



REQUIEM MASS FOR THE LIFE OF ROSE



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ROSEMARY VERA ANNE AHRENS

05/05/1961 – 16/05/2025

Aged 64 years





REQUIEM MASS OFFERED AT

St Mary's Catholic Church
160 Foster St, Dandenong

Friday, 23rd May 2025

Celebrant
Fr Michael Willemsen

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INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

(Please Stand)

Here I am, Lord

Composer Daniel Schutte

*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 made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

Chorus

*Here I am Lord. Is it 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 snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them, Whom shall I send? (Chorus)*

*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? (Chorus)*

GREETING

(Please Stand)

Priest: May the Father of mercies, the God of all consolation, be with you

All: And with your spirit..

SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER

Priest: In the waters of baptism, Rose died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May she now share with him in eternal glory. Amen.

PLACING OF THE PALL

The pall is then placed on the coffin

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

Jorg Matthew Joshua and David Ahrens

Family comes forward to light the candle

PLACING OF CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

Book of the Gospels or Bible

Josephine Hewitt

Priest: In life Rose cherished the Gospel of Christ. May Christ now greet her with these words of eternal life

All: Come, blessed of my Father!

Cross

Bernadette Hance

Priest: In baptism Rose received the sign of the Cross.

All: May she now share in Christ's victory over sin and death.

Rosary Beads

Neil Custerson

Priest: In life Rose prayed the mystery of Christ through the Rosary.

All: May Christ now welcome her to the throne of grace.

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Neil Custerson and Bernadette Hance

COLLECT

Priest: 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 Rose, 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.

(Please sit)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING (*sit*)

A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans (8:31-35, 37-39)

Elizabeth Hance

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! he not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us. 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 through 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 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 my Shepherd

by Brian Boniwell

*The Lord is my Shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.*

*Over the mountains, the waters and by-ways,
valleys and highways he's waiting for me.*

*I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.*

*And while on the journey to where we are going,
he promised to be there to help us along.
And over the mountains we'll walk on together,
to know all the wonders he's given to me*

*I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*(Please stand)*

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Happy are those who have died
in the Lord; Let them rest from their labours for their good
deeds go with them. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL

(John 12:23–28)

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it is for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’ a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

(Please sit)

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL *(Please stand)*

Priest: God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead:

Molly: For Auntie Rose who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that she now be admitted to the company of the saints, along with her mum, dad and brother Richard. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Molly: For Auntie Rose who was nourished at the table of the Saviour. That she may be welcomed into the halls of the heavenly banquet. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Kaitlyn: That family and friends of Auntie Rose seek comfort and consolation. Let us pray that God will heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Kaitlyn: For all medical staff. That they continue to heal and provide the sick and dying with dignity and a joyful heart, knowing they serve others in need. We pray to the Lord

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Amanda: For the gift of Auntie Rose and the many hours of love, friendship and eternal giving she gave to all those she met. We ask God to bless everyone with the Holy Spirit to go and do the same, to serve others. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Amanda: That God will welcome into glory those of our family and friends who have departed this life, especially Auntie Rose's mum and dad, her brother Richard and all those close to our heart. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: God, our shelter and our strength, you listen in love to the cry of your people: hear the prayers we offer for our departed brothers and sisters. Cleanse them of their sins and grant them the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen. *(Please sit)*

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS *(bread and wine)*

Camille Custerson

OFFERTORY HYMN

Our Supper Invitation

by Kevin Bates

Take of my bread and eat, drink my new wine.

Take of my life and live, branch of my vine.

Let me befriend you now; eat take your fill.

Don't be afraid to dream; love has its will.

Take up your burden now, walk 'til you find

Just what the journey means; walk while there's time.

Food for the journey will answer your need.

Don't be afraid to walk; love, my love will lead.

Take of my bread and eat, drink my new wine.

Be a sweet nourishment to good friends of mine.

Let me befriend you now; eat, take your fill.

Share with your people, that love has its will.

Take of my bread and eat, drink my new wine.

Take of my life and live, branch of my vine.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Priest: Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father. *(Please stand)*

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.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Priest: As we humbly present to you these sacrificial offerings, O Lord, for the salvation of your servant Rose, we beseech your mercy, that she, who did not doubt your Son to be a loving Saviour, may find in him a merciful Judge. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever

All: Amen.

PREFACE

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

The priest continues the preface

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.

(Please kneel)

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

(sung)

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

The priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: Through him and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

(Sung)

(Please stand)

COMMUNION RITE

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant us peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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

SIGN OF PEACE

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD *(Sung)*

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.

(Please kneel)

COMMUNION PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come As You

by D Brown

*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?*

*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.*

Pass it on

by Kurt Kaiser

*It only takes a spark, to get a fire going
And soon all those around, can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it
You spread His love to ev'ryone You want to pass it on*

*What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing the flowers start their blooming
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it
You want to sing it's fresh like spring You want to pass it on*

*I wish for you my friend this happiness that I've found
You can depend on Him it matters not where you're bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top I want my world to know
The Lord of love has come to me I want to pass it on*

REFLECTION HYMN AFTER COMMUNION

The Rose *sung by Josephine Hewitt*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(Please stand)

Priest: Lord God, whose Son left us, in the Sacrament of his Body, food for the journey, mercifully grant that, strengthened by it, our sister Rose may come to the eternal table of Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

VISUAL PRESENTATION OF ROSE'S LIFE

FINAL COMMENDATION

INVITATION TO PRAYER

(Please stand)

Preist: Before we go our separate ways, let us take our leave of sister Rose. 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.

SILENCE

All pray in silence.

SIGNS OF FAREWELL

Sprinkling and incensing of the coffin.

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

All: Receive her soul and present her God the Most High.

Priest: 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.

Priest: 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.

PRAYER OF COMMENDATION

Priest: Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our sister Rose, 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 have bestowed upon Rose 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 for ever.

All: Amen.

PROCESSION TO THE PLACE OF COMMITTAL

Priest: In peace let us take our sister to her place of rest.

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

[C] May the angels lead you into paradise, may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you into the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

All: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Nearer my God to thee:

Lowell Mason, Schrelo Classic



THANK YOU

Jorg, Matthew, Joshua, David, Lauren and Jade, and extended family, would like to thank you for your presence here and for the love and sympathy you have offered to us.

Rose was a beautiful soul and always most gracious to everyone who came into her presence. A rare beauty in the ordinariness of life, just like a rose in bloom.

Family and friends are welcome to join with us for refreshments after the burial at Shepley Oval, Pultney Street Dandenong to remember Rose.



ROSE'S RECIPE

*Begin with a pound of **selflessness** and half a pound of **love**.*

*Mix together before adding 2 pinches of **kindness**.*

*Combine a dash of **sensitivity** with another pound of selflessness.*

*Stir with a **smile**.*

*Then add a sprinkle of **genuine concern** for others.*

Beware when you bring it to the boil !!!

*Then say a **prayer** while it cools down.*

*Wrap it in **open arms**.*

Before serving it up for others to share

*A taste of your **faith** !!!*

And in the words of Gordon Ramsay -

“Rose - Your recipe tastes genuinely unique !!!”

This is you

On a plate.

Simply a perfect 10.

Thank - you.

