

To Celebrate the Life of
Elizabeth Ball
'Betty'

2nd May 1929 - 11th February 2022



St Mary and St Michael's RC Church
Friday 25th February 2022 at 11.00 am





INTRODUCTORY RITES

Reception of the Body

ALL RISE

Fr Geoffrey Steel, parish priest of St Mary & St Michael's, meets the procession at the door and leads it into church.

After the sign of the cross, Fr Geoffrey greets all who have gathered. All respond:

And with your spirit.

Symbols of baptism have a central place in the funeral liturgy: Fr Geoffrey sprinkles Betty's coffin with water from the baptismal font; her coffin is then placed between the lighted Easter candle and the altar.

Everyone is invited to sing the hymn, "Abide with me," **907**.

Opening Prayer

Fr Geoffrey invites all to pray, and in silence everyone gathers their thoughts. On behalf of the whole Church, the priest intercedes for Betty and for the mourners. All make the prayer their own by acclaiming: **Amen**.

ALL SIT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1 John 3:1-2

We shall see God as God really is.

At the end, all give assent to God's word in the acclamation:

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 102

All repeat the response after the reader, and then after each verse.

The Lord is compassion and love.

John 14:1-6

ALL RISE

The proclamation of the gospel is acclaimed with alleluias, which all sing together. The gospel begins:

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

At the end, the gospel of Christ is acclaimed:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL SIT

Homily

Fr Geoffrey reflects on the scripture readings, and on Christian death as a sharing in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

General Intercessions

ALL RISE

Intercession is made for the Church and the world, for Betty and those who mourn, and for all who are gathered here today.

After each intention is announced, all pray in silence and then make the response.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Fr Geoffrey concludes the intercessions with a prayer, to which all respond: **Amen.**

ALL SIT

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The celebration of Mass continues in the usual way: bread and wine are brought to the altar; God is praised and thanked in the eucharistic prayer; the consecrated bread is broken; we are nourished by the body and blood of Christ in holy communion.

When the preparation is completed, Fr Geoffrey invites all to pray.

ALL RISE, and respond to the priest's invitation:

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good
and the good of all his holy Church.**

Fr Geoffrey leads the prayer over the gifts, to which all respond: **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

This great prayer is the centre and high point of the entire liturgy.

Fr Geoffrey leads the praise of God and gives thanks for the wonders God has done, especially for the sacrifice of Christ's death and resurrection.

The prayer begins:

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

The prayer includes three acclamations. The music is given in the hymnbook, **553**, **554a**, and **555**.

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

ALL KNEEL

Mystery of Faith

The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your death, O Lord,

and profess your resurrection

until you come again.

Great Amen

The eucharistic prayer reaches its climax in praise of God as the consecrated bread and wine are lifted up.

All make the entire prayer their own in the final great Amen.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

ALL RISE

COMMUNION RITE

Preparation for Holy Communion begins with the Lord's Prayer; all then exchange a greeting of peace with one another; and the priest breaks the bread of the eucharist in which all who receive the sacrament share as one body.

The Lord's Prayer

Fr 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.**

Deliver us, Lord, ...
... for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.**

Rite of Peace

Fr Geoffrey then implores peace and unity for the Church
and for the whole human family. All respond: **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

Before sharing in Holy Communion, all exchange a greeting
of peace with those around them. You are invited to bow, or
to say "Peace be with you".

Breaking of the Bread

While the consecrated bread is being broken and the
preparations made for the distribution of Holy Communion,
the 'Lamb of God' litany is prayed:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

ALL KNEEL

Communion

In silence all prepare for Communion. The priest then extends an invitation to participate in the sacred meal, and all who will receive Holy Communion respond with a prayer of humility taken from the gospel:

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Before receiving Holy Communion, each communicant makes a bow of reverence to the sacrament.

The minister says to each communicant:

The Body of Christ.

The communicant replies:

Amen.

Anyone unable to participate in the sacrament may request a blessing of the minister; to indicate this, please cross your arms over your chest.

During Communion, everyone is invited to sing the hymn, "Eagle's wings – You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord," **952.**

Prayer after Communion

After a time of silent praise, the priest invites everyone to pray.

ALL RISE

Fr Geoffrey leads the prayer, and all respond: **Amen.**

FINAL COMMENDATION

Before leaving the church, the assembly commends Betty to the mercy of God.

Fr Geoffrey invites all to pray. All spend some moments in silent prayer and remembrance. Betty's coffin is sprinkled with water from the baptismal font.

All sing:

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

The liturgy in church ends with a prayer commending Betty into God's hands.

All respond: **Amen.**

During the procession from church, everyone is invited to sing the hymn, "Do not be afraid," **972.**

Burial

Please follow the family in the procession to our cemetery.

An Angel

An angel lived among us,
A gift from God above.
She showered us with kindness
And shared with us her love.
She cherished every moment
With the man who was her life;
Walking hand in hand together,
Facing life with all its strife.
She loved her children dearly,
Each one a different way,
Nestled close within her heart.
Though, now, she's far away.
She's gone to live with Jesus.
But, she's here with us, today,
Smiling down on every one of us,
And telling us she's OK.



Robert and his family would like to thank you for your attendance here today. Special thanks for the kind messages of sympathy and cards of condolence received at this sad time.

Following the service you are invited to Garstang Country Hotel and Golf Club for light refreshments and to share stories and memories of Betty.

Should you wish to make a charitable donation in memory of Betty, they would be gratefully accepted for St Mary & St Michael's Church and NSPCC care of the funeral director at the address below.

Greg Hodgkinson Independent Funeral Director
Castle View, Bridge Street, Garstang PR3 1YB
Tel: 01995 601600