

Entrance Hymn: Abide with me

Symbols of Catherine's Life

Noelle Collins carries a teddy bear which represents Catherine's love and kindness to all her nieces and nephews.

Margaret Aird carries a stylish hat. Catherine was a very glamorous lady with an active social life among her many friends in London and at family gatherings back in Ireland.

Gary Fogarty carries a Harrods bag. Catherine had a lifelong dedication and commitment to work. She spent many years working in Harrods where she was a valued employee and a great saleswoman.

Shane O' Higgins carries a statue of St. Teresa of Lisieux. Catherine had a deep faith and a devotion to St. Teresa and to Padre Pio.

Reading 1: Readers Name: Geraldine Fogarty

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-8)

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for everything under the heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die; A time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant. A time to kill, and a time to heal; A time to tear down, and a time to build. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; A time to mourn, and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones, and time to gather them; A time to embrace, and a time to be free from embraces. A time to seek, and a time to lose; A time to keep, and a time to cast away. A time to rend, and a time to sow; A time to be silent, and a time to speak. A time to love, and a time to hate; A time of war, and a time of peace. What advantage has the worker from his toil? I have considered the task that God has appointed for the sons of men to be busied about. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without man's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

*This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.*

Responsorial Psalm

Mo Grá Thú a Thiarna

Reading 2: Readers Name: Deirdre Gormley

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

We know that for those who love God, and are called to his plan, everything works out for the good. With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own son but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain that after such a gift he will not refuse anything he can give. When God acquits can anyone condemn? Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of God even if we are troubled or worried. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power nor any created thing can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Gospel Acclamation Hymn: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful:

Readers Name: Mary Donohoe

Prayer

We pray for Catherine's many friends in London and Dublin, who have enriched her life and were inspired by the goodness she radiated. Pray that God will comfort them in their sorrow.

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

Readers Name: Tom O' Higgins

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We ask you for your Mercy and Grace for Catherine, as she passes from this life into eternity.

We pray also, for those who are left behind. May they find comfort and hope in your presence and the promise of eternal life.

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

Readers Name: Bernadette Gogarty

Prayer

Let us pray, for all those who care for the sick and for those who took care of Catherine during her illness, especially the Nurses and Doctors, of Charing Cross Hospital, in London.

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

Readers Name: Brendan O' Higgins

Prayer

Pray for all the departed and for Catherine, who has gone to Heaven, that she may share everlasting peace and happiness with her Parents, Colm and Margaret.

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

Readers Name: Lucy Travers

Prayer

We thank God for the gift and privilege of knowing Catherine. We thank him for the hope, joy and laughter she brought into our lives.

Lord, hear us

Lord, graciously hear us.

Offertory Procession

Hymn: Ave Maria, Bach

Offertory Gifts – Simone Scalzo and Laura Gornley

Communion

Hymn 1: Pie Jesu

Hymn 2: Nella Fantasia

End of the mass

A poem read by Alex Gogarty

Final Flight

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path of God laid for me,
I took his hand, when I heard his call,
I followed him and left it all

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the end of the day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah, yes, these things too I will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

Recessional

Song of Choice: Going Home



Catherine O'Higgins

