



*In Loving Memory of*  
**THOMAS ANTHONY SARSFIELD**

*29th April 1930 – 16th June 2019*

FUNERAL SERVICE  
EXETER & DEVON CREMATORIUM  
THURSDAY 27th JUNE 2019

## WELCOME

*In the face of death, the Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, the Son of God, by his death and resurrection, has broken the chains of sin and death that bound humanity. Christ achieved his task of redeeming humanity and giving perfect glory to God, principally by the paschal mystery of his blessed passion, resurrection from the dead, and glorious ascension.*

*Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of a life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just.*

*The celebration of the Christian funeral brings hope and consolation to the living. While proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ and witnessing to Christian hope in the resurrection, the funeral rites also recall to all who take part in them God's mercy and judgment and meet the human need to turn always to God in times of crisis.*

## ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

## GREETING

The grace and peace of God our Father who raised Jesus from the dead, be always with you.

**And with your spirit.**

## SPRINKLING *with* HOLY WATER

*As Thomas's coffin enters the chapel it is sprinkled with holy water as a reminder of his baptism.*

*We listen to 'Black Velvet Band' by Luke Kelly.*

## OPENING PRAYER

*At the end: Amen.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! It is my Father's will, says the Lord, that whoever believes in the Son shall have eternal life, and that I shall raise him up on the last day. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL READING

The Gospel of John 14:1-6

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.**

## HYMN

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 none ill.  
For thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd  
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.

## INTERCESSIONS

*At the end of each prayer:*

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

## FINAL COMMENDATION

*The celebrant sprinkles the coffin with holy water  
as a sign of farewell. If you would like to come and  
do the same you would be most welcome.*

## DEATH IS NOTHING AT ALL

Death is nothing at all.  
I have only slipped away  
into the next room.  
I am I, and you are you,  
Whatever we were to each other,  
that we still are.  
Call me by my old familiar name,  
speak to me in the easy way  
which you always used.  
Put no difference in your tone,  
wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.  
Laugh as we always laughed  
at the little jokes we enjoyed together.  
Pray, smile, think of me, pray for me.  
Let my name be ever the  
household word that it always was,  
let it be spoken without effect,  
without the trace of a shadow on it.  
Life means all that it ever meant.  
It is the same as it ever was;  
there is unbroken continuity.  
Why should I be out of mind  
because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you,  
for an interval,  
somewhere very near,  
just round the corner.  
All is well.

*Henry Scott-Holland*

## SONG *of* FAREWELL

Saints of God, come to his aid!  
Hasten to meet him, angels of the Lord!

**Receive his soul and present him  
to God the Most High.**

May Christ, who called you, take you to himself;  
may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

**Receive his soul and present him  
to God the Most High.**

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon him.

**Receive his soul and present him  
to God the Most High.**

## PRAYER *of* COMMENDATION

### FINAL BLESSING

*We listen to Bing Crosby 'I'll be seeing you.'*

*Thank you for being here today to pray for Thomas.*





## I'M THERE INSIDE YOUR HEART

Right now I'm in a different place  
and though we seem far apart,  
I'm closer than I ever was,  
I'm there inside your heart.

I'm with you when you greet each day  
and when the sun shines bright.  
I'm there to share the sunsets too,  
I'm with you every night.

I'm with you when the times are good,  
to share a laugh or two,  
and if a tear should start to fall  
I'll still be there for you.

And when that day arrives  
that we are no longer apart,  
I'll smile and hold you close to me  
forever in my heart.

MAY HE REST *in* PEACE  
*and* RISE *in* GLORY