



IN LOVING MEMORY OF



CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL

11th December 1930 – 6th September 2026



FUNERAL MASS

Monday, 21st September 2026 at 11:00 am

The Parish of St Mary and St Anselm

John Street, Whitworth

OL12 8DB



CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL

A song will be played during the procession, from the hearse to the church door, before the welcome and reception.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Sprinkling with Holy Water

In the waters of baptism Christopher died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May he now share with him eternal glory.

Entrance procession: Here I am, Lord (no. 247)

Placing of Christian symbols

Book of the Gospel or Bible

In life Christopher cherished the Gospel of Christ. May Christ now greet him with these words of eternal life: Come, blessed of my Father!



In baptism Christopher received the sign of the cross. May he now share in Christ's victory over sin and death.

COLLECT - OPENING PRAYER

READING BY FLEUR

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 3:20-21

He will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - CONNOR

R/ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. R/

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. R/

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. R/

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. R/

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia!

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me shall live even in death and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die".

Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

John 14:1-6

'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

FUNERAL HOMILY

BIDDING PRAYERS (READ BY THE PRIEST)

PRIEST: 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: For Christopher who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he may now be admitted to the company of the saints.

Lord, in your mercy: R. Hear our prayer

READER: For our brother Christopher, who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that he may be raised up on the last day.

Lord, in your mercy: R. Hear our prayer

READER: For our deceased relatives and friends, and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness.

Lord, in your mercy: R. Hear our prayer

READER: For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. **Lord, in your mercy:** R. Hear our prayer

READER: For the family and friends gathered here today, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. **Lord, in your mercy:** R. Hear our prayer

READER: For all who are assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's Kingdom. **Lord, in your mercy:**
R. Hear our prayer

READER: Let us now ask Mary to pray with us and for us as we say,
Hail Mary...

PRIEST: God of holiness and power, accept our prayers on behalf of your servant, Christopher, do not count his deeds against him for in his heart he desired to do your will. As his faith united him to your people on earth, so may your mercy join him to the angels in heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

OFFERTORY - DO NOT BE AFRAID (NO. 125)

EUCCHARIST

HOLY COMMUNION - I WATCH THE SUNRISE (NO. 248)

CONCLUDING PRAYER

EULOGY BY MELISSA

FINAL COMMENDATION

SIGNS OF FAREWELL

PRAYER OF COMMENDATION

PROCESSION TO THE PLACE OF COMMITTAL
In peace let us take Christopher to his place of rest.

RECESSIONAL HYMN - AS I KNEEL BEFORE YOU (NO. 39)



The family would like to thank you for being here today to help celebrate Christopher's life and for all your kind messages of sympathy and support.

Fred Hamer Funeral Services, James Street, Rawtenstall BB4 7NE