



Celebration of Life  
**MARGARET ANN KENNY**

24th August 1932 - 3rd January 2021

*Feast of the Epiphany*



**“Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord”**

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church,**  
13 Fernhill Rd, Sandringham

Thursday, 7 January 2021



## **Music Before Mass: Music of "Sheep May Safely Graze"**

### **CELEBRANT**

*Monsignor Peter Kenny*

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND WELCOME**

*Stancea Vichie, Congregational Leader, Missionary Sisters of Service*

### **ENTRANCE SONG: Song of the Body of Christ**

#### **Refrain:**

**We come to share our story. We come to break the bread.  
We come to know our rising from the dead.**

1. We come as your people. We come as your own.  
United with each other, love finds a home.
2. We are called to heal the broken, to be hope for the poor.  
We are called to feed the hungry at our door.
3. Bread of life and cup of promise,  
In this meal we all are one.  
In our dying and our rising, may your kingdom come.
4. You will lead and we shall follow.  
You will be the breath of life; living water,  
we are thirsting for your light.
5. We will live and sing your praises. "Alleluia" is our song.  
May we live in love and peace our whole life long.

## **INTRODUCTORY RITE**

*Fr Peter Kenny*

### **LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE**

**Cel:** In Baptism, Margaret received the light of Christ. That light has guided her throughout her life. May she now enjoy the risen life in Christ, who was alive for her in the vibrancy of creation, and in the people she befriended throughout her life. Amen.

### **SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER**

**Cel:** In the waters of Baptism, Margaret died with Christ and rose with Christ to new life. May she now share with him in eternal glory. Amen.

### **PLACING OF THE PALL**

*Bernadette Madden and Corrie van den Bosch*

**Cel:** At her Baptism Margaret received the white garment, symbol of her being clothed in Christ. She was called and sent into the highways and byways of the world on a mission of love. Imbued by the Spirit, she lived that mission faithfully to the end. We rejoice with her as she is welcomed into the fullness of life eternally. Amen.

### **PLACING OF SYMBOLS**

*Pat Kelly, Marcia McMahon, Betty McManus, Kath Clune  
and Joan Kenny*

- **Bible**
- **MSS Constitutions**

- **Formula of Vows**
- **Framed tapestry -**  
**“Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord”**
- **Family photo**

## **WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE**

*Joan Kenny and Stancea Vichie*

## **OPENING PRAYER**

**Cel:** Let us pray. Gracious God, you anointed Jesus, your living Word, to be good news to the poor, to make the lame walk, set prisoners free, and to proclaim the year of God’s favour. You called Margaret into that same mission, nourished her on your Word in creation, the Scriptures and the Eucharist. As she shared in the life and mission of Jesus, may she now share in the fullness of life with him. This prayer we make through Christ in the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING** (*Isaiah 25:6-9*)

*Bernadette Wallis*

On this mountain, God Sabaoth will prepare for all peoples  
 a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,  
 of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain,  
 God will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples  
 And the shroud enwrapping all nations;  
 Then the Lord God will destroy Death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away the tears from every cheek,  
and take away the people's shame everywhere on earth,  
for the Lord God has spoken.

That day it will be said: See, this is our God  
In whom we hoped for salvation.

God is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice that God has saved us;

For the hand of God rests on this mountain.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (*spoken*)

*Corrie van den Bosch*

**Response: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

Happy the nation whose God is the Lord; the people God has  
chosen. But see the eyes of the Lord are upon those who fear God.

**Response.**

Our souls wait for the Lord, our Lord who is our help and our  
shield. For in God our hearts rejoice, in God's Holy Name we trust.

**Response.**

May your kindness, O Lord, rest upon us as our hope has rested in  
you. **Response.**

## **SECOND READING** (*Ephesians 1:3-10*)

*Bernadette Madden*

Bless God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
who blessed us from heaven through Christ  
with every blessing of the Spirit.

Before laying the world's foundation  
God chose us in Christ  
to live a pure and holy life.

God determined out of love  
to adopt us through Jesus Christ  
for the praise and glory of that grace granted us in the Beloved.

By Christ's blood we were redeemed  
our sins forgiven  
through extravagant love.

With perfect wisdom and insight  
God freely displayed the mystery  
of what was always intended:  
a plan for the fullness of time  
to unite the entire universe through Christ.

## **ALLELUIA**

Alleluia, Alleluia, (*sung*)

I am the Resurrection and the life says the Lord: whoever believes  
in me will not die for ever. Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL** (*Luke 24:13-35*) *The Emmaus Story*

## HOMILY

*Fr Peter Kenny*

### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL / INTERCESSIONS

**Cel:** We gather in faith and pray with confidence for our Sister Margaret. We ask God to strengthen our hope. May we be witnesses to the Gospel message of justice, peace, joy and love.

**Readers:** *Patrick Comarmond and Gabrielle McMullen*

1. God of Wisdom, grant to the Church and world leaders courage and enlightenment in the service of the people and nations in their care. May truth, justice and peace prevail. We pray.

**All: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

2. God of Hospitality, open our minds and hearts to those in need, especially people on the margins and at the edges of society. May we reach out in friendship and love. We pray.

**All: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

3. God of Strength, give healing to those who are sick and who suffer from the Covid-19 virus in our world. Keep safe the many carers and those in the medical profession. In fear, anxiety and weariness of all, may we be filled with trustfulness, hope and energy. We pray.

**All: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

4. God of Generosity, reward with your joy and goodness all those who have cared for Margaret in so many ways during her life, but especially all people who serve in aged care facilities and in other ways supporting people who are ageing. We especially remember all at Mercy Place Fernhill and those associated therein. We pray.

**All: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

5. God of Consolation, offer comfort and care to Margaret's loved family in their sadness, especially to her brother and sister, Peter and Joan. We also pray for sister-in-law, Christine, nephew Patrick and Hana and Misa in Vienna, niece Judy and Andrew and their children, Kayne and Jessica in Sydney - unable to be physically present today, but present through live-streaming. We pray.

**All: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

6. God of Love, we also remember the women of the Missionary Sisters of Service, Margaret's loved community, where she committed her life to love and service to the world. We pray in gratitude for all those associated with the MSS in various unique ways for their support and collaboration. May the MSS mission to people and care of the earth continue to reach out through their mission arm, Highways and Byways - a Community of Service. We pray.

**All: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

7. God of Everlasting Life, give the fullness of Life and Light to those who have died, especially Margaret today, her parents Joe and Belle, and her loved brother, Michael, who died suddenly seven years ago. We also pray for the Founder, Fr John Wallis, and the Missionary Sisters of Service who have gone in faith before Margaret. May they know the embrace of the God of love and welcome.  
We pray.

**All: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

**Cel:** God, our shelter and our strength, you listen in love to the cry of your people: hear the prayers we offer in faith and hope today. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*Marcia McMahon and Marie Nailon*

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

**Cel:** Gracious God, together with the bread and wine, receive the gift of Margaret's life.

**All:** Amen.

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*sung*)

**All:** Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (*sung*)

**All:** Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.  
(*Sung*)

Amen, Amen, Amen. (*Sung*)

## COMMUNION HYMN: I Am Bread of Life

1. I am the Bread of life,  
You who come to me shall not hunger,  
And who believes in me shall not thirst.  
No one can come to me  
Unless the Father beckons.

### **Refrain:**

**And I will raise you up  
And I will raise you up  
And I will raise you up on the last day.**

2. The bread that I will give  
Is my flesh for the life of the world,  
And if you eat of this bread,  
You shall live for ever,  
you shall live for ever. **Refrain.**
3. Unless you eat  
Of the flesh of the Son of Man  
And drink of his blood,  
And drink of his blood,  
You shall not have life within you. **Refrain.**
4. I am the Resurrection, I am the Life,  
If you believe in me,  
Even though you die,  
You shall live for ever. **Refrain.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Cel:** Let us pray. God, Birther of all creation, your Son Jesus Christ gave us the sacrament of his body and blood to guide us on our pilgrim way to your kingdom. May our sister Margaret, who shared in the Eucharist, not only in liturgy, but also in the banquet of life and mission, now find a seat at the eternal banquet of rich food and fine strained wines at the table Christ has prepared for us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen**

## VISUAL PRESENTATION OF MARGARET'S LIFE JOURNEY

**Handel: Largo from "Xerxes"**

## FINAL COMMENDATION / SENDING FORTH

**Incensing :** *Fr Peter Kenny*

**Sprinkling of Water:** *Joan Kenny*

**Cel:** Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our sister, Margaret. May our farewell express our affection for her, may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet her, when the love of Christ, which conquers all things destroys even death itself.

## SONG OF FAREWELL

**Cel:** Saints of God, come to Margaret's aid! Hasten to meet Margaret, Angels of the Lord!

**All: Receive Margaret's soul  
and present her to God the Most High.**

**Cel:** Margaret, May Christ, who called you, embrace you and may Angels lead you into the Kingdom of God.

**All: Receive Margaret's soul  
and present her to God the Most High.**

**Cel:** Eternal rest grant unto Margaret, O God,  
and let perpetual light shine upon her.

**All: Receive Margaret's soul  
and present her to God the Most High.**

**Cel:** Into your hands, Gracious God, we commend Margaret in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, she will celebrate with You on the last day. Merciful God, turn toward us and listen to our prayer. May we who remain continue to be enlivened by her vision and wisdom confident that you will accomplish your purpose in us as you did in Margaret. May we encourage one another with the assurances of faith, until we meet in Christ and are with You and Margaret forever.

**All: Amen.**

## **PROCESSION TO THE PLACE OF COMMITTAL**

**Cel:** In peace let us take Margaret to her place of rest.

*The symbols of the Christian life are now removed  
by those who placed them.*

*Joan Kenny and members of the MSS present will accompany Margaret's coffin out of the Church.*

**RECESSIONAL MUSIC: "I know that my Redeemer Liveth"  
from Handel's Messiah**

## THANK YOU

*The Missionary Sisters of Service and Margaret's family thank you  
for your presence here today.*

*The burial will be at The Springvale Botanical Cemetery  
(We recommend you use the Police Rd entrance)*

A.J Holt Memorial Lawn area (Plane Tree Court) – BE14

*Please join us for refreshments following the burial at the  
Centre for Care and Wellbeing.*



## PSALM OF A YELLOW-FOOTED ROCK WALLABY

*Margaret Kenny*

Sevenhill Retreat September 1999

After a visit to Arkaroola Sanctuary,  
Flinders Ranges. SA.

I pause as I leap upward onto a narrow rocky crag  
to sing your praise Ageless Creator God.

A yellow-footed rock wallaby, my species a vulnerable one.  
This sanctuary my home with its mountains, ridges and valleys.  
rock strata thrust upward out of the earth millions of years ago  
and glacial deposits and creek beds lined with stately river red  
gums.

Fewer goats here now to compete with me for food  
their threat to my existence slowly being reversed.

Kangaroos, emus, euros graze below  
while around us are the shrieks, whistles, cries, chirps and  
twitters of the abundant bird life.  
Elsewhere an eagle stands over its prey, defying competition.

Provident God, send good rains, almost forgotten here.  
Nourish all life and prompt my instinct to breed.  
The river gums hold high in their branches log jams carried by  
floods long past.  
Thank you for the waterholes; fill these valleys with rushing creeks  
again  
And the eremophilas and desert rose will continue to flower.  
While below me an isolated quandong still fruits and drops its  
seeds.

I hear the sound of a 4 wheel-drive in the distance.  
To see me or one of my colony is still a rare sight  
These tourists watch me with subdued excitement and note the  
sighting,  
and there is respect and awe in their regard.

Let those who come here today learn from the Aboriginal hill  
people  
whose special relationship with the land was reflected  
in their gentle and harmonious use of its resources.  
They walked this way to the Ochre Wall collecting precious trade  
for tribes far distant.

May their spirit return and bring good balance to all of Your  
creation.

## GRAVESIDE CEREMONY

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*Bernadette Wallis*

**Cel:** O Gracious God, You revealed your Son, the Christ, to all the nations by the guidance of a star. Grant in your mercy that Margaret who knows you already by faith, be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory.

Let us now bless this sacred Earth from which Margaret's body came and to which we now return it.

*People present sprinkle the holy water*

**Stancea:** Praise to you, God of all creation. May the breath of Creation that surrounds us in these graves, in the trees, grass, and soil, in the birds, in sun and rain, enkindle in us anew your love and desire for beauty.

**All:** **Blessed be God forever.**

**Marcia:** Holy is this grave, holy is this Earth that holds in gentle embrace the bodies of all who are buried here.

**All:** **Blessed be God forever.**

**Kath:** Let us remember what we already know; that life is changed, not taken away. May Margaret's memory live on among us.

**All:** **Blessed be God forever.**

**Bern M:** God of the living, God of our ancestors in faith: Sarah, Elizabeth and Mary, God of our Founder, Fr John Wallis, and of our deceased Missionary Sisters of Service, Margaret's parents and family, receive our prayer this day as we come to lay Margaret's body to rest.

*Pause for silent prayer*

**Corrie:** As God has chosen to call Margaret our sister, from this life, we surrender her body to this sacred Earth. We commend her to our loving God who embraces her in peace and will raise her up on the last day.

**All:** **Amen.**

**Cel:** Let us remember the promise of hope as we receive God's Word.

**READING** (*Extracts from 1 John*)

*Patrick Comarmond*

In love there can be no fear  
Fear is driven out by perfect love...  
Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us  
By letting us be called God's children;  
And that is what we are...  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
But what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;  
All we know is that when it is revealed  
We shall be like God  
Because we shall see God just as God really is...  
Let us love one another  
Since love comes from God...  
God is love...

The Word of the God.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Cel:** With longing for the coming of God's kingdom,  
let us pray:

**All: Our Father.....**

*The coffin is lowered.*

**BLESSING**

*Stancea Vichie*

**All: God of eternity, in your light we see light. We pray that Margaret may rest in peace until you awaken her into the splendour of that light, where she will see you face to face and join all creation in your eternal dance of joy.**

**May God bless Margaret and keep her. May God's face shine upon her and be gracious to her. May God look upon her with kindness and give her peace.**

**May Mary's mantle shield us and may the grace of God be ours. Amen.**

*You may respect the love Margaret had for the Australian bush by placing gum leaves on her coffin.*

*Thank you again for your attendance here today.  
Please join us for refreshments.*





*Margaret and Joan at Cradle Mountain, Tasmania in 2009*

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