

**ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH
IRISHTOWN**



**FUNERAL SERVICE AND CELEBRATION
OF THE LIFE OF
JOAN HELEN LEWIS (NÉE HANNON)**

12TH APRIL 1927 – 19TH NOVEMBER 2022

SHE LIVED LIFE TO THE FULL - NOW AT REST

Monday 28th November 2022

GREETING

The minister says:

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

Hymn No. 62: 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 victory?
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.

We have come here today to remember before God our dear sister Joan, 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 cremated, 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 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**

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 of 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 for ever. **Amen**

Psalm 23 as Hymn No. 21: The Lord's my Shepherd

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.

**FIRST READING: A Reading from the Book Ecclesiastes
chapter 3, verses 1 to 7**

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity 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,
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,

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Hymn No. 643: Be thou my vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breast-plate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my armour, and be thou my might;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

High King of heaven, when the battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's sun,
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

SECOND READING: A reading from St. John's Gospel, chapter 14 verses 1 to 6 and 27

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?'

Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

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

Reflection – “She is Gone” - Read by Brian Lewis

Part 2 of the canticle TE DEUM

You, Christ, are the King of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you took our flesh to set us free
you humbly chose the virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

Reflections – Read by Joan's Grandchildren

THE PRAYERS

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.

Hymn No. 73: The day thou gavest Lord, is ended

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended,
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy church unsleeping,
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun, that bids us rest, is waking
thy people 'neath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Eulogy – Derek Lewis

Thanks – Don Lewis

The Farewell in Christ

The minister says

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth

A time of silence is kept

THE EASTER ANTHEMS *1 Corinthians 15: 20-22*

Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who sleep.
For as by man came death,
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die,
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
**as it was in the beginning is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen**

God our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and entered into glory. Confident of his victory and claiming his promises, we now leave your servant Joan in your gracious keeping; in the name of Jesus our Lord, who died and is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

**Grateful thanks to Joan's Grandchildren,
David, Sarah, Amy, Matthew and Jonathan
for their involvement in today's service.**

Our service continues in the Victorian Chapel,
Mount Jerome Crematorium, Harold's Cross at
1pm.

The family invite you to join them for
refreshments in The Talbot Hotel, Stillorgan
following the cremation.

Donations in lieu of flowers, if desired, to
St. Matthew's Church Restoration Fund.

There is a donate button on our parish website,
stmattschurch.ie,
there is a plate in the parish room as you leave the church
or it is possible to use this QR code





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