A Mass of Thanksgiving Celebrating the Life of

Marie Elizabeth Sier

2nd March 1936 – 4th January 2025

Sacred Heart Church, Yea
Thursday 16th January, 2025 at 10.30 am
Celebrant: Fr Jose Mathew

Order of Service:

Welcome : *Simone Sier*

We would like to welcome all our family and friends to celebrate the life of our beautiful Mum - Marie. I would like to read a prayer that Marie requested, that many of us will need today.

Our Mum
You were a precious gift from God above,
So much beauty, grace and love.
You touched our hearts in so many ways.
Your smile so bright, even on bad days.
You heard God's whisper calling you home,
You didn't want to leave us alone.
You loved us so much, you held on tight,
Till all the strength was gone
And you could no longer fight.
So you gave your hand to God
And slowly drifted away,
Knowing that with you,
Our love will be together again someday.

Maureen Sier An Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sunshine warm upon your face
The rains fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Entrance Hymn: *Please Stand*

Here I Am Lord

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
   All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.
   I have made the stars of night,
   I will make their darkness bright.
   Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

   Refrain
   Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord?
   I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord
   If You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
   I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
   I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love
   alone. I will speak my word to them.
   Whom shall I send? **Refrain**

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
   I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
   Finest bread I will provide, 'Til their hearts be
   satisfied. I will give my life to them,
   Whom shall I send? **Refrain**

Greeting - Fr Jose

Baptismal Symbols

Lighting of the Pascal Candle: *Mitch Sier*

Fr Jose In Baptism Marie received the light of Christ.
This light guided her throughout her life and
we are called to keep this light burning brightly.

All **May it now lead her to eternal life.**

Placing of Life Symbols:

Marie's Irish Scarf - *Connor Sier*
Nanni & Grandad's cushion – *Harri Sier*
60th Wedding Anniversary Card - *Sam Palmer*
Nanni's Gardening Gloves - Patrick Sier

Sprinkling of Holy Water: *Fr Jose*

Fr Jose In the waters of baptism Marie died with Christ and He raised her to new life.

All **May she now share eternal glory.**

Eulogy: *Mary Campbell, Peter Sier, Adrian, Harri and Ellie Sier, Michael Sier*- Singing Portrait of My Love by Matt Munro

May Marie rest eternally in God's fathomless love.
Marie was born at home in Kells County Meath and lived in a small town called Termonfeckin in Drogheda, Ireland.
She was the eldest daughter of Michael and Margaret Molloy; and sister to Michael, Christie, Albert and Phil [all deceased].
Loving wife of Adrian Sier [dec], Mother, Mother-in-law, Grandmother and Great Grandmother of: Sean and Maureen, Melinda and Chris, Sam, Mackenzie and Savannah,
Adrian and Jodie, Harri, Mitch and Ellie,
Michael and Sande, Jessica and Patrick,
Peter and Simone, Jamaya and Connor.

Opening Prayer

Lord God, we thank you for the life Marie has shared with us. Grant mercy and peace to Marie who is now reunited with loved ones. May the care and devotion of her life on earth, find a lasting reward in heaven. Look kindly on her family as they turn to your compassion and love.
Strengthen their faith and lighten their loss.
We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord.
All: Amen

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: *Proverbs* 31:10-31 *Maree Sier-Trentin*

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Who shall find a valiant woman? She is far beyond the price of pearls. She is always busy with wool and flax, she does her work with eager hands. She gets up while it is still dark giving their household their food. She puts her back into her work and shows how strong her arms can be. She finds her labour well worthwhile. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Snow may come, she has no fear for her household, with all her family warmly clothed.

She is clothed in strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. When she opens her mouth, she does so wisely.
On the tongue is kindly instruction. She keeps good watch on the conduct of her household, no bread of idleness for her.
Many women have done admirable things, but you surpass them all!
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.
The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: *Melinda Maroney*

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
   To live in the house of the lord, all the days of my life,
   To savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple.

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

2. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
   In the land of the living.
   Hope in Him, hold firm and take heart.
   Hope in the Lord!

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

2nd Reading: Corinthians 13: 4-7 *Donna Stone*

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous.
Love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude
or selfish; it does not take offence and is not resentful.
Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever come. Love does not come to an end.
The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Happy are those who have died in the Lord, let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them. Alleluia

Gospel: *John [14: 1-6]* *Fr Jose*

Fr Jose: The Lord be with you.
All: **And with your spirit.**

Fr Jose: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
All: **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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 too. 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful:

Jessica Sier, Bill Sier, Therese Morris, Jenny Dodd, Patrick Sier, Sharon McInerney, Mackenzie Maroney, Savannah Maroney.

Fr Jose: Compassionate God, we celebrate Marie's journey through life with joy. We remember the many blessings you gave Marie in life. Knowing you are faithful to your promises, we turn to you in prayer.

1. Compassionate God, we pray for Marie; our beloved Mother, Nanni, Aunty, friend. We remember a beautiful woman, adored by so many. Heaven really has gained the most beautiful couple.

   As we say our goodbyes to Nanni, I take a moment of reflection and feel the deepest gratitude for all mine and Pat's time growing up on the farm. I can still hear Nan yelling out to grandad who was busy in the shed, "Ade, come down for morning tea."
   We would sit and eat our scones with the jam we'd made after picking all the berries to prepare it, and of course, Grandad slathered the jam butter in equal parts.
   Nan, you truly helped shape me into the woman I am today, there's so many attributes to my life that were because of our time as I grew up.
   All the time in the kitchen with you, as I impatiently waited to lick the bowl, delivering meals on wheels, spending hours in the garden together, drinking coffee milk shakes (whoops) and coming up days before Christmas just so I could help you prepare. I loved how active you were in the community, always socializing and busy doing something with friends.
   Your cheeky Irish giggle is a sound I'll hear forever.
   May you rest in peace with your sweetheart, a love that truly stood the test of time. Our family really is so blessed to have had you both. And so, until we meet again, may God hold you and us in the palm of his hand.
   Lord, hear us. **All: Lord hear our prayer.**

2. Compassionate God, we pray for our extended family. Comfort them and give them the strength to continue Aunty Marie's legacy of courage, love and faith.
Lord, hear us. **All: Lord hear our prayer.**

3. Compassionate God, we pray for Marie's loved ones and family who have gone before us, especially her beloved husband Adrian, parents and siblings. May they all be reunited in your loving arms. Lord, hear us. **All: Lord hear our prayer.**

4. Compassionate God, we pray for Dr Lowe, Rachael and the palliative care staff, for their devoted care and support to Marie during her time of illness.
Lord, hear us. **All : Lord hear our prayer.**

5. Compassionate God, we pray for all present at this celebration today. May each of us be blessed with memories of our journey with this special lady.
Lord, hear us. **All: Lord hear our prayer.**

6. Compassionate God, we give thanks and gratitude for the way that Aunty Marie showed us how to live: with joy, laughter, happiness and positivity. We ask that, with her as our guide, we will all follow her life's example.
Lord, hear us. **All: Lord hear our prayer.**

7. Dear God, We are thankful for the times we spent with Nanni. She will always have a place in so many people's hearts.

8. Dear God, Please bless Nanni and keep her safe in heaven.
Lord hear us. **All: Lord hear our prayer.**

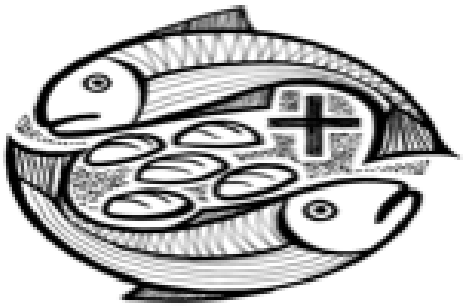
Fr Jose: God our Father, we ask you to hear these prayers and grant us what we ask, through Christ Our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts *Connor Sier, Mitch Sier*

Instrumental Music



The Lord's Prayer

Communion Hymn:

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

1. Make me a channel of Your peace,
   Where there is hatred let me bring Your love
   Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord
   And where there is doubt true faith in You

2. Make me a channel of your peace
   Where there is despair in life let me bring hope
   Where there is darkness only light
   And where there's sadness ever joy.

Refrain

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek,
So much to be consoled as to console.
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

3. Make me a channel of your peace
   It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
   It is in giving to all men that we receive
   And in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Reflection:

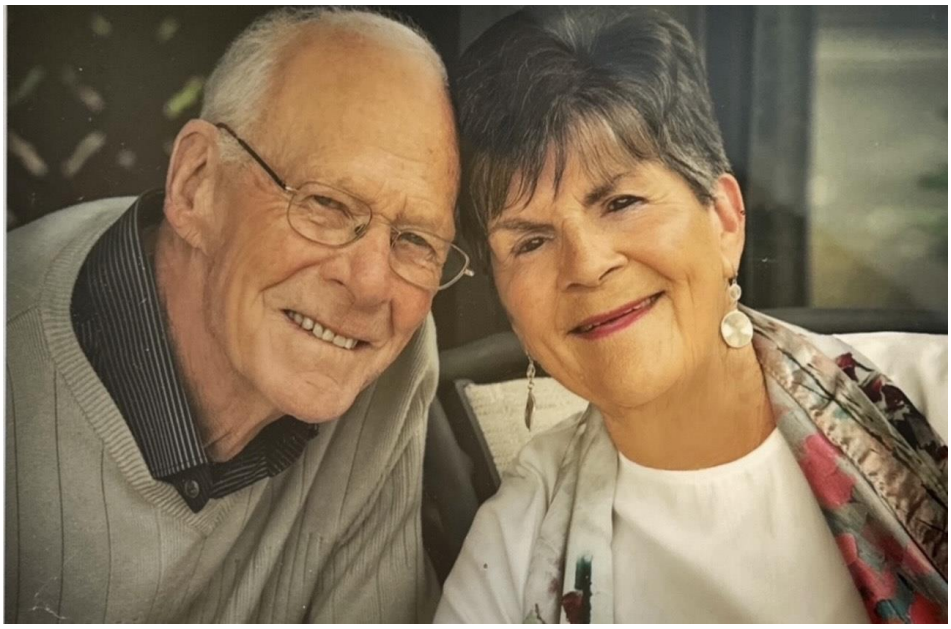
O Holy Night: *sung by Michael Sier*

A Fallen Limb: *Sam Palmer*

A limb has fallen from the family tree
Yet the wind through the leaves whisper,
grieve not for me.
Remember the best times; the laughter the song.
The good life that I lived, while I was strong.
Continue my heritage, it's now up to you.
To ensure our tree grows strong, our tree grows true.
My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest.
For a family like ours, we are truly blessed.
Continue traditions, no matter how small.
For within these customs, grows strength for us all.
I do miss you all dearly, as I'm sure you miss me,
But remember, we are united, by our family tree.

Photo Reflection

Supermarket Flowers - *Ed Sheeran*
When Irish Eyes Are Smiling - *Foster and Allen*
Dancing Queen - *ABBA*
The Impossible Dream - *Michael Sier*



Prayer after Communion

Fr Jose:

Let us pray, Lord God, your Son Jesus Christ gave us the sacrament of his body and blood to guide us on our pilgrim way to your kingdom.
May our sister Marie who so often shared and lived the Eucharist, come to the banquet of life Christ has prepared for us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen

Final Commendation

Fr Jose: Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of Marie. May our farewell express our affection for her, may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet her, when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

Fr Jose: 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.**

Fr Jose: 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.**

Fr Jose: 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.**

Fr Jose: Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our sister Marie in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, she will rise with Him on the last day. We give thanks for the blessings you have 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 to us and listen to our prayers, open the gates of paradise to your servant Marie 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 our sister forever.

All: Amen

Recessional Hymn:

Time to Say Goodbye – *Andre Bocelli & Sarah Brightman*

May Marie watch over us all and rest in peace forever.

Pall Bearers: *Sean Sier, Adrian Sier, Michael Sier, Peter Sier*

In Lieu of Flowers,
please consider donating to the
Yea Community Cancer Charity.
A donation box is available here at the entrance of
Sacred Heart Church and also at the Yea Golf Club.

Thankyou

Sean, Adrian, Michael, Peter and their families
would like to sincerely thank you for your kind thoughts,
prayers and presence here today.

You are warmly invited to
join the family at the Yea Cemetery to farewell Marie
and then at the Yea Golf Club for refreshments from 1pm

Acknowledgements and sincere thanks to
Fr Jose Mathew and McCormack Funerals.

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