

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Life of
Dr Gerard John McCaffrey

22 March 1972 – 9 November 2016

Beloved husband of Emily

Loving father to Patrick, Joseph, Louis and Finian

Beloved son of Paul and Maree

Loved brother of Nicholas, Jane, Joseph and Marie-Claire

Loved son-in-law of Max and Jane

Loved brother-in-law of James and Sarah, Johanna and Claudio,
Meg and Gary and Peter, Esther, Daniel, Holly and Clayton

Thursday 17 November 2016

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Hawthorn

Celebrant: Father Des Dwyer

Organist: Michael Fulcher

Members of the choir from Christ Church, South Yarra

The Mass of Thanksgiving

Entrance Hymn

(Please stand)

Abide with me, William Henry Monk

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, oh, 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.

Come not in terrors, as the King of kings;
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings:
Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea;
Come, Friend of sinners, thus 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, oh, 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 victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Opening Prayers

Priest In the name of the Father, and the Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen

Priest The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And with your spirit.

Priest Faithful God, you have lovingly brought Gerard's journey to an end. We praise you for his life of faithfulness and strength. Grant that as we grieve his death we may hold his memory dear and live in the hope that death opens out into glory. We make this prayer through Christ who abides with us forever and ever.

All Amen. *(Please be seated)*

Lighting of Pascal Candle

Meg Chester

Symbols of Life

Stethoscope, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne Staff Badge, Blundstone boots, Indian hoodie, French and Spanish dictionaries, Novel, Digital radio, Lonely Planet Britain, Soccer ball, Coffee cup, Belgian beer, Sour squirms, Family portrait, Flowers

These will be brought forward by Andrew Ryan, David Iser, Joe Ragg, Sam Morley, Teresa Fels, Louis McCaffrey, Simon Jones, Matthew Baker, Joseph McCaffrey, Finian McCaffrey, Anand Ramakrishnan, Marie-Claire McCaffrey, Patrick McCaffrey and Emily McCaffrey

Gerard and Emily's sons and their nieces and nephews will bring forward flowers for Gerard's coffin.

Eulogy

A Love Letter, read by Emily McCaffrey

Pie Jesu, Requiem, Op 48, Gabriel Fauré

Liturgy of the Word

First reading

The letter of St Paul to the Romans

Jane McCaffrey

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials though 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, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

(Sung)

The Lord is kind and merciful.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him;
for he knows of what we are made,
he remembers that we are dust.

As for man, his days are like grass;
he flowers like the flower of the field;
the wind blows and he is gone
and his place never sees him again.

But the love of the Lord is everlasting
upon those who hold him in fear;
his justice reaches out to children's children
when they keep his covenant in truth.

Gospel Acclamation

(Sung)

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father
except through me.

Gospel

Fr Dwyer The Lord be with you.

All And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

***Homily* Father Des Dwyer**

(Please be seated)

Prayers of the Faithful

Fr Dwyer Let us pray to our God for Gerard.

Paul McCaffrey For Gerard, a child of God and heir to the kingdom, that he be held securely in the Father's loving embrace, now and for all eternity.
We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Max Chester Gerard's family seeks comfort and consolation and answers. We ask God to heal their pain and relieve the darkness and doubt that comes with grief.
We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Cheree McNeight Gerard's friends and colleagues have demonstrated the finest gifts of loyalty, patience, compassion and love. May they be richly rewarded for their kindness and generosity.
We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Holly Lakey For all of us assembled here to worship in faith and celebrate Gerard's life, that we will one day be reunited with him in God's kingdom.
We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Catherine Croagh For the exceptional medical staff, palliative care nurses and counsellors who cared for Gerard and his family with great kindness and respect, both in Australia and the UK, that their works of service may be richly blessed.
We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

John Barrington For Maree and the beautiful expression of unconditional love that she gave her beloved son, and for Jane and the kind and loyal service she gave her beloved son-in-law, that they too be richly blessed.
We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Fr Dwyer We ask you, loving God, to hear and grant these and all the prayers in our hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

All Amen

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Presentation of the gifts

Paul and Maree McCaffrey

Offertory Hymn Nearer, My God, to Thee,

Sarah Flower Adams

Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee;
E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Though, like a wanderer, The sun gone down,
Darkness comes over me, My rest a stone;
Yet in my dreams I'd be, Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

There let me see the sight, An open heaven;
All that Thou sendest me, In mercy given;
Angels to beckon me, Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Then, with my waking thoughts, Bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs, Bethel I'll raise,
So by my woes to be, Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Offertory

Fr Dwyer Blessed are you Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we
have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human
hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God forever.

Fr Dwyer Blessed are you Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we
have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human
hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

All Blessed be God forever.

Fr Dwyer Pray brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to
God the almighty Father.

**All May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory
of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

*Fr Dwyer will say a prayer over the gifts, to which all respond **Amen***

Fr Dwyer The Lord be with you
All And with your spirit

Fr Dwyer Lift up your hearts
All We lift them up to the Lord

Fr Dwyer Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right and just

Fr Dwyer *(continues with a long prayer)*

Hosanna *(Sung)*

Fr Dwyer will pray the Eucharistic Prayer

Fr Dwyer The mystery of faith

**All We proclaim your Death O Lord and profess your
Resurrection until you come again.**

Fr Dwyer continues with the Eucharistic Prayer

The Great Amen *(Sung)*

Fr Dwyer At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to sing:

Our Father *(Sung)*

Fr Dwyer Deliver us Lord and the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Fr Dwyer Lord Jesus Christ who live and reign forever and ever.

All Amen

Fr Dwyer The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And with your spirit.

Fr Dwyer Let us offer each other the sign of peace

**All Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

Fr Dwyer Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof
But only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Hymns

If Ye Love Me, Thomas Tallis

Panis Angelicus, César Franck

Jesus, Remember Me, Taizé

Jesus, remember me
When you come into your Kingdom
Jesus, remember me
When you come into your Kingdom

Prayer after Communion

Final Commendation

Fr Dwyer Before we take Gerard to his final resting place, let us take our leave of
him. May our farewell express our love for him; may it ease our sadness
and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet him again when
the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

Signs of Farewell

Fr Dwyer With water, and with incense, we farewell Gerard.
Saints of God, come to his aid!
Come to meet him angels of the Lord!

All Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Fr Dwyer May Christ who called you, take you to himself;
may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

All Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Fr Dwyer Give him eternal rest, O Lord,
and may your light shine on him forever.

All Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Prayer of Commendation

Fr Dwyer Into your hands, God of mercies, we commend our brother Gerard in
the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ,
he will rise with him on the last day.

We give thanks for all his gifts and talents and for all that Gerard was to
his family, friends, and the community.

Grant him eternal rest.

All Amen.

Fr Dwyer In peace let us take our brother, to his place of rest.

Recessional Music

Nessun Dorma, from Turandot, Giacomo Puccini, sung by Luciano Pavarotti

Pall Bearers:

Patrick McCaffrey
Joseph McCaffrey
Joe McCaffrey
James Chester
Peter Chester
Daniel Dwyer

To Those I Love

If I should ever leave you whom I love
To go along the Silent Way, grieve not,
Nor speak of me with tears, but laugh and talk
Of me as if I were beside you there ...
... please do not let the thought of me
Be sad ... For I am loving you just as
I always have ... You were so good to me!
There are so many things I wanted still
To do – so many things to say to you ...
Remember that I did not fear – it was
Just leaving you that was so hard to face ...
We cannot see beyond ... But this I know:
I loved you so – 'twas heaven here with you!

– Isla Paschal Richardson

Gerard's family thanks you most sincerely for your love, kindness and support and your presence here today.

You are warmly invited to join the family for refreshments in the Parish hall before they leave to take Gerard to his place of rest at Sorrento Cemetery.

Following the burial, you are encouraged to continue celebrating Gerard's life with us at
The Wine Room, Auburn Hotel, 85 Auburn Road,
Hawthorn East 3123, from 5.30pm.



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