

**Mass for the Repose of the Soul of**  
**Delma Jean Sexton**

**1st January 1923 – 21 February, 2018**



**Our Holy Redeemer Church, Surrey Hills**  
**26 February, 2018**

**Celebrant Father Len Thomas**



Christopher's First Communion

## **Entrance Hymn: Here I am Lord**

I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,  
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.  
I who make the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright,  
Who will bear my light to them, whom shall I send ...

*Here I am Lord, it is I Lord  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go Lord if you lead me  
I will hold your people in my heart*

I the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied,  
I will give my life to them, whom shall I send ...

*Here I am Lord, it is I Lord  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go Lord if you lead me  
I will hold your people in my heart*

## **Opening Prayer:**

Celebrant:

O God, in whom sinners find mercy and the saints find joy,  
we pray to you for our sister, Jean, whose body we honour  
that she may be delivered from the bonds of death.  
Admit her to the joyful company of your saints and raise her  
on the last day to rejoice in your presence forever.  
We ask you this through Christ Our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Eulogy:**

Kathy Moynihan

## Liturgy of the Word

**First Reading: Book of Wisdom 3:1-9**

Kathy Moynihan

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God,  
no torment shall ever touch them.  
In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die,  
their going looked like a disaster,  
their leaving us like annihilation; but they are in peace.  
If they experienced punishment as we see it,  
their hope is rich with immortality;  
slight was their affliction, great will their blessings be.  
God has put them to the test  
and proved them worthy to be with him;  
he has tested them like gold in a furnace,  
and accepted them as a holocaust.  
They who trust in him will understand the truth,  
those who are faithful will live with him in love,  
for grace and mercy await those he has chosen.  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**

(sung)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want, He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green, He leadeth me, the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill.  
For thou art with me, and thy rod, and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished, in presence of my foes,  
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life, shall surely follow me.  
And in god's house for evermore, my dwelling-place shall be.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

(Please stand)

Alleluia  
Happy are those who have died in the Lord;  
Let them rest from their labours  
For their good deeds go with them  
Alleluia!

## **Gospel according to John 14: 1-6**

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 don't 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.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

(Please sit)

## **Homily**

**Prayers of the Faithful:**      Joan Hickey      (Please stand)

Celebrant: God our Almighty Father raised Christ his Son from the dead.  
We thank God for the gift of Jean's life.  
We ask you Lord to receive our prayers.  
Give eternal rest to Jean whose death is mourned by her  
friends; comfort them in their sorrow and fill their hearts with  
the peace of Christ. May they keep her memory alive in their  
hearts. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

For all those who have died in Christ, especially Jean's husband  
John, their son Christopher, her parents and her brothers, and  
all their family, may they be united in peace and joy in your  
kingdom. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

Jean worked hard throughout her life, always thinking of  
others rather than herself. May we model this virtue in our  
own lives. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for all the medical and nursing staff at Uniting AgeWell  
in Box Hill, who were so kind and generous to Jean and took  
great care of her. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer**

Lord, welcome Jean into your kingdom. May we always  
remember her warmth, generosity, guidance and cheerfulness,  
and may we live by her simple attitude of acceptance,  
thankfulness and finding joy in all things. Lord hear us

**All: Lord hear our prayer**

Celebrant Ever loving God, help us to live our lives gently with others and  
to trust and believe that Jean is never far away from us.  
May her love bind us more closely together until that day when  
we meet again with you in your Kingdom.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen**

# Liturgy of the Eucharist

## Offertory Hymn: Come to the Water

*Refrain:*

*Come to the water, you who are thirsty,  
Though you have nothing, I bid you come  
And be filled with the goodness I have to offer  
Come! Listen! Live!*

Why spend your money on what cannot fill  
the emptiness deep in your heart?  
Listen to my word and you will enjoy  
goodness and peace in your heart! *Refrain*

Just as the heavens are high above earth,  
my ways and thoughts beyond you  
Call me your Father, and know I am near  
I will be Father to you! *Refrain*

Just as the rain falls to water the earth,  
Just as a seed becomes bread,  
My word upon you can never return  
Until my longing is filled! *Refrain*

## Eucharistic Prayer

Acclamation: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All:           Dying you destroyed our death,  
Rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.  
                  For the kingdom, the power and the glory is yours  
                  Now and forever, Amen.**

Sign of Peace.

## **Communion Rite**

**Communion Hymn: Come As You Are**

(Deirdre Browne)

Come as you are, that's how I want you  
Come as you are, feel quite at home.  
Close to my heart, loved, and forgiven;  
Come as you are, why stand alone?

No need to fear, love sets no limits,  
No need to fear, love never ends.  
Don't run away, shamed and dishearten'd.  
Rest in my love, trust me again.

I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.  
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.  
Each time you fail to live by my promise,  
Why do you think I'd love you the less?

Come as you are, that's how I love you.  
Come as you are, trust me again.  
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.  
All will be well, just come as you are.



## **Rite of Commendation**

Celebrant: Trusting in God, we have prayed together for Jean and now we come to the last farewell. There is sadness in parting, but we take comfort in the hope that one day we shall see Jean again and enjoy her friendship.  
Although this congregation will disperse in sorrow, the mercy of God will gather us together again in the joy of his kingdom. Therefore, let us console one another in the faith of Jesus Christ.

Celebrant: Saints of God, come to her aid!  
Hasten to meet her, angels of the Lord!

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

Celebrant: May Christ, who called you, take you to himself;  
May angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

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

Celebrant: Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let  
perpetual light shine upon her.

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

Celebrant: Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our sister Jean, in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, she will rise with him on the last day.

Celebrant: We give you thanks for the blessings which you bestowed upon Jean in this life: they are signs to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the Saints in Christ.

Celebrant: Merciful Lord, turn towards us and listen to our prayers:  
Open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and with our sister forever.     Amen

## **Recessional Hymn: How Great Thou Art**

O Lord, my God! When I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the works thy hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Refrain:*

*Then sings my soul, My saviour God to thee;  
How great thou art, How great thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My saviour God to thee;  
How great thou art, How great thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

*Refrain:*

When Christ shall come mid shouts of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart;  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim: My God how great thou art!

*Refrain:*



Enjoying an afternoon at home – Jean, John and Christopher holding Pup

**I'd like the memory of me  
To be a happy one,  
I'd like to leave an afterglow  
of smiles when life is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo  
whispering softly down the ways,  
of happy times and laughing times  
and bright sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,  
to dry before the sun  
of happy memories that I leave  
when life is done.**



**We thank you for your presence here today  
to farewell Jean, and for your  
prayers and support.**

**Interment will take place today  
at Andersen's Creek Cemetery,  
Warrandyte at 11:30 am.**



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