

On the death of the Beloved



Though we need to weep your loss, you dwell in that safe place in our hearts,
Where no storm or might or pain can reach you.



Your love was like the dawn, brightening over our lives
Awakening beneath the dark. A further adventure of colour.
The sound of your voice found for us a new music that brightened everything.
Whatever you enfolded in your gaze quickened in the joy of its being;
You placed smiles like flowers on the altar of the heart.
Your mind always sparkled with wonder at things.
Though your days here were brief, your spirit was live, awake, complete.

We look towards each other no longer, from the old distance of our names;
Now you dwell inside the rhythm of breath, as close to us as we are to ourselves.
Though we cannot see you with outward eyes,
We know our soul's gaze is upon your face,
Smiling back at us from within everything to which we bring our best refinement.

Let us not look for you only in memory, where we would grow lonely without you.
You would want us to find you in presence, Beside us when beauty brightens,
When kindness glows and music echoes eternal tones.
When orchids brighten the earth, Darkest winter has turned to spring;
May this dark grief flower with hope in every heart that loves you.

May you continue to inspire us: to enter each day with a generous heart.
To serve the call of courage and love until we see your beautiful face again
In that land where there is no more separation,
Where all tears will be wiped from our mind,
And where we will never lose you again. (John O'Donohue)



Reflection:-

*May the Lord fill you with consoling blessings,
to give you comfort in your sorrow,
to bring peace to your aching heart,
to hold your hand through the tears.
May his eternal love enfold all those
you hold dear and miss so very much
and give you hope in the blessings to come. Amen.*

Ballinhassig Parish

for church areas of Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill

Annual Mass for the Bereaved



*My soul finds rest,
in God alone;
My salvation
comes from him.
(Psalm 62)*



Reflection:-

We are born in exile and die there too. As soon as we set sail on
the great voyage of life, we begin our return.
We spend our lives dreaming of a homeland we have never seen.
Like homing birds that are released in a strange country,
and know no rest until they return home. So it is with us.
When we die, we not so much as go to God as return to God.

**Sacred Heart Church, Ballyheada
Tuesday November 19th, 2013**

Opening Hymn

Address of Welcome

Liturgy of the Word:- First Reading:

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-8)

There is a season for everything, a time for every occupation under heaven:

A time for giving birth, a time for dying:
a time for planting, a time for uprooting what has been planted.

A time for killing, a time for healing:
a time for knocking down, a time for building.

A time for tears, a time for laughter:
a time for mourning, a time for dancing.

A time for throwing stones away, a time for gathering them up:
a time for embracing, a time to refrain from embracing.

A time for searching, a time for losing:
a time for keeping, a time for throwing away.

A time for tearing, a time for sewing:
a time for keeping silent, a time for speaking.

A time for loving, and a time for peace.



The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd (Sung)

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.....



Second Reading:

A reading from the First Letter of Saint John (4:7-12, 16)

My dear people,
let us love one another since love comes from God,
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,
because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son
so that we could have life through him:

this is the love I mean: not our love for God,
but God's love for us when he sent his Son
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

We ourselves have known and put our faith in
God's love towards ourselves.

God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God
and God lives in him.



The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia. Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord R./ Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ

Prayers of the Faithful; Offertory

Post Communion Reflection:-

Final Blessing:-

Lord, may you support us all day long,
till the shadows lengthen and evening falls,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over and our work is done;
then in your mercy, Lord, grant us a safe lodging,
A holy rest and peace at last.

The Lord be with you. R./ And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless us all, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

