

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of  
**Jean Esme O'Dwyer**

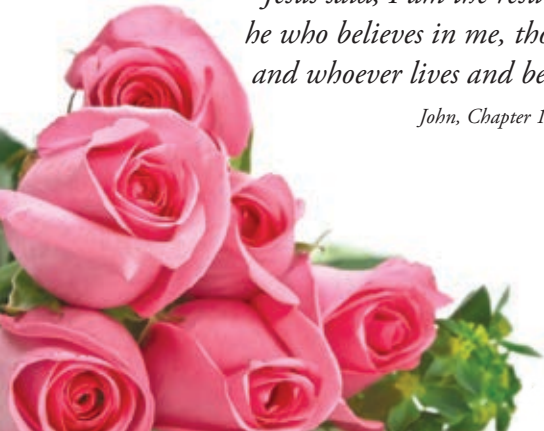
7th February 1938 - 7th January 2025



The Round Chapel  
Markeaton Crematorium  
Thursday 23rd January 2025  
at 2.00 pm

*Jesus said, I am the resurrection, and I am the life;  
he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,  
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.*

*John, Chapter 11: verses 25 and 26*



## RECEIVING THE COFFIN BEFORE THE FUNERAL SERVICE

*The minister meets the coffin at the door of the chapel and says:*

We receive the body of our sister Jean.  
With confidence in God, the giver of life,  
who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead.

## THE FUNERAL SERVICE

### THE GATHERING

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Romans, Chapter 8: verses 38 and 39*

Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

*1 Thessalonians, Chapter 4: verses 14, 17b and 18*

We brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out.

The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

*1 Timothy, Chapter 6: verse 7 and Job, Chapter 1: verse 21b*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is his faithfulness.

*Lamentations, Chapter 3: verses 22 and 23*

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

*Matthew, Chapter 5: verse 4*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.  
*John, Chapter 3: verse 16*

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  
*Psalms 46: verse 1*

## WELCOME

The Reverend John Rice

Welcome to all as we come to remember with gratitude Jean  
and all that she meant to us.

*The minister says:*

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ, who died and was raised  
to the glory of God the Father. Grace and mercy be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## INTRODUCTION AND PRAYER

*Please sit.*

*The minister introduces the service.*

We have come here today to remember before God our sister Jean; to give  
thanks for her life; to commend her to God our merciful redeemer and judge;  
to commit her body to be cremated, to comfort one another in our grief.

Let us pray as we sit.

God of all consolation, your Son Jesus Christ was moved to tears at the grave  
of Lazarus his friend. Look with compassion on your children in their loss;  
give to troubled hearts the light of hope, and strengthen in us the gift of faith,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## 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 none 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 forevermore  
my dwelling place shall be.

*Please sit.*

### **TRIBUTE**

Richard O'Dwyer

### **SOLO**

An Irish Blessing - May The Road Rise Up To Meet You  
Sophie Woodcock

*Please sit or kneel to pray.*

### **THE COLLECT**

Merciful Father, hear our prayers and comfort us; renew our trust in your Son, whom you raised from the dead; strengthen our faith that all who have died in the love of Christ will share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

## READING

John, Chapter 14: verses 1-3 and 8-9

Anne Woodcock

Jesus said to his disciples, "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 should 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 to. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

## ADDRESS

The Reverend John Rice

*Please sit or kneel to pray.*

## PRAYERS

God of mercy, Lord of life, you have made us in your image to reflect your truth and light: we give you thanks for Jean, for the grace and mercy she received from you, for all that was good in her life, for the memories we treasure today. Especially we thank you for her kind and caring nature. We remember with gratitude her unselfish approach to life, preferring others to herself.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Your mighty power brings joy out of grief and life out of death.  
Look in mercy on Jean's family, Richard, Oveta, Margaret, Dinky and Ken  
together with all who mourn. Give them patient faith in times of darkness.  
Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love.

*Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

**All: God of mercy, entrusting into your hands all that you have made and  
rejoicing in our communion with all your faithful people, we make our  
prayers through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

*As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:*

**Our Father, which art in heaven,**

**Hallowed be thy name;**

**Thy kingdom come;**

**Thy will be done; In earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**As we forgive them that**

**trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;**

**But deliver us from evil:**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**The power, and the glory,**

**For ever and ever. Amen.**

## COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

*Please stand.*

Let us commend Jean to the mercy of God our maker and redeemer.

*Silence is kept.*

God our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and entered into glory. Confident of his victory and claiming his promises, we entrust Jean to your mercy in the name of Jesus our Lord, who died and is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

God will show us the path of life; in his presence is the fullness of joy: and at his right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

**All: Amen.**



## **THE COMMITTAL**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness. As a father is tender towards his children, so is the Lord tender to those that fear him. For he knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field; when the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more. But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever toward those that fear him and his righteousness upon their children's children.

We have entrusted our sister Jean to God's mercy, and we now commit her body to be cremated: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our frail bodies that they may be conformed to his glorious body, who died, was buried, and rose again for us. To him be glory for ever.

### **All: Amen.**

In the presence of God.	We lay her down.
In the power of God.	She shall rise
In the presence of Christ.	She is risen already.

**All: Heavenly Father,  
in your Son Jesus Christ you have given us a true faith and a sure hope.  
Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days, that we may live as those  
who believe in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins and the  
resurrection to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May God give you his comfort and his peace,  
his light and his joy,  
in this world and the next;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All: Amen.**



Jean's family would like to thank you for your kindness and appreciate your presence here today. All are invited to Mr Grundy's Tavern, Georgian House Hotel, 32-34 Ashbourne Road, Derby DE22 3AD.

If desired, donations in Jean's memory may be given at the end of the service to

**Cancer Research UK**

in the box provided or sent by post to  
2 Redman Place, London E20 1JQ.

**MUSIC**

On Entering: Elgar's Nimrod from *Enigma Variations*  
Sheku Kanneh-Mason, cello

On Leaving: The Power Of Love  
Jennifer Rush

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