

Diocese of Dublin

Castleknock & Mulhuddart with Clonsilla



*Funeral Service of Thanksgiving
for the Life of*

Avril Watters

15th November 1964 - 2nd July 2019

Thursday: 4th July 2019

at

11.00am

St. Brigid's Castleknock

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

We receive the body of our sister Avril,
With confidence in God, the giver of life,
Who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead.

Grant, Lord, that we who are baptized into the death of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually put to death our evil desires and be buried with him; that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection, through his merits, who died and was buried, and rose again for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sentences of Scripture

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.'

John 11: 25-26

I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8: 38-39**

We brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out, the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord. **1 Timothy 6: 7; Job 1: 21**

Greeting

We meet in the name of Christ who died and was raised by the glory of God the Father. Grace and mercy be with you all **and also with you.**

Introduction and Prayer

We have come here today to remember before God our dear sister Avril; to give thanks for her life, to leave her in the keeping of God her creator, redeemer and judge, to commit her body to be buried, and to comfort one another in our grief, in the hope that is ours through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we pray that here today we may know the peace of Christ in communion with all God's faithful servants

God of all consolation, whose Son Jesus Christ was moved to tears at the grave of Lazarus his friend:
Look with the compassion on us your children in our loss;
give to our troubled hearts the light of hope,
and strengthen in us the gift of faith,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Tribute – Seamus Keenan

Hymn - *All things bright and beautiful*

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
he made their tiny wings:
All things bright and beautiful....

The purple headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky:
All things bright and beautiful....

He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God almighty,
who has made all things well.
All things bright and beautiful....
(Mrs Cecil F Alexander, 1818-95)

Penitential Kyries

As children of a loving heavenly Father, let us seek the forgiveness of God, for he is full of gentleness and compassion.
Call to remembrance, O Lord, your compassion, and your loving kindness, for they have been from old
Lord have mercy.
Lord, have mercy

Remember not my sins nor my transgressions,
but according to your mercy think on me.
Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy

O keep my life, and deliver me, put me not to shame, for I have put my trust in you.
Lord have mercy.
Lord, have mercy

May God our Father forgive us our sins and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom where dust and ashes have no dominion.
Amen

The Collect

Merciful Father,
hear our prayers and comfort us,
renew our trust in your Son, whom you raised from the dead, strengthen our faith that all who have died in the love of Christ will share in his resurrection; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen

Hymn -The King of love my shepherd is

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.
(Sir Henry W Baker, 1821-77)

The First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time
for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
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 a time to gather
them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from
embracing
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Musical Tribute 'Sing'

(Gary Barlow & Andrew Lloyd Webber)

The Second Reading.

Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth,"
for the first heaven and the first earth had
passed away, and there was no longer any
sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem,

coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Sermon – Rt Revd Paul Colton

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn – Glorious things of thee are spoken

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word can ne'er be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,

and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage:
grace which, like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age?

Saviour, since of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.
(John Newton, 1725-1807)

Poem – 'She is Gone' by David Harkins

You can shed tears that she is gone
Or you can smile because she has lived

You can close your eyes and pray that she will
come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she
has left

Your heart can be empty because you can't see
her
Or you can be full of the love that you shared

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live
yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of
yesterday

You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and
turn your back
Or you can do what would want: smile, open
your eyes, love and go on.

Musical Tribute – Amazing Grace

THE PRAYERS

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver
of all comfort; deal graciously we pray with
those who mourn: Seamus, Peter, Ali, Nadine
and Edwin and Avril's wider family circle, that,
casting all their care on you they may know
the consolation of your love through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Dear God, thank you for the gift of Avril as a
wonderful aunt. We all love her and will miss
her forever. We remember her kindness and
her sense of humour. She was such a great
example to us during her illness.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all of Avril 's friends in the Girls'
Brigade. We will miss her so much. We thank
God for all of the wonderful memories of her
and for all of the happy times we spent with
her at Girls' Brigade activities.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank God for all those who cared for Avril
during her illness, particularly the doctors and
nurses who were on her care team. We thank
God for her circle of friends who supported her
in so many different ways when she was sick.
We know it meant so much to her.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant, Lord, that we who lay to rest the body
of our sister Avril, in hope of resurrection to
eternal life, may firmly believe and continue in
the fellowship and communion of your saints;
through Jesus Christ or Lord.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Heavenly Father,
in your Son Jesus Christ
you have given us a true faith
and a sure hope.
Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our
days,
that we may live as those who believe in
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
and the resurrection to eternal life:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer
**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn - Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting king!

Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless:
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him,
glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him,
widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.
(Sir John Goss, 1800-80)

Tribute – Nadine Watters

Hymn – Abide with Me

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's
power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic-
tory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the

skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain
shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.
(Henry F Lyte, 1793-1847)

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in
peace: according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation which
thou hast prepared before the face of all peo-
ple; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to
be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to
the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and
ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

The Committal will take place following this service in the adjoining St Brigid's Churchyard.

Avril's family deeply appreciate your presence and support here today. They would like to invite you for refreshments at The Westmanstown Golf Club after the burial.





Avril Watters