

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
DESMOND WILLIAM WHELAN

6th June 1931 - 2nd March 2019



*Go, silent friend,
forgive us if we grieved you;
Safe now in heaven, kindly say our name.
Your life has touched us, that is why we mourn you;
Our lives without you cannot be the same.*



Introductory Rites

ENTRANCE HYMN: ‘Be Thou My Vision’ (ALL SING)

Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art -
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart;
O King of glory, my treasure Thou art.

WELCOME: Fr Steve Sinn SJ

- ❖ Lighting of the paschal candle
- ❖ Sprinkling with the Water of Baptism

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE: Michael Musgrave, Ray Harris

OPENING PRAYER: Fr Steve Sinn

The Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: (Lily Horneman)

1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 11-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Love is patient, love is kind, Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrong-doing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

When I was a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we shall see face to face. Now I know only in part, then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

And now, faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord

ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Spoken (Michael Musgrave)

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

In this Psalm, we discover that God's intention is not to harm but to bless us. He formed us even in our mother's womb for His purpose and ordained all of our days before we ever saw the light of day. With David we must exclaim, "How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!"

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.

You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand - when I awake, I am still with you.

GOSPEL ACLAMATION: (Sung)

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: Fr Steve Sinn

John 14:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said, "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 would 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. I am the way, the truth and the life."

The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

HOMILY: Fr Steve

REFLECTION SONG: Schubert's 'Ave Maria'

POEM: *The Isle of Innisfree* (Lily Horneman)

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS: (Susie and David Kerr, Adriana Vellar)

For Des;

He was given the love of family and friends as a pledge of eternal love; establish him now in your re-created life of light and peace with all who have gone before us. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: God of eternal love, hear our prayer.

For Des's friends;

That they may be consoled in their grief, heartened by their memories, and be hopeful in their continuing lives. We pray to the Lord.

ALL: God of eternal love, hear our prayer.

For all who have helped Des on life's journey and been with him in friendship and love;

We remember those who have helped in his final illness. May all have the reward of their goodness. We pray to the Lord

ALL: God of eternal love, hear our prayer.

REFLECTION SONG 2: 'The Parting Glass'

The song has been sung in Ireland since at least the early 18th century. Bob Dylan's "Restless Farewell", featured on The Times They are a-Changin' from 1964, is heavily based on "The Parting Glass".

Of all the money that e'er I had
I spent it in good company
and all the harm I've ever done
Alas, it was to none but me

And all I've done for want of wit
To memory now I can't recall
So fill to me the parting glass
Good night and joy be to you all

So fill to me the parting glass
And drink a health whate'er befalls
Then gently rise and softly call
Good night and joy be to you all

Of all the comrades that e'er I had
They're sorry for my going away
And all the sweethearts that e'er I had
They would wish me one more day to stay

But since it fell into my lot
That I should rise and you should not
I'll gently rise and softly call
Good night and joy be to you all

So fill to me the parting glass
And drink a health whate'er befalls
Then gently rise and softly call
Good night and joy be to you all

Final Commendation

INVITATION TO PRAYER: 'Our Father' (All)

PRAYER OF COMMENDATION:

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

FAREWELL SONG: Go, silent friend, your life has found its ending
Author: John L. Bell Tune: LONDONDERRY AIR (ALL SING)



Go, silent friend,
your life has found its ending:
To dust returns your weary mortal frame.
God, who before birth called you into being,
Now calls you hence, his accent still the same.

Go, silent friend,
your life in Christ is buried;
For you He lived and died and rose again.
Close by His side your promised place is waiting
Where, fully known, you shall with God remain.

Go, silent friend,
forgive us if we grieved you;
Safe now in heaven, kindly say our name.
Your life has touched us, that is why we mourn you;
Our lives without you cannot be the same.

Go, silent friend,
we do not grudge your glory;
Sing, sing with joy deep praises to your Lord.
You, who believed that Christ would come back for you,
Now celebrate that Jesus keeps his word.

*June and family thank you for your presence here today
and for your friendship and support in Des' life and work
and especially for the care shown him over these last few weeks.*

*Please join with us at the Vibe Hotel after this Liturgy
to share memories of Des and to celebrate his life.*

*Vibe Hotel
100 Bayswater Rd, Rushcutters Bay*

*I am not gone
I remain here beside you
Just in a different form
Look for me in your heart
And there you will find me
In our love which forever lives on
In those moments when you feel alone
Look for me in your thoughts
And there you will find me
In sweet memories that burn strong
Every time a tear
Forms in your beautiful eyes Look up to the heavens
And there you will see me
Smiling down from God's glorious skies*

Injete Chesoni 2011

Celebrant: Fr Steve Sinn SJ **Cantor:** Josie Ryan
Organist: Christine Moriarty **Flowers:** Gerhard Haas

St Canice's Catholic Church 28 Roslyn Street Elizabeth Bay 2011