

We celebrate and give thanks for the life of

Carmel Thomas

19 December 2022



Born: 28 November 1948
Died: 29 November 2022
Celebrant: Fr Maurice Shinnick



Acknowledgement of Country

Sr Marie Faulkner

Welcome

Introductory Rite

Greeting

Fr Maurice: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

Fr Maurice: In the waters of baptism Sr Carmel died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May she now share with him in glory.

~ Sprinkling of the coffin ~

Gathered with this faith community Carmel was nourished at the table of God's Word and the table of the Eucharist. We have been graced by her faith and love as she faithfully lived her Baptismal Promises.

Carmel's body is accompanied into the Chapel by the Sisters of Saint Joseph and family

Gathering Hymn: Come As You Are

© Deidre Browne

1. 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?
2. No need to fear, love sets no limits.
No need to fear, love never ends.
Don't run away, shamed and disheartened.
Rest in my love, trust me again.



3. 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?
4. 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.

Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Fr Maurice: In Baptism, Carmel received the light of Christ . This light has guided Carmel throughout her life and rises with her to new life. May she now enjoy eternal life with the risen Christ.

~ Lighting of Paschal Candle ~

Placing of the Pall

Fr Maurice: In Baptism, Carmel was claimed by Christ and clothed in a garment of white. May Christ now gently enfold her in love and receive her in the embrace of God.

~ The Placing of Symbols ~

Eulogy Mr Geoffrey Thomas and Sr Gen Ryan

Opening Prayer

Fr Maurice: Listen kindly to our prayers O God, and as our faith in your Son, raised from the dead is deepened, so may our hope of resurrection for Carmel find new strength. Grant that Carmel who has fallen asleep in Christ, may rejoice to rise again through him. We make this prayer through Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.



Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace
The Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God*

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 100, 1-5 © SOSJ Prayerbook

Acclaim God with joy all the Earth!
Serve God with gladness!
Enter into God's presence with joyful song!
Know that the living God is God!

All: *You are always with us O God.*

God made us, and we belong to the Creator;
We are God's people
And the sheep of God's pasture.

All: *You are always with us O God.*

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving
and the courts with praise!
Give thanks to God!

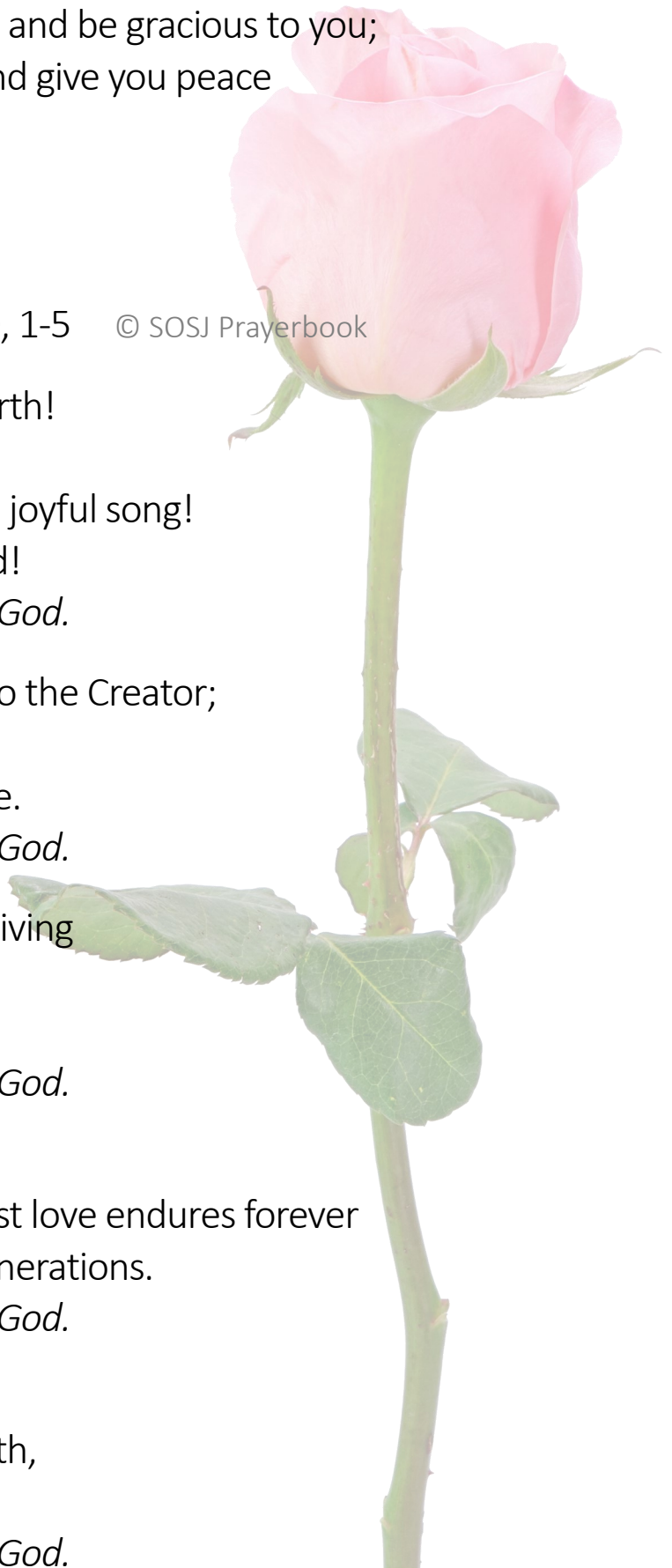
All: *You are always with us O God.*

Bless God's name
For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever
and God's faithfulness to all generations.

All: *You are always with us O God.*

Glory to you Holy One,
Creator, Life and Spirit of Growth,
Glory to you forever.

All: *You are always with us O God.*



Second Reading: St Paul to the Phillipians 1:3-4

I thank my God whenever I think of you; and every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy. The Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God*

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia* © O'Carroll and Walker

Sing: *Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Spoken: Your God is in your midst...
He will exalt with joy over you,
God will renew you by his love...

Sing: *Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Gospel: Matthew 19:13-14 *Jesus and the children*

People brought little children to him, for him to lay his hands on them and say a prayer. The disciples turned them away, but Jesus said, 'Let the little children alone, and do not stop them coming to me; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs'.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Reflection Sr Kenise Neill

Universal Prayers

Fr Maurice: Loving God we are here to celebrate the life of Carmel. We are very mindful of Your love and care for each one of us, and so we pray.

1. Loving God, we pray for all who, through their Baptism, are called to leadership and service in our Church. May everyone who seeks to help within the local Church, as well as Pope Francis, our Bishops and priests, together with our Congregational Leaders, and all who preach the Gospel, witness through action as well as word, the truths you have left us. Loving God, hear us.

All: *Loving God, hear us.*

2. Loving God, throughout her life, Carmel had a deep love and affection for her family. We ask your blessing on them Lord. We thank you for the love showered on her by her parents, George and Eileen, and pray especially for Therese and Geoffrey, as well as their families, for the love they shared with Carmel. Loving God, hear us.

All: *Loving God, hear us.*

3. Loving God, Carmel particularly enjoyed working with children, and enabling them as much as she could, to become the best people they could possibly be. May we always look to help others in whatever is needed. Loving God, hear us.

All: *Loving God, hear us.*

4. Loving God, throughout her life time, in both her ministry and in her personal life, Carmel showed that she excelled in artistic endeavours, and shared her talent with others around her. May we too, use the gifts we have been given to bring new life to others we meet. Loving God, hear us.

All: *Loving God, hear us.*

5. Loving God, we thank you for all who have supported Carmel throughout her ministry, and particularly those who cared for her in these years when life was a little harder for her. We remember particularly the Sisters at Kensington. May we continue to reach out in love to each other. Loving God, hear us.

All: *Loving God, hear us.*

6. Loving God, we pray for all who are suffering in one way or another. May we, like Carmel, do the best we can to support those in need. Loving God, hear us.

All: *Loving God, hear us.*

Fr Maurice: Loving God, giver of peace and healer of hearts, we bring our needs to you. Continue to journey with us as we give thanks for Carmel's life. We make these prayers in the name of the One who comes to make us whole.

We pray through Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: *Amen*



Liturgy of the Eucharist

Procession of Gifts

Gentle is Your Love

© Paul Gurr

Prayer over the Gifts

Fr Maurice: Loving God, we are united today by your love and our remembering of Carmel's life. Accept these gifts, symbols our of our faith and hope and our commitment to your mission. May your love cleanse her from any human weakness. We ask this through Christ Jesus.

All: Amen

Holy, Holy Spoken

Eucharistic Acclamation Spoken

*All: We proclaim your death, O Lord
And profess your Resurrection
Until you come again.*

Great Amen

Communion Rite

Our Father Spoken

Sign of Peace

Breaking of Bread Spoken

Lamb of God

1. The love we have for you, O God,
is only a shadow of your love for us;
only a shadow of your love for us,
Your deep abiding love.
2. The Bread we take and eat, O God,
is Your body broken and shared with us,
Your body broken and shared with us,
the gift of Your great love.

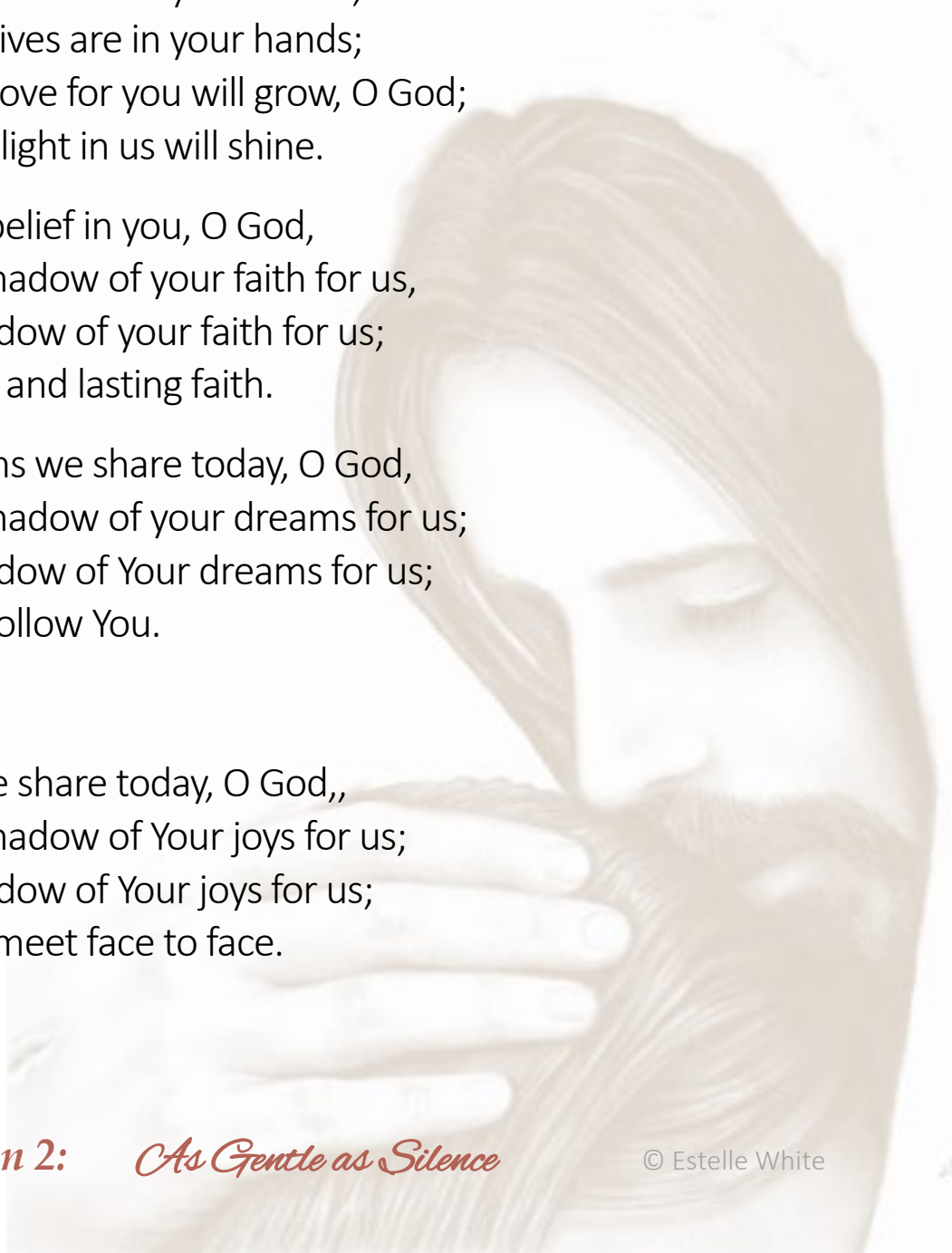
Refrain: Our lives are in your hands,
Our lives are in your hands;
Our love for you will grow, O God;
Your light in us will shine.

3. Our own belief in you, O God,
is only a shadow of your faith for us,
only a shadow of your faith for us;
Your deep and lasting faith.
4. The dreams we share today, O God,
is only a shadow of your dreams for us;
only a shadow of Your dreams for us;
if we but follow You.

Refrain

5. The joy we share today, O God,,
is only a shadow of Your joys for us;
only a shadow of Your joys for us;
when we meet face to face.

Refrain



Prayer After Communion

Fr Maurice: Loving God, we pray that Carmel, who has journeyed from this world, may by this sacrifice, be cleansed and untethered from all that has bound her. May she receive the everlasting joys of the Resurrection. We ask this through Jesus our Saviour.

All: Amen

~ The coffin is sprinkled with holy water and incensed ~

Song of Farewell

Saints of God

Amazing Grace Tune

Come to Carmel's aid, O Saints of God! O angels meet her now.
Receive her spirit, present her now to God, the Lord most High.

May God who called you, take you home, to rest near Abraham.
Receive her spirit, present her now to God, the Lord Most High.

Give Carmel eternal rest, O God, may she have endless light.
Receive her spirit, present her now, to God, the Lord Most High.





FRANK J. SIEBERT
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