



Early in the morning
I will praise you Lord

Ps 9:1

The Answer

I met Him early in the morning when my day was at its start,
His presence, just like a rainbow, gave warmth within my heart.

All day long the feeling lasted. His presence stayed with me.

And together we calmly sailed over a most troubled sea.

So I think I found the answer, learned from many a troubled way.

You must seek God in the morning, if you desire Him through the day!

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Sister Mary Joyce, OP

Celebrating New Life

October 9, 1928 – January 4, 2024

DOMINICAN SISTERS
SPARKILL, NEW YORK

✠ PRAYERS AT ENTRANCE OF THE CHAPEL ✠

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 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 put on Christ.
On the day of Christ's coming, may she be clothed with glory.

Opening Song: BE THOU MY VISION

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
Thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, be first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Ancient Gaelic, trans. By Mary E. Byrne, 1905. Traditional Irish melody.

Welcome: Sister Irene Ellis, OP, *Prioress*

Opening Prayer - Lord, welcome into your presence your daughter, Sister Mary, 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: 1 Peter 4:7-11

Responsorial Psalm: PSALM 5

RESPONSE: *Early in the morning when the sun shall rise,
O Lord, we come to you.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Gospel: John 14:1-7

Homily: Fr. Ravi Dasari, CO

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'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: BREASTPLATE OF ST. PATRICK

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me.
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me.
Christ be above me, Never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, Shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting.
Christ in my rising, Light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts Thinking about me.
Christ be on all tongues Telling of me.
Christ be the vision In eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me Christ ever be.

Rising I thank You, Mighty and strong One,
King of Creation, Giver of rest.
Firmly confessing Threeness of Persons,
Oneness of Godhead, Trinity blest.



Text: Adapt. fr. St. Patrick's Breastplate (8th cent. or later) by James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010,
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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 Prayer

Rite of Peace

Lamb of God

Communion: THE SERVANT SONG

Will you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey. We are trav'lers on the road.
We are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping. When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow, till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

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Communion Meditation: PASS IT ON

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up to its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it;
you spread your love to everyone; you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding;
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it;
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found;
you can depend on him, it matters not where you're bound.
I'll shout it from the mountain top; I want my world to know;
the Lord of Love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

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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 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: Our Sister Mary has fallen asleep in Christ. Confident in our hope of eternal life, let us commend her to the loving mercy of our Father and let our prayers go with her. She was adopted as God's daughter in baptism and was nourished at the table of the Lord; may she now inherit the promise of eternal life and take her place in the company of the saints at the table of God's children in heaven.

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.

SONG OF FAREWELL

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 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.***

Celebrant: We commend our Sister Mary 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.

Under Mary's Mantle

A Dominican Song of Final Commendation



Ho-ly Fath-er Do - mi - nic, we call on you: wel - come your faith-ful daugh-ter home,
An - gel of Peace, lead her to par - a - dise. Sing, host of heav-en, sing for joy!



She who lived and preached the gos - pel with fi - del - i - ty and love.
Cath - er - ine, — Rose, and Mar - tin, lead her in - to heav-en's light.



Gath - er her with her sis - ters and broth - ers un - der the man - tle of Ma - ry.



Saints of the Fam - i - ly of Dom - i - nic, wel - come our sis - ter in - to glo - ry!

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

Recessional: CANON IN D

— *Johann Pachelbel*

The Value of a Smile

The thing that goes the farthest towards making life worthwhile
That costs the least and does the most is just a pleasant smile.
It's full of mirth and goodness, too, with heavenly kindness blent.
It's worth a million dollars—and does not cost a cent.

— *Final prayer card from Sister Mary's mother, 1961*