

A Requiem Mass Celebrating the Life of



*Margaret 'Christine' Riley*

1st March 1941 - 5th January 2026



Our Lady & St Michael's Church, Alston Lane  
Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 10.30am  
Service led by Fr Doyle

*At the door of the Church*

'The Lord gave, the Lord has taken away.  
Blessed is the Name of the Lord.'  
May the angels lead you into Paradise;  
may the martyrs welcome you  
and take you into the holy city,  
the new and eternal Jerusalem.

*Procession into Church..... CD*

I love the Lord for He has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for He turned His ear to me  
in the day when I called Him.

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's Name.

O Lord, my God, deliver me.

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless, so He saved me.

Turn back, my soul, to your rest  
for the Lord has been good;  
He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

I trusted even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted,'  
and when I said in my alarm:  
'No man can be trusted.'

How can I repay the Lord  
for His goodness to me?  
The Cup of salvation I will raise:  
I will call on the Lord's Name.  
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all His people.  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of His faithful.

Your servant, Lord, Your servant am I;  
You have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I will make;  
I will call on the Lord's Name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all His people,  
in the courts of the House of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.  
Glory be .... As it was ....

'The Lord gave, the Lord has taken away.  
Blessed is the Name of the Lord.'  
May the angels lead you into Paradise:  
may the martyrs welcome you  
and take you into the holy city,  
the new and eternal Jerusalem.

*Opening Hymn ...* *Please remain standing.*

**Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dew-fall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where is feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,  
God's re-creation of the new day!**

The grace and peace of God our Father, Who raised Jesus from the dead,  
be always with you. **And with your spirit.**

*Welcome and Introduction.*

To prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind  
our sins. *(Pause)*

**I confess to Almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I  
have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have  
done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my  
fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary  
ever-Virgin, all the angels and saints and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to  
everlasting life. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

*Collect...*

Lord, hear our prayers. By raising Your Son from the dead, You have  
given us faith. Strengthen our hope that Christine, our sister, will share in  
His Resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and  
ever. **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

*Reader .....*

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  
for ever. 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.                      **Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm.*

**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 no 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.**

The Second Reading is taken from the Letter of St. Paul to the  
Philippians.....*Reader* .....

For us, our homeland is in Heaven, and from Heaven comes the Saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and He will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of His glorious Body. He will do that by the same power with which He can subdue the whole universe.

The Word of the Lord.                      **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel acclamation* ..... **Please stand.**  
**God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son; everyone who believes in Him has eternal life.**

The Lord be with you.                      **And with your spirit.**  
A Reading from the holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

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 where 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.                      **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Homily....*

**Please sit.**

*Intercessions.*

**Please stand.**

God, the Almighty Father, raised Christ His Son from the dead; with confidence we ask Him to save all His people, living and dead.

*Reader*.....

1. Christine received in her Baptism the seed of eternal life. May she enjoy the company of the saints for ever. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
2. She was nourished by Christ's Body, the Bread of eternal life. May she rise again on the last day. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
3. Lord, accept the many good things she has done and bring her to her true home in Heaven. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
4. Let us pray for those who suffer the loss of one they love. Console them in their grief. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
5. Let us pray for ourselves, still pilgrims on earth. May God increase our faith, strengthen our hope and keep us safe in His service. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us**
6. Let us join our prayers with the prayers of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, who shared His suffering as He hung upon the Cross.

**HAIL MARY,**

**For a few moment let us pray quietly for our own needs**

Lord God, take Christine into Your keeping together with all Your children who have died. Comfort us, Your sorrowing servants who seel to do Your will. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Please sit***

***Offertory.***

***Offertory hymn ....***

***All things bright and beautiful  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.***

**Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colours,  
He made their tiny wings.**

**The purple-headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset and the morning,  
That brightens up the sky.**

**The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,  
He made them every one.**

**The tall trees in the greenwood,  
The meadows for our play,  
The rushes by the water,  
To gather every day.**

**He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we may tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.**

Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation,  
for through Your goodness we have received the bread we offer You,  
fruit of the earth and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the Bread of Life.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the  
Divinity of Christ Who humbled Himself to share in our humanity.*

Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation,  
for through Your goodness we have received the wine we offer You,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become our spiritual drink.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*With a humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by You, O  
Lord, and may our sacrifice in Your sight this day be pleasing to You.*

*Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

***Please stand***

Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the  
Almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and  
glory of His Name, for our good and the good of all His holy Church.**

*Prayer over the Offerings ...*

Lord, we are united in the Sacrament by the love of Jesus Christ. Accept  
these gifts and receive our sister Christine into the glory of Your Son Who  
lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just.**

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and  
everywhere to give You thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In Him, Who rose from the dead, our hope of resurrection dawned. The sadness of death gives way to the bright promise of immortality. Lord, for Your faithful people, life is changed, not ended. When the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death we gain an everlasting dwelling-place in Heaven. And so, with all the choirs of angels in Heaven we proclaim Your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise.

**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.**

*Please kneel or*

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down Your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body + and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time He was betrayed and entered willingly into His Passion, He took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT:  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, He took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, He gave it to His disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT:  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR  
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.  
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

The mystery of faith.

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim Your Death, O Lord, until You come again.**

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of His Death and Resurrection we offer You, Lord, the Bread of Life and the Chalice of Salvation, giving

thanks that You have held us worthy to be in Your Presence and minister to You.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, Your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Leo our Pope, Paul our Bishop and all the clergy.

Remember Your servant Christine whom You have called from this world to Yourself. Grant that she, who was united with Your Son in a death like His, may also be one with Him in His Resurrection.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection and all who have died in Your mercy: welcome them into the light of Your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph her spouse, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased You throughout the ages, we may merit to be co-heirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify You through Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through Him and with Him and in Him, O God, Almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is Yours for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*Please stand.*

At the Saviour's command and formed by Divine teaching, we dare to say:  
**OUR FATHER,**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of Your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Who said to Your apostles: 'Peace I leave with you, My peace I give you,' look not on our sins but on the faith of Your Church and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with Your will Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And with your spirit.**

**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.**

**Please kneel or sit.**

*May this mingling of the Body and Blood of Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, Who, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit, through Your Death gave life to the world, free me by This, Your Most Holy Body and Blood, from all my sins, from every evil; keep me always faithful to Your commandments and never let me be parted from You.*

Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.  
**Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

*Communion Antiphon.*

**'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'If anyone believes in Me, even though he dies, he will live. Anyone who lives and believes in Me, will not die.'**

*May the Body of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.*

*May the Blood of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.*

**Hymn**

**Lord of all hopefulness,  
Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever child-like,  
no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking,  
and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness,  
Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled  
at the plane and the lathe,  
be there at our labours,  
and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,  
at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness,  
Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome,  
Your arms to embrace,  
be there at our homing,  
and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord,  
at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness,  
Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment,  
Whose Presence is balm,  
be there at our sleeping,  
and give us, we pray  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
at the end of the day.**

*Soloist .... Ave Maria*

*What has passed our lips as food, O Lord, may we possess in purity of heart, that what has been given to us in time may be for our healing for eternity.*

*Prayer after Communion..*

Lord God, may the Death and Resurrection of Christ which we celebrate in this Eucharist bring our sister Christine the peace of Your eternal home. We ask this in the Name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

**Please sit**

*Poems read by Dniel and Sophie  
Eulogy .....Caroline Merrifield*

**Final Commendation.**

**Please stand**

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

*(The coffin is now sprinkled with Holy Water.)*

*Song of farewell.*

**May the choirs of angels come to greet you.  
May they speed you to Paradise.  
May the Lord enfold you in His mercy.  
May you find eternal life.**

To You, O Lord, we commend the soul of Christine Your servant: in the sight of this world, she is now dead; in Your sight may she live for ever. Forgive whatever sins she committed through human weakness and in Your goodness grant her everlasting peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May the angels lead you into Paradise;  
may the martyrs come to welcome you  
and take you to the holy city,  
the new and eternal Jerusalem.

May the choirs of angels welcome you  
and where Lazarus is poor no longer  
may you find eternal rest.

In peace, let us take Christine to her place of rest.

***Procession.....***

***Music .....CD***

To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.  
I trust You; let me not be disappointed:  
do not let my enemies triumph.

Those who hope in You shall not be disappointed,  
but only those who wantonly break faith.

Lord, make me know Your ways.  
Lord, teach me Your paths.  
Make me walk in Your truth and teach me;

for You are God my Saviour.  
In You I hope all day long  
because of Your goodness, O Lord.

Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In Your love remember me.

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
He guides the humble in the right path:  
He teaches His way to the poor.

His ways are faithfulness and love  
for those who keep His Covenant and will.  
Lord, for Your Name's sake  
forgive my guilt; for it is great.

If anyone fears the Lord  
He will show him the path he should choose.  
His soul shall live in happiness  
and his children shall possess the land.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere Him.  
To them He reveals His Covenant.  
My eyes are always on the Lord;  
for He rescues my feet from the snare.

Turn to me and have mercy  
for I am lonely and poor.  
Relieve the anguish of my heart  
and set me free from my distress.  
See my affliction and my toil  
and take all my sins away.  
See how many are my foes;  
how violent their hatred for me.

Preserve my life and rescue me.  
Do not disappoint me, You are my refuge.  
May innocence and uprightness protect me;

for my hope is in You, O Lord.  
Redeem Israel, O Lord, from all its distress.

### *At the Graveside.*

Our sister Christine has gone to his rest in the peace of Christ. May the Lord now welcome her to the table of God's children in Heaven. With faith and hope in eternal life, let us assist him with our prayers.

Let us pray also to the Lord for ourselves. May we who mourn be reunited one day with her. Together may we meet Christ Jesus when He Who is our life appears in glory.

We read in Scripture:

'Our true home is in Heaven, and Christ Jesus, Whose return we long for, will come from Heaven to save us.' (Phil. 3)

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest,  
+ bless this grave,  
and send Your holy angel to watch over it.  
As we bury here the body of our sister  
deliver her soul from every bond of sin,  
that she may rejoice in You with Your saints for ever.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Because God has chosen to call Christine from this life to Himself, we commit her body to the earth, for we are dust and unto dust we shall return.

*( The coffin is lowered into the grave.)*

But the Lord Jesus will change our mortal bodies to be like His in glory for He is risen, the first-born from the dead. So, let us commend Christine to the Lord that the Lord may embrace her in peace and raise up her body on the last day.

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice.  
**Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**  
If You, O Lord, shall observe iniquities, Lord, who shall endure it?

**For with You there is merciful forgiveness: and by reason of Your law I have waited for You, O Lord.**  
My soul has relied on His word; my soul has hoped in the Lord.  
**From the morning watch even unto night, let Israel hope in the Lor**

Because with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him plentiful redemption.  
**And He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

Dear friends, Our Lord comes to raise the dead and comforts us with the solace of His love. Let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Word of God, Creator of the earth to which Christine now returns; in Baptism You called her to eternal life to praise Your Father for ever.  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Son of God, You raise up the just and clothe them with the glory of Your Kingdom. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Crucified Lord, You protect the soul of Christine by the power of Your Cross, and on the day of Your coming You will show mercy to all the faithful departed. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Judge of the living and the dead, at Your voice the tombs will open and all the just who sleep in Your peace will rise and sing the glory of God. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

### **OUR FATHER...**

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 their need,  
and strengthen their hope in Your lasting goodness.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eternal rest give to her O Lord.  
**And let perpetual light shine upon her.**  
May she rest in peace. **Amen.**  
May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

May the peace of God which is above all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May Almighty God bless you all,.....  
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Christine's family would like to thank you all for your attendance here today and for the many kind words and expressions of sympathy received at this sad time.

Following the service you are warmly invited to join the family for light refreshments and to share memories of Christine at

The Village Teapot,

63 Liverpool Old Road, Walmer Bridge, Preston, PR4 5QA.



Donations will be gratefully received in memory of Christine for St Catherine's Hospice.

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