

Funeral Liturgy of
Rita Moreland

10th February 1932 - 14th July 2020



St Mary & St Michael's Church, Garstang
Thursday 30th July 2020 at 12 noon



Our mum Rita was a true "Old Garstonian",
born and bred and lived in Garstang all her life.

She loved Garstang and always said she was lucky
to have so many friends, although anyone who knew mum was aware
she did not mince her words, she called a spade a spade,
and was not afraid to voice her opinions.

She married dad on 25th October 1952 and together they raised 4 children.

Mum loved her family and as years went by that family extended
to grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Mum supported dad when he became a Garstang councillor
and was Mayoress on three occasions during which time she was able to
attend one of the Queen's garden parties at Buckingham Palace.

In 1985 mum became Mayoress of Wyre which she enjoyed.

Mum used to say her best job was working behind the bar at the
Royal British Legion where she could play the "bandit"
and watch customers play snooker. She really enjoyed watching snooker
from Alex Higgins to her latest favourite Ronnie O'Sullivan.

Playing bingo was another favourite of mum's and the meat bingo at
Barton provided us with many Christmas turkeys.

Later in life she enjoyed many coach holidays around England with friends.
One constant in mum's life was her love of cigarettes, she said she started
smoking at the age of 14 and had no intention of giving up!

Mum was still enjoying 15 a day until her last week!!

Mum still enjoyed seeing family and friends and a recent visit from the
great-grandchild until a short illness when she peacefully passed away.

Rest in peace mum. Goodnight and God bless. x.

Introductory Rites

After the sign of the cross, Father Geoffrey greets all who have gathered.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And with your spirit.

Father Geoffrey sprinkles the coffin with water, saying:

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

After words of introduction, Father Geoffrey invites all to pray in silence and then leads the opening prayer.

Almighty God and Father,
it is our certain faith
that your Son, who died on the cross, was raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of all who have fallen asleep.
Grant that through this mystery
your servant Rita, who has gone to her rest in Christ,
may share in the joy of his resurrection.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Scripture Verse

We read in sacred Scripture:

Matthew 25:34

Come, you whom my Father has blessed, says the Lord;
inherit the kingdom prepared for you
since the foundation of the world.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Homily

Father Geoffrey may speak briefly on the scripture, and on Christian death as a sharing in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Place of Committal

Father Geoffrey blesses the grave.

Lord Jesus Christ,
by your own three days in the tomb,
you hallowed the graves of all who believe in you
and so made the grave a sign of hope
that promises resurrection
even as it claims our mortal bodies.

Grant that your servant Rita may sleep here in peace
until you awaken her to glory,
for you are the resurrection and the life.

Then she will see you face to face
and in your light will see light
and know the splendour of God,
for you live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

Committal

During the committal the coffin is lowered.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to
eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ,
we commend Rita to Almighty God,
and we commit her body to the ground:
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless her and keep her,
the Lord make his face to shine upon her,
and be gracious to her,
the Lord lift up his countenance upon her
and grant her peace.

Intercessions

Father Geoffrey leads the prayers of intercession.

In reverence let us pray to God, the source of all mercies.

Gracious Lord, forgive the sins of those who have died in Christ.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Remember all the good they have done.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Welcome them into eternal life.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who mourn:
Lord, comfort them in their grief.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lighten their sense of loss with your presence.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Increase their faith, and strengthen their hope.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray also for ourselves, on our own pilgrimage through life.
Lord, keep us faithful in your service.
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Father Geoffrey introduces the Lord's Prayer, which all recite together.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Concluding Prayer

Father Geoffrey leads the concluding prayer of the liturgy.

Lord God,
whose days are without end
and whose mercies beyond counting,
keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown.
Let your spirit guide our days on earth
in the ways of holiness and justice,
that we may serve you in union with the whole Church,
secure in faith, strong in hope, perfected in love.
And when our earthly journey is ended,
lead us rejoicing into your kingdom,
where you live for ever and ever.

Amen.

Prayer over the People

Father Geoffrey, with hand outstretched over the people, says:

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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto Rita, 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.



Should you wish to make a charitable donation in memory of Rita,
family ask that you make one directly to a charity of your own choice.

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