Thanksgiving service celebrating the life of

ANNETTE FRANCES O'LEARY

14th July 1939 – 1st October 2024

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yea
Friday 11th October 2024
Celebrant - Fr Jose Mathew

Entrance (*Please stand)*

Symbols of Annette's life will be presented by her grandchildren.
Books she has given them represent the value she placed on knowledge and education and the McSwiney family crucifix reflecting her deep faith.

Come As You Are

© Paul Gurr

Come as you are, that's how I want you.
Come as you are, feel quite at home.
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven
Come as you are, why stand alone?

No need to fear, love sets no limits.
No need to fear, love never ends.
Don't run away, shamed, and disheartened.
Rest in my love, trust me again.

I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.
Each time you fail to live by my promise
Why do you think I'd love you the less?

Don't run away, shamed, or disheartened
Come as you are, why stand alone?

Come as you are, that's how I love you.
Come as you are, trust me again.
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.
All shall be well, just come as you are.

Greeting Fr Jose

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

C: In the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: Amen. *(Be seated)*

Eulogy Jane Moore, Eliza Scott

Reverencing the Body *(Remain seated)*

Lighting of the Paschal Candle
Deidre Black, Carolyn McSwiney IBVM

C: As we gather with Annette for the last time, we recall her commitment through Baptism and we rejoice and give thanks for the way she lived her Gospel call through such a rich and fruitful life.
All: May Annette now enjoy the fullness of light and peace.

Sprinkling with Holy Water *Fr Jose*

C: We sprinkle Annette's coffin with the holy waters of Baptism as a sign of Christ's saving love in which Annette trusted all her life.
All: May Annette's spirit be alive in our midst.

Placing of the Pall *Carolyn Cassidy, Kate O'Leary*

C: The white pall, reminding us of the garment worn by Annette at her baptism, is placed over the coffin by her daughters Carolyn and Kate to signify her new life with Christ.
All: May she be enfolded in God's love forever.

Opening Prayer *(Please stand)*

C: God of all life, from the beginning of time, you have drawn Annette deeply into your love. As we come together to farewell her today, we give thanks for her gracious and inspirational faith-filled life. We celebrate all she brought to birth in us, around us and among us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word (*Be seated)*

First Reading Carolyn Cassidy

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiaticus (44:10-15)

Here is a generous woman whose good works have not been forgotten. In her descendants there remains a rich inheritance born of her. Her descendants stand by her covenants, and thanks to her, so do her children's children. Her offspring will last forever, her glory will not fade. Her body will be buried in peace and her name will live on for generations. The people will proclaim her wisdom, the assembly will celebrate her praises.
The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Sung)

The Lord is My Shepherd

©Brian Boniwell

The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
Wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.
Over the mountains, the waters and byways,
Valleys and highways, he's waiting for me.

I want to go to meet him there,
To lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
Wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.

And while on the journey to where we are going,
He promised to be there to help us along.
Over the mountains, we'll walk on together,
To know all the wonders he's given to me.

I want to go to meet him there,
To lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
Wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.

Second Reading Kate O'Leary

A reading from the Book of 2 Timothy *(4:7-8)*

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day- and not only to me, to all who have longed for His appearing.
The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *(Please stand)*

All: Alleluia, Alleluia.
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,
Whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.
even as we hope in you.
Alleluia.

Gospel Fr Jose

C: The Lord be with you
All: And with your spirit.
C: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (14:1-6).
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his family and friends, “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 would 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 too. And you know the way to the place I am going.”
Thomas said to Him, “Lord we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”
Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (*Be seated)*

Prayers of the Faithful (*Please stand)*

C: We have been promised by Jesus that our every tear will be wiped away and that in faith we shall rise again. Rich in that faith, we place our needs before God.

Therese Scott

We give thanks for the gift of family and friendship and acknowledge the joy and strength Annette drew from those closest to her. Annette leaves this world from the arms of her seven daughters, and joins her devoted husband in the faithfulness of a gracious, eternal mystery. We pray in faith.

All: God of Mercy, hear our prayer.

Elizabeth O'Leary

We give thanks for being here today in this place that was so important to Annette, and ask comfort for those who cannot be with us especially William Shaw and John, Liz, Rosemary and Stephanie McSwiney. We also remember Annette's family who have gone before her; John, Arthur, Sheila and David. May they welcome her into eternal life. We pray in faith.

All: God of Mercy, hear our prayer.

Fiona Shaw

We give thanks for all health professionals, particularly those who cared for Annette. The kindness and support she received provided her with great comfort in her final days. May their contributions to society be recognised and valued. We pray in faith.

All: God of Mercy, hear our prayer.

Ruth Lawson

We give thanks for all educators and their commitment to the development of their students, a vocation Annette embraced with passion and dedication. We acknowledge Annette's service to the teaching profession and the young lives she has influenced. We pray in faith.

All: God of Mercy, hear our prayer.

C: Heavenly Father, hear these prayers and longing of our hearts, those spoken and those for which we cannot find the words. May your Holy Spirit which inspired Annette, continue to console and strengthen us in our life's purpose and mission.
Grant this through Christ our Lord

All: Amen.

Our Father (*Remain standing)*

Photo Tribute (*Be seated)*

Dancing Queen - Acoustic by Nora & Will

Final Commendation

With faith in Jesus Christ, we reverently bring Annette's body for her final journey. May she be brought into the company of the Saints. May Christ the Good Shepherd lead her home to be at peace with God.
Let us pray on our own behalf, that we who now mourn and are saddened, may one day go forth with our sister to meet the Lord of life when he appears in glory.

The coffin is sprinkled with holy water and incense.

Prayer of Farewell

C: Saints of God, come to her aid!
Hasten to meet her, angels of the Lord!

All: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

C: May Christ who called you, take you to himself;
may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

All: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

C: Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

All: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

C: Into your hands, God of Mercy,
we commend our sister, Annette, in the sure hope that,
together with all who have died in Christ,
she will rise with them on the last day.

We give you thanks for the blessings
which you bestowed upon her in this life:
they are signs to us of your goodness
and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.

Merciful Lord,
turn towards us and listen to our prayers:
open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us
who remain to comfort one another with the
assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are
with you and with our sister forever.

All: Amen.

C: May the angels lead you into paradise;
may the martyrs come to welcome you
and take you to the holy city,
the new and eternal Jerusalem.

Now let us take Annette to her place of rest.

Recessional

You Raise Me Up

©Celtic Woman

When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary,
When troubles come and my heart burdened be,
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence,
Until You come and sit awhile with me.

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains,
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas,
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders,
You raise me up to more than I can be.

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains,
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas,
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders,
You raise me up to more than I can be.

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Carolyn, Kate, Marie-Therese, Elizabeth, Fiona, Ruth and Jane and our families thank you for joining us in celebrating Annette's life today.

We particularly wish to thank the generous contributions of the Sacred Heart Parish.

As you exit the church you are invited to collect a sprig of rosemary which has been gathered from Annette's garden and place it on her coffin.

Annette's cremation will be held privately.

Please join us for light refreshments at the
County Club,
High Street, Yea.