

**Mass of Thanksgiving
for the life of
William (Bill) Curtain**



28th. July 1909 – 14th. February 2001

ENTRANCE HYMN:

Here I am Lord

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?

Refrain

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?

Refrain

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?

Refrain

FIRST READING:

A reading from the Book of Wisdom (3:1-9)

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 punishment as men see it,
their hope was rich with immortality;
slight was their affliction, great will their blessings be.

God has put them to the test
and proved them worthy to be with him;
he has tested them like gold in a furnace,
and accepted them as a holocaust.

When the time comes for his visitation they will shine out;
as sparks run through the stubble, so will they.

They shall judge nations, rule over peoples,
and the Lord will be their king for ever.

They who trust in him will understand the truth,
those who are faithful will live with him in love;
for grace and mercy await those he has chosen.

This is the word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Sung)

Crimond

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.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse (14:13)

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say to me,

"Write down:

Happy are those who die in the Lord!

Happy indeed, the Spirit says;

now they can rest for ever after their work,

since their good deeds go with them."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (John 11:25-26)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said:

"I am the resurrection.

If anyone believes in me,

even though he dies he will live,

and whoever lives and believes in me

will never die."

Alleluia.

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John. (14:1-6)

Jesus said to His disciples:

"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 too.

You know the way to the place I am going."

Thomas said:

"Lord, we do not know where you are going,

so how can we know the way?"

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

CELEBRANT: God Our Father, we join in prayer today for our dearly loved father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend Bill. Let us pray with faith and trust that Jesus Christ, your Son, who was raised from the dead, may give comfort and strength to the living and eternal life to the dead.

READER: In Baptism Bill received the Light of Christ. We pray that Christ will welcome him into his eternal Kingdom and that his soul will find peace, re-united with his dear wife, Julie, and his son, Mick. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: Lord, we thank you for the love and example that Bill has given to his family and to so many others during his long life. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: Lord, we pray for all Bill's family, that we may be comforted in our sadness and strengthened in the days ahead. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: Lord, we pray for all our relatives who have gone before us, especially Julie, Mick and Chas. May their souls find eternal rest. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: Lord, we ask you to bless all the staff at Taylor Lodge Nursing Home and at St. Catherine's Home, who have cared for Bill in his last years.

Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: Lord, we pray that all who are gathered here today to remember Bill will be re-united one day in God's Kingdom. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

CELEBRANT: Father, we entrust Bill's soul to you with deep gratitude and place our future within your love and mercy. We make our prayers in the name of Jesus your Son.

ALL: Amen

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

PREFACE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND COMMUNION RITE

COMMUNION REFLECTION:

As Gentle As Silence

Oh the love of my Lord is the essence
Of all that I love here on earth.
All the beauty I see God has given to me
And his giving is gentle as silence.

Ev'ry day, ev'ry hour, ev'ry moment
Have been blessed by the strength of God's love.
At the turn of each tide God is there at my side
With a touch that is gentle as silence.

There've been times when I've turned from your presence,
And I've walked other paths, other ways.
But I've called on your name in the dark of my shame,
And your mercy was gentle as silence.

EULOGY:

FINAL COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL PRAYERS:

Response: Receive his soul and present him to God the most high.

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

Strong and Constant

I will be Yahweh who walks with you!
You will be always within my Hand!
Take your heart and give it all to Me!
Strong and constant is my Love.
Strong and constant is my Love.

Should you wander far away from Me,
I will search for you in every land.
Should you call, then you will truly know:
Strong and constant is my Love.
Strong and constant is my Love.

When you know sorrow within your life,
I will come, I will embrace your heart.
Through your pain, you will discover Me!
Strong and constant is my Love.
Strong and constant is my Love.

Thank you all for being with us today.
Please join us for refreshments in the supper room.
The cortege will depart for Chiltern Cemetery at 1:00 PM.