

We gather together to give thanks for the life of

MARGARET CONNOLLY

Who began life's voyage on 7th November, 1937

And who was called by Christ to eternal life

On 29th December, 1998



PRAYERS OF CHRISTIAN FAREWELL

Allambe Gardens Chapel
Monday 4th January, 1999.

Celebrant: Fr Joseph Thottankara

OPENING PRAYER:

Almighty God and Father, it is our certain faith that your Son, who died on the cross, was raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Grant that through this mystery your servant Margaret, who has gone to her rest in Christ, may share in the joy of his resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen



FIRST READING: *"TOGETHERNESS"* Read by John Tucker

Death is nothing at all - I have only slipped away into the next room, whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Call me by my old familiar name, speak to me in the easy way which you always used; laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be the household word that it always was, let it be spoken without effort - life means all that it ever was; there is absolute unbroken continuity.

Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight? I am but waiting for you, for an interval somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well, nothing is past; nothing is lost. One brief moment and all will be as it was before - only better, infinitely happier and forever - we will all be one together with Christ.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
(Please all say together)

"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD"

(Psalm 22)

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me
repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my
drooping spirit.



He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I
fear. You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my
foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is
overflowing. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow
me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I
dwell for ever and ever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia. "I am the resurrection
and the life," said the Lord. "Whoever
believes in me will not die forever."
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 14: 1-6

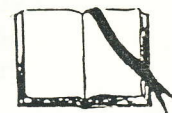
Jesus said: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still
and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house. If
there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a
place for you. And after I have gone and prepared you a place, I
shall return to take you with me, so that where I am, you may be
also. You know the way to the place where I am going".

Thomas said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going so 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."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY: Fr. Joe



This Is The
Word Of the
Lord

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Read by Vaughan Clark

Margaret showed much love for others in this life. May she now experience the loving mercy of God. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the family of Margaret especially Des, Greg, Leanne, and Tracey, and her relatives and friends. In their time of grief, may they find support in the community of Faith. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who mourn for Margaret. May they find comfort in her example of gentleness and consideration for others well-being, her sensitivity and generosity. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.



OUR FATHER: Said (Please stand)

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. Amen.

FINAL COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL: Prayer & Blessing

Fr. Joe: 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 again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

Fr. Joe: Saints of God, come to her aid! Hasten to meet her angels of the Lord!

ALL: *Receive her soul and present her to God the most high.*

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

ALL: *Receive her soul and present her to God the most high.*

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

ALL: *Receive her soul and present her to God the most high.*

Fr. Joe: Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our sister Margaret in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, she will rise with him on the last day. We give you thanks for the blessings which you bestowed upon Margaret in this life: they are signs to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.



Merciful Lord, turn toward 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 Margaret for ever.

ALL: *Amen*

FAREWELL MUSIC: Tape

