



FUNERAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING

REV WILLIAM ADAMS



1928 - 2025

ST WILFRID'S CHURCH, PRESTON

Monday 8th December 2025



OPENING HYMN

'Immaculate Mary'

1. Immaculate Mary our hearts are on fire
That title so wondrous fills all our desire

Ave, ave, ave Maria, ave, ave, ave Maria

2. We pray for God's glory, may His Kingdom come
We pray for His Vicar, our Father and Rome

3. We pray for our mother the church upon earth
And bless sweetest lady, the land of our birth

4. For poor, sick, afflicted, they mercy we crave
And comfort the dying thou light of the grave

5. In death's solemn moment our mother, be nigh
As children of Mary, help us when we die

6. To God be all glory, and worship for aye
And to God's virgin mother, an endless ave

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WELCOME

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PENITENTIAL RITE

READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

We want you to be quite certain, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like those who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with Him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died.

At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord Himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord forever.

With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abides in His shadow for life
Says to the Lord 'My refuge, my God in whom I trust

Chorus:

*And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand*

The snare of the fowler will never capture you and the famine will bring you no fear
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day
Though thousands fall about, near you death shall not come

For to His angels He's given a command, to guard you in all of your ways
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone

Please stand to greet the Gospel

Matthew 5: 2-12

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:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed the gentle, they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Blessed are those who mourn, they shall be comforted.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right, they shall be satisfied.

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 called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed 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.

For this is how they treated the prophets before you

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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HOMILY

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PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PREPARATION OF GIFTS

In bread we bring you Lord, our bodies labour, in wine we offer you, our spirits' grief
We do not ask you Lord, who is our neighbour, but stand united now, one in belief.

O we have gladly heard, your word, your holy word,
and now in answer Lord, our gifts we bring.
Our selfish hearts make true, our failing faith renew,
our lives belong to you, our Lord and King.

The bread we offer you, is blessed and broke, and it becomes for us,
our spirits' food. Over the cup we bring, your word is spoken,
make this your gift to us, your healing blood.
Take all that daily toil plants in our hearts' poor soil,
take all we start and spoil, each hopeful dream,
The chances we have missed, the graces we resist,
Lord in Thy Eucharist, take and redeem.

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THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy holy
Our Father

During the reception of Holy Communion we will sing

1. Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.
Jesus remember me when you come into your Kingdom.

2. In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid, lift up your voices the Lord is near,
lift up your voices the Lord is near.

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FAMILY TRIBUTE

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FINAL COMMENDATION

FINAL HYMN
'Thine be the glory'

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son, endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.

Angels in bright raiment, rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where Thy body lay.

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb, lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom,
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord is living, death has lost its sting.

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of Life, life is nought without Thee,
aid us in our strife.

Make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love, bring us safe through Jordan,
to Thy home above!

Refreshments will be served immediately after the Funeral Mass in the Parish Centre.

PLEASE NOTE: The burial is for family only

Thank you to everyone who has attended today and for all the wonderful cards and tributes for Bill. God bless you all



Go forth upon your final journey

In death your life is changed, not ended and we give you back to our faithful God
who first gave you to us

On our common pilgrimage we have accompanied you as far as we can go together

Our ways part for now but, beyond our horizon,
you will be met by Jesus who is himself the Way

Brother Nicholas Hutchinson FSC



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