

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Sister Mary Pius Fagan, OP

Celebrating New Life January 3, 1936 – November 25, 2023

> DOMINICAN SISTERS SPARKILL, NEW YORK

Celebrant: Fr. Ravi Dasari, CO

Celebrant:

Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all consolation! God comforts us in all our afflictions and thus enables us to comfort those who are in trouble, with the same consolation we have received from God.

[Blessing with holy water]

In the waters of baptism, Sister Mary Pius died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May she now share with him eternal glory. As St. Paul has written: "All of us who were baptized into Christ were baptized into his death. By baptism into his death we were buried together with him, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him by likeness to his death, so shall we be united with him by likeness to his resurrection."

On the day of her baptism, Sister Mary Pius put on Christ. On the day of Christ's coming, may she be clothed with glory.

Opening Song: ALL ARE WELCOME

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard, and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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Welcome: Sister Irene Ellis, OP, Prioress

Opening Prayer - Lord, welcome into your presence your daughter, Sister Mary Pius, whom you have called from this life. Release her from all her sins, bless her with eternal light and peace, raise her up to live forever with all your saints in the glory of the resurrection. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

▲ LITURGY OF THE WORD ▲

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: ALL I ASK OF YOU

All I ask of you is forever to remember me as loving you.

Deep the joy of being together in one heart and for me that's just where it is.

Someone will be calling you to be there for a while. Can you hear their cry from deep within?

Laughter, joy and presence: the only gifts you are! Have you time? I'd like to be with you.

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Second Reading: Romans 15:5-7,13

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 4:14-19

Reflections: Sister Mary Dempsey, OP

General Intercessions: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

✤ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ✤

Preparation of the Gifts

All: O God, we thank you for the future you have promised us, for we know that death is but a passing moment which leads from life to life.

We set before you bread and wine which we offer in Sister Mary Pius's memory, we speak our loving trust in you, and we ask you to bless us and our world.

At this meal which we share in the name of your Son, we hear once more your pledge of life which will never come to an end. So may we bless your name with him now and forever. Amen.

Presentation Song: IF I CAN HELP SOMEBODY

If I can help somebody, as I travel along, If I can cheer somebody with a word or song, If I can help somebody from doing wrong, Then my living shall not be in vain.

Then my living shall not be in vain, Then my living shall not be in vain. If I can help somebody, as I travel along, Then my living shall not be in vain.

If I can do my duty, as a good woman ought, If I can bring back beauty, to a world up-wrought, If I can spread love's message, as the Master taught, Then my living shall not be in vain.

Music and lyrics by Alma B. Androzzo. © 1958, Boosey & Hawkes. All rights reserved.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

Great Amen

✤ COMMUNION RITE ✤

The Lord's PrayerRite of PeaceLamb of God

Communion Song: TABLE OF PLENTY

Come to the feast of heaven and earth! Come to the table of plenty! God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.

O come and sit at my table where saints and sinners are friends, I wait to welcome the lost and lonely to share the cup of my love.

O come and eat without money; come to drink without price, My feast of gladness will feed your spirit with faith and fullness of life.

My bread will ever sustain you through days of sorrow and woe. My wine will flow like a sea of gladness to flood the depths of your soul.

Your fields will flower in fullness; your homes will flourish in peace. For I, the giver of home and harvest, will send my rain on the soil.

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Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: Recalling that in Christ, God has made us sisters and brothers to one another, let us pray...

All: O God, you have put us on this earth, not to live alone, but with each other, to bear one another's burdens and to share one another's joys. Others touch our lives and share of themselves with us and we grow closer to you together with them. We thank you for the time that Sister Mary Pius spent among us, for the gift of her love and friendship. We ask that her soul be purified by this holy sacrifice, and that we may be comforted until that day when we will all be joined together again forever, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

✤ FINAL COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL ✤

Celebrant: With faith in Jesus Christ, we reverently bring the body of our Sister Mary Pius to be buried in its human imperfection. Let us pray with confidence to God, who gives life to all things that God will raise up this mortal body to the perfection and the company of the saints.

May God give her a merciful judgment and forgive all her sins. May Christ, the Good Shepherd, lead her safely home to be at peace with God. And may she be happy forever with all the saints in the presence of the eternal King.

Receive her soul and present her to the Most High. Receive her soul and present her to the Most High.

Saints of God, come to her aid. Come to meet her, angels of the Lord. *Receive her soul and present her to the Most High.*

May Christ who called you take you to himself. May angels lead you to Abraham's side. *Receive her soul and present her to the Most High.*

Give her eternal rest, O Lord, and may your light shine on her forever. *Receive her soul and present her to the Most High.*

Celebrant: Peace be with those who have left us and have gone to God. May Sister Mary Pius be at peace. May she be with God.

All: May she be with the living God, may she be with the immortal God, may she be in God's hands. Celebrant: May she sleep in peace.

All: May she live in peace.

Celebrant: May she be where the great name of God is.

All: May she be with the living God, now and on the day of judgment. May she live with God, may she live in eternal light.

Celebrant: May she live in the peace of the Lord. All: *May she live forever in peace, with God in peace.*

CELTIC SONG OF FAREWELL



May choirs of angels lead you into paradise, and may the martyrs come to welcome you, to bring you home into the holy city, so you may dwell in new Jerusalem.

May holy angels be there at your welcoming with all the saints who go before you there, that you may know the peace and joy of paradise; that you may enter into everlasting rest.

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Celebrant: We commend our Sister Mary Pius to you, Lord. Now that she has passed from this life, may she live on in your presence. In your mercy and love, forgive whatever sins she may have committed through human weakness. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Prayer: Listen, O God, to the prayers of your Church on behalf of the faithful departed, and grant to your servant Sister Mary Pius, whose funeral we have celebrated today, the inheritance promised to all your saints. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Song: JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise; Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Text: Henry Van Dyke. Music: arr. from Ludwig van Beethoven; adapt by Edward Hodges, 1796-1867

