

PRAYER FOR THE MOURNERS

Fr David: Merciful Lord, you know the anguish of the sorrowful; You are attentive to the prayers of the humble. Hear Your people who cry out to You in our need and strengthen our hope in Your lasting goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITE

Fr David: With longing for God's kingdom, let us pray:

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. Amen.

Fr David: God of holiness and power, accept our prayers on behalf of Your servant, John; do not count his deeds against him for in his heart he always desired to do Your will. As his faith united him to Your people on earth, so may Your mercy join him to the saints in heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

Fr David: Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.

All: **And let perpetual light shine upon him.**

Fr David: May he rest in peace.

All: **Amen.**

Fr David: May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

All: **Amen.**

Fr David: May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe away every tear from our eyes: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Fr David: In peace, let us send John's body to its final place of rest.

RECESSIONAL SONG *“Strong & Constant”*

God saw that he was weary; the hill too steep to climb...

... so He closed his eyes and whispered, "Peace be thine".

A Thanksgiving Service

Celebrated with love and gratitude

for the life of

John Francis Smith

17th May, 1940 - 19th March, 2018

Little Flower Church, Bribie Island

Celebrant: Fr David Pascoe

God grant me

The Serenity

To accept the things I cannot change

The Courage

To change the things I can

And the Wisdom

To know the difference

SONG OF FAREWELL

Fr David: Saints of God, come to his aid! Hasten to meet him, angels of the Lord!

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Fr David: May Christ, who called you, take you to himself; may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Fr David: Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

FINAL FAREWELL

Fr David: Lord, receive John into your Kingdom.
May he live in your presence forever.

May he rejoice in the love of your saints,
And become their fellow citizen in heaven.

May he share Christ's victory over death
and come with Him to the day of resurrection.

May we say our farewell in hope.

May Christ be the friend who says "Welcome".

May we always be united in the love of Christ
and one day meet again in the joy of God's Kingdom.

All: Amen.

Fr David: Into Your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our brother John, in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with Christ on the last day.

We thank You for all the blessings which You bestowed on John 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 until we all meet in Christ and are with You and our brother John forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Reader: God our Father, we commend to you all the members of John's family. Comfort them in their sadness and unite them strongly in your love. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: Lord, we ask your blessing on all John's friends here present - and those prevented from coming. Thank you for these friendships which he dearly treasured and which enriched his life. We pray to the Lord

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For all those who bear the cross of pain in mind or body. That they may never feel forsaken by God. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: We pray that John and all those who have died may be happy forever with you in heaven. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: We pray, as St. Francis has, that we may not seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned and in dying that we are born to eternal life. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

FINAL COMMENDATION

Fr David: So we reverently bring John 's body in its human imperfection. Let us pray with confidence to God who give life to all things that he will raise up this mortal body to the perfection and the company of all the saints.

May God give John a merciful judgment and forgive all his sins.

May Christ the Good Shepherd lead him safely home to be at peace with God the Father.

And may he be happy for ever with all the saints in the presence of the eternal King.

(The coffin is now sprinkled with Baptismal Water and incensed as a sign of respect)

PROCESSIONAL SONG "Amazing Grace "

GREETING

Fr David: We come together in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Fr David: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Sprinkling with Holy Water

Fr David: In the waters of baptism, John died with Christ and rose with Him to new life.

All: **May he now share eternal life with Christ in glory**

Placing Of Pall

(Placed on by the coffin by a member of the family)

Fr David: In Baptism, John was clothed in the white garment which is the outward sign of our Christian dignity as sons and daughters of God.

All: **May he stand before the Lamb of God dressed in the white robe of salvation.**

EULOGY *John's Son*

INVITATION TO PRAYER

Fr David: My brothers and sisters, we have come together to renew our trust in Christ who, by dying on the cross, has freed us from eternal death and, by rising, has opened for us the gates of heaven.

Let us pray for our brother John that he may share in Christ's victory, and let us pray for ourselves, that the Lord may grant us the gift of his loving consolation.

OPENING PRAYER

Fr David: Lord God, source and destiny of our lives, we thank you for the gift of John's life and the many kindnesses that he showed us. Now you have called him to Yourself. As he served You faithfully throughout his life, give him the fullness of peace and joy. Welcome him into paradise where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain, but the fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Acts 10:34-36,42-43*

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God, no torment shall ever touch them. In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, their going looked like a disaster, their leaving us like annihilation; but they are in peace. If they experienced suffering as we see it, their hope is rich with immortality; slight was their affliction, great will their blessings be. God has put them to the test and proved them worthy; they have been tested like gold in a furnace, and their sacrifice has been accepted. Those who trust in God will understand the truth, those who are faithful will live with God in love; for grace and mercy await those who are chosen. This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE *"Psalm 23: The Lord Is My Shepherd"*

All: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil; for thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Please stand to welcome the Gospel.)

All: **Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Your words, Lord are spirit and life;
You have the words of everlasting life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

GOSPEL *Matthew 5:1-12*

Fr. David: The Lord be with you. *All:* **And with your spirit**

Fr. David: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Fr. David: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

"How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle; they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn; they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right; they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful; they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart; they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers; they shall be called sons and daughters of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

HOMILY *Fr David*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: We thank you for the time shared with John - the joys and tears, the memories and friendships, and all the good times. Help us to pass them on as treasures to others. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**