



Opening hymn: Be Thou My Vision

Opening Prayer

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Heavenly Father, you are the God of Promise.

As we gather together in your name inspire us with the confidence to know that you make all things new. You promised your disciples that you have a place prepared for all those who take up the Cross and follow you. May we hold on to the promise that you have prepared a place for our loved ones in your heavenly kingdom. We make this prayer through Christ, Our Lord. **Amen.**

We invite a member of your family to place a small picture or memorial card of your loved one in the sanctuary.

We thank God for the joy they brought to our lives.

A reading from St John's Gospel.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers and Intercessions

Let us pray:

As we stand together the response to our prayer is:

You are the God of Promise

Jesus, you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Guide us in all that we say and do so that our actions reflect your love, joy and tenderness. **(R)**

When our hearts are troubled, comfort us with your healing love and mercy. **(R)**

Guide us on the path that you have traced out for us and let us see Christ in those we encounter on the way. **(R)**

During the times in our lives when we turn away from you, let us experience the power of your forgiveness, healing and peace. **(R)**

Help us to see the opportunities to spread the message of your Divine Mercy to others, especially those who experience hurt, rejection and hopelessness. **(R)**

May we experience the kingdom of God in our hearts and place before you in confidence our loved ones who have passed away as, together, we look forward to the beauty and glory prepared for those who follow Christ. **(R)**

Questions

With utter finality,
We ask, how will we cope?
Swept of all vitality,
We ask, where is our hope?

How can it be in death,
To have the promise of new life?
A body devoid of breath,
While we remain in grief.

In loss what have we to gain,
and where shall comfort be found?
For in this moment all we know is pain,
We wail without a sound.

The answer soon becomes made clear,
In the heart that raises its cries,
We did not lose, for you are still here,
and our love shall never die.

So, with hope in his promise, in his comforting love,
We entrust them to you, God, here and above.

Dominic O'Reilly, Parishioner from the Parish of Maghera, Newcastle

Closing Prayers

God, thank you for the people in our lives who we are remembering in a special way during the month of November.

We thank you for being a compassionate God who walks with us in our dark moments of grief and loneliness.

We are thankful for all who continue to love and support us through our grief.

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Lord, continue to be a light for us, giving us hope, direction and courage.

May we now live our lives treasuring the memories of those special people we have known and loved and help us to bring light and hope to others.

We praise and thank you, O Lord.

Eternal rest grant on to them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**Closing hymn: (*Marian antiphon can be said or sung*)
*or Salve Regina***