



Mass of Christian Burial  
for  
**Sr Pauline Nicholson, rsc**



*“I surrender”*

30 June 1943 ~26 December 2023

Mary Mother of Mercy Chapel Rookwood  
Celebrant: Bishop Emeritus Terry Brady  
Friday 5 January 2024

# **Acknowledgement of Country**

**Welcome:** Sr Margaret Guy rsc

## **Processional Hymn**

Summoned by Love *[M O'Brien & T Watts]*

1. Be still and know I am God  
Listen to me and see  
You're not alone in your journey.  
Trust in yourself and trust in me.

Refrain

Summoned by you, summoned by love we come.  
We are gathering to celebrate your Word O Lord.  
Summoned by you, summoned by love we come.  
Our lives we give in offering to you.

2. Be not afraid of the night.  
Darkness shall not prevail.  
My light will guide and make clear your way.  
Tender and strong your heart will stay.
3. Go now in faith and in peace.  
Your life will be my sign.  
Know deep within I am with you now,  
Now and until the end of time.

## **Introductory Rites & Greeting Bishop Terry Brady**

### **Blessing of the Coffin**

In Baptism Pauline, our sister, was claimed as a child of God. She lived her long life in fidelity to her God. In our faith, we rejoice and give thanks for all the blessings Pauline received in this life and through her the many graces given to others.

## **Placing of the Pall and Symbols**

Pall

Bible

Constitutions

Apple /Books

Apron

Family Photo

## **Words of Remembrance**

Damian Grace, then Sr Laureen Dixon rsc

## **Opening Prayer**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

Lord you are the glory of those who serve you. Look lovingly on our sister, Pauline. The waters of baptism and the bonds of love unite us with her in following Christ and his mother. In your mercy grant her everlasting sight of you, her Creator and Redeemer. 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

## **Liturgy of the Word**

A Reading from the Prophet of Isaiah

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations; he will destroy Death forever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for

salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Responsorial Psalm**

I believe I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

The Lord is my light and my help;  
Whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
Before whom shall I shrink?

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;  
Have mercy and answer.  
It is your face O Lord, that I seek;  
Hide not your face.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
In the land of the living,  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord!

## **Gospel Acclamation**

*(Please stand)*

All: Alleluia, alleluia! If we die with Christ, we shall live with him, and if we are faithful to the end, we shall reign with him.

Alleluia.

## **Gospel**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also, with you.

**Celebrant:** A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

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

**Celebrant:**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went onto the mountain. And when he was seated his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them.

How blessed are the poor in spirit: the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

Blessed are the gentle: they shall have the earth as inheritance.

Blessed are those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for uprightness: they shall have their fill.

Blessed are the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be recognised as children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of uprightness: the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

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

## **Homily**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

**Celebrant:** Compassionate God, we bring our prayers to you in the name of Jesus, who is the resurrection and the life.

**Reader:** For Pope Francis that he will continue to inspire us with his joy and hope-filled words and example. We pray for wisdom and courage for all leaders of our Church and nations especially where there is violence and conflict.

**We pray: Gracious God hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For Pauline whose ministry called little ones to life, and brought presence to those lonely and sorrowful, that she now be at peace in the Eternal Presence.

**We pray: Gracious God hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That we be inspired by Pauline's gift encouragement of others, enabling their gifts and talents to develop for the service of others.

**We pray: Gracious God hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For Pauline's family especially her sister Marie who faithfully visited and supported Pauline in her years of diminishment.

**We pray: Gracious God hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all who have cared for Pauline with compassion and empathy: the staff at St Vincent's Care Bronte, our health care and community support workers and sisters who visited Pauline and were welcomed by her smile and gentleness.

**We pray: Gracious God hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For Pauline's deceased parents, Myrtle and Mark and all our deceased sisters and loved ones, we pray they, like Pauline, will know eternal peace.

**We pray: Gracious God hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** God, our shelter and strength, you listen with love to the prayers of your people. Console us in our loss today and strengthen us on our journey to you. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**All:** Amen.

# **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

## **Procession of Gifts** *Family*

*Reflective music*

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

**Celebrant:** Loving God we are united in this Sacrament by the love of Jesus Christ. Accept these gifts and receive our sister, Pauline, into the glory of your Son who is Lord forever and ever.

**All:** Amen

## **Preface**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right and just.

## **Holy, Holy**

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.

## **Acclamation**

All: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

## **Communion Rite**

### **Our Father**

### **Sign of Peace**

### **Lamb of God**

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.

## **Communion Hymn**

We will rise again

Like a shepherd I will feed you,  
I will gather you with care.  
I will lead you and hold you  
Close to my heart.

*Refrain*

We will run and not grow weary,  
For our God will be our strength,  
And we will fly like the eagle,  
We will rise again.



I am strength to the weary,  
To the weak I am new life.  
Though the young may grow weary,  
I will be their hope.  
Lift up your eyes  
And see who made the stars.  
I lead you and I know you,  
I call you each by name.

Fear not, I am with you;  
I am your God.  
I will strengthen you and help you,  
Uphold you with my hand.

## **Prayer after Communion**

**Celebrant:** Lord God, your Son Jesus Christ gave us the Sacrament of his Body and Blood to guide us on our pilgrim way to your Kingdom. May our sister, Pauline, who shared the Eucharist, come to the banquet of life that Christ has prepared for her.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen

## **Final Prayers and Commendation**

Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our sister Pauline. May our farewell express our affection for her, may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet her, when the love of Christ, which conquers all things destroys even death itself.

## **Sprinkling and Incense**

**Celebrant:** Saints of God, come to her aid.  
Come to meet her, angels of the Lord.

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

**Celebrant:** May Christ, who called you Pauline, take you to Himself,  
may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

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

**Celebrant:** Give Pauline eternal rest, O Lord, and may your light shine  
on her forever.

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

**Celebrant:** Father, into your hands we commend our sister Pauline.  
We are confident that with all who have died in Christ she  
will be raised to life on the last day and live with Christ  
forever.

Welcome Pauline to paradise and help us comfort each  
other with assurance of our faith until we all meet in Christ.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

**Celebrant:** 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 to Pauline  
O Lord and let perpetual light shine on her. May she rest in  
peace.

**All:** Amen.

# Recessional Hymn

Welcome Home *by Frank Andersen*

## *Chorus*

Welcome home! Welcome home!  
Welcome home  
To the land of your freedom and joy!  
Welcome home! Welcome home!  
Be at peace in the arms of your God!  
Welcome home!

‘This is my Body now given for you!’  
This is the gift you have lived!  
And just as the Father embraces the Son,  
So do we embrace you! Welcome home!

We come to thank you, the people you loved,  
For us you have been living Word!  
The Word you have spoken has nourished our hearts;  
Now the Word come to you! Welcome home!

Deep in the Godhead the mystery you know;  
In the love-span of God do you live!  
So now shall your prayer be effective and free;  
Pray for us now that you’re welcome home!

Let there be music and let there be song,  
For the triumph that your life has been!  
Hear how God’s angels and saints in their joy,  
Join with us as we sing, Welcome home!



The **Sisters of Charity** and  
Sr Pauline's family  
thank you most sincerely  
for your presence here today.

Your loving wishes, your support and prayers,  
are very much appreciated.

The cortege will leave for the burial at 2:00 pm in the  
Sisters of Charity Section of the cemetery.

Please then join us for refreshments in the Mary Mother of Mercy Lounge  
from 2:30 pm

