

*To Celebrate the Life of*



# Rita Genevieve Tennant

3rd November 1947 - 20th December 2023

The Cathedral Church of Saint Barnabas  
Friday 19th January 2024 at 10.00am





Rita's family in Australia who are joining  
the service via a livestream:

Pat and Norma Moore

Phil and Warwick Stiles

Mary Brasher

Eileen and Dennis Arthur

Sister Margaret Moore

Jo Moore and Peter Wakefield

and their respective families



# Order of Service

**Welcome**  
Father John McCay



## Hymn

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike, 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.

*Jan Struther (1901-1953)*



## Opening Prayer

Father John McCay

### First Reading

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

Paul Edington

God sets the time for planting and the time for harvesting,

The time for living and the time for dying.

All things have their season:

And in their time all things pass under Heaven.

A time to be born and a time to die;

A time for laughter and a time for mourning.

A time to plant and a time to harvest;

A time to be silent and a time to speak.

God has made all things in their time.

All the works which God has made continue forever.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**



## **Second Reading**

*After I Have Gone*

by Vera Arlett

Sally Tennant

Speak my name softly after I have gone.  
I loved the quiet things, the flowers and the dew,  
Field mice; birds homing; and the frost that shone  
On nursery windows when my years were few;  
And autumn mists subduing hill and plain  
And blurring outlines of those older moods  
That follow, after loss and grief and pain –  
And last and best, a gentle laugh with friends,  
All bitterness foregone, and evening near.  
If we be kind and faithful when day ends,  
We shall not meet that ragged starveling “fear”  
As one by one we take the unknown way –  
Speak my name softly – there’s no more to say.

## **Panis Angelicus**

sung by the St Barnabas Cathedral Choir



## **Gospel**

A reading from the Gospel according to Saint John  
Father John McCay

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.  
My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told  
you that I am going to prepare a place for you?  
And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you  
to be with me that you also may be where I am.  
You know the way to the place I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going,  
so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.  
Peace I leave you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

## **Homily**

Father John McCay

## **Remembering Rita**

Nick and Will Tennant



## **Bidding Prayers**

Niney Hartley, Tizzy Wilson, Pam Loch, Michelle Wright and June Taylor

The response to each of the petitions is “**Hear our prayer.**”

That our memories of Rita will help us to overcome our grief with gratitude for the gift she has been to us, and that she may dwell for eternity in the presence of God. Lord in your mercy...

That Rita’s family in Australia, who are close in our hearts at this time, feel the healing power of Christ. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all Rita’s family and friends who have shown such support and love during this difficult time and that they may be consoled in their grief by God’s love and mercy. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all who work, whether locally or internationally, for peace and justice; for all who will not be silent in the face of injustice or suffering; for all who take risks for peace. Lord in your mercy...

For our homes and families, that the grace and peace Christ came to bring may reign over us, so that the stranger may find welcome and those hurting may find comfort in our company. Lord in your mercy...

## **In Paradisum**

sung by the St Barnabas Cathedral Choir





## 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 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.

*Scottish Psalter (1650)*



## Poem

### *My Country*

by Dorothea Mackellar

Althea Thomas (recorded in Australia)

The love of field and coppice,  
Of green and shaded lanes.  
Of ordered woods and gardens  
Is running in your veins,  
Strong love of grey-blue distance  
Brown streams and soft, dim skies  
I know but cannot share it,  
My love is otherwise.

I love a sunburnt country,  
A land of sweeping plains,  
Of ragged mountain ranges,  
Of drought and flooding rains.  
I love her far horizons,  
I love her jewel-sea,  
Her beauty and her terror –  
The wide brown land for me!

A stark white ring-barked forest  
All tragic to the moon,  
The sapphire-misted mountains,  
The hot gold hush of noon.  
Green tangle of the brushes,  
Where lithe lianas coil,  
And orchids deck the tree-tops  
And ferns the warm dark soil.



Core of my heart, my country!  
Her pitiless blue sky,  
When sick at heart, around us  
We see the cattle die –  
But then the grey clouds gather,  
And we can bless again  
The drumming of an army,  
The steady, soaking rain.

Core of my heart, my country!  
Land of the Rainbow Gold,  
For flood and fire and famine,  
She pays us back threefold –  
Over the thirsty paddocks,  
Watch, after many days,  
The filmy veil of greenness  
That thickens as we gaze.

An opal-hearted country,  
A wilful, lavish land –  
All you who have not loved her,  
You will not understand –  
Though earth holds many splendours,  
Wherever I may die,  
I know to what brown country  
My homing thoughts will fly.



## **An Irish Blessing**

sung by the St Barnabas Cathedral Choir

May the road rise to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.



**Closing Prayer**  
Father John McCay

**Music on Departure**  
Jonathan Richman & the Modern Lovers



*“There is no remedy for love but to love more”*

*Henry David Thoreau*



The family's thanks go to:

Celebrant: Father John McCay

The St Barnabas Cathedral Choir:  
Isabelle Lawes, Lauren Windsor, Elizabeth McShane  
and Tapasya Sharma

Organist: Colin Walsh

Flowers: Carol Morris





Please join us for refreshments following the memorial service in Restaurant Six, Trent Bridge, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6AG.

Please enter through the gate adjacent to the Trent Bridge Inn on Bridgford Road, where car parking will be available. Six is situated on the sixth floor of the Radcliffe Road Centre.

Donations in memory of Rita for  
**Target Ovarian Cancer**  
may be sealed in the donation envelope  
and placed in the box on leaving the service,  
left online at  
**[www.lymn.co.uk/obituaries](http://www.lymn.co.uk/obituaries)**  
or by scanning the QR code below or sent care of

**A.W. LYMN**

*The Family Funeral Service<sup>®</sup>*

Deer Park House  
359 Wollaton Road  
Nottingham  
NG8 1FQ

[www.lymn.co.uk](http://www.lymn.co.uk)



CCLI Copyright Licence No. 508305