

The Funeral Eucharist of Requiem
in thanksgiving for the life of
the newly presented servant of God

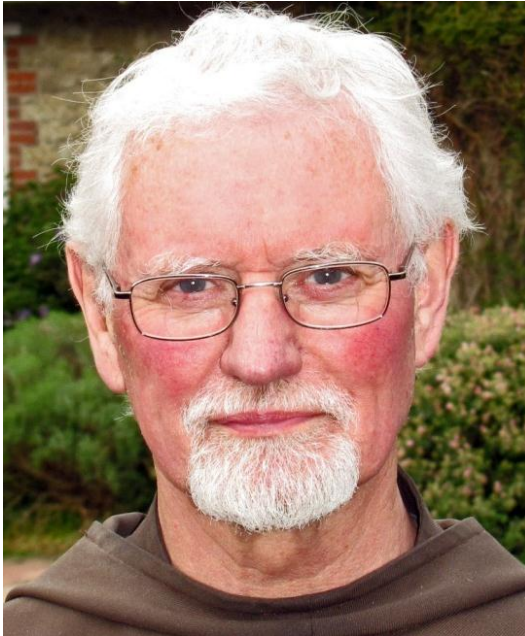
Brother Colin Wilfred SSF

(The Rev'd Colin Cherriman)

Born to earthly life 5 September 1937

Professed in religious life 10 June 1972

Born to eternal life 2 August 2011



St Peter's Church, Canterbury
11 August 2011
The Feast of Saint Clare of Assisi

We welcome everyone who has come for this funeral celebration of our Brother Colin Wilfred SSF.

After the service there will be refreshments available in the Master's Lodge, 58 St Peter's Street. The Committal of Brother Colin Wilfred's remains will take place privately at Barham Crematorium. At a later date his ashes will be interred in the community graveyard at Hilfield Friary, Dorchester, Dorset.

At Colin's request his coffin is laid on the floor of the church, as a reminder of Francis who, while dying, asked to be laid on the earth. The readings, hymns and prayers have been chosen with what we knew of Colin's preferences.

The liturgy of the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty 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." (Rom 8. 38-39).

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Gathering

Entrance Hymn

Guide me, O thou great redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer;
Be thou still my strength and shield;
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee. *(NEH 368)*

Introduction

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.

And also with you.

We have come here today
to remember before God our Brother Colin Wilfred;
to give thanks for his life;
to commend him to God our merciful redeemer and judge;
to commit his body to be cremated,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

Prayers of Penitence

As children of a loving heavenly Father,
let us ask his forgiveness,
for he is gentle and full of compassion.

Silence is kept

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

May God our Father forgive us our sins
and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom,
where dust and ashes have no dominion.

Amen

The Collect

God of blessings
and source of all holiness,
the voice of your Spirit has drawn countless men and women
to follow Jesus Christ in the way of blessed Francis and Clare
and to bind themselves to you
with a ready will and a loving heart.
Look with mercy on our brother Colin
who sought to fulfil his vows to you,
and grant him the reward
promised to all good and faithful servants.
May he find a place at your heavenly table,
for you made him here on a earth a faithful minister
of your word and sacraments.
this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading

(from the Fourth Letter of Clare of Assisi
to Agnes of Prague - read by Tony Coxon)

Happy, indeed, are those permitted to share in this sacred banquet so as to be joined with all the feelings of their heart to the one whose beauty all the blessed hosts of the heavens unceasingly admire, whose affection moves, whose contemplation invigorates, whose generosity fills, whose sweetness replenishes, whose remembrance pleasantly brings light, whose fragrance will revive the dead, and whose glorious vision will bless all the citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, because the vision of Christ is the splendour of everlasting glory, the radiance of everlasting light, and a mirror without tarnish.

Responsorial Psalm

(Psalm 27: 1,4,5,9,10,12,16,17)

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid? One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek his will in his temple. Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy upon me and answer me.

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

My heart tells of your word, 'Seek my face.' Your face, Lord, will I seek. You have been my helper; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord.

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Gospel Reading

(John 14. 1-6)

Alleluia. **Alleluia**

Blessed are those who die in the Lord
for they rest from their labour.

Alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

(Brother Samuel – Minister Provincial SSF)

Prayers

For our brother Colin Wilfred, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Colin and dry the tears of those who weep.

Hear us Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother Colin eternal life.

Hear us Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

Hear us Lord.

Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us Lord.

He was nourished with your body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us Lord.

Our brother Colin sought to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ as a Franciscan and as a priest; may he be given a place in the worship of heaven.

Hear us Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Hear us Lord.

Father of all, we pray to you for Colin Wilfred, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace,

And rise in glory. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon my breast:'
I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary, and worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
And he has made me glad.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
The living water, thirsty one;
Stoop down, and drink, and live:'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright:'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk
Till travelling days are done. *(NEH 376)*

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise ...

And now we give you thanks because through him you have given us the hope of a glorious resurrection; so that, although death comes to us all, yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life; for to your faithful people life is changed, not taken away; and when our mortal flesh is laid aside an everlasting dwelling place is made ready for us in heaven.

... for ever praising you and singing:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

... for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

During the Communion:

**Jesu, Son of Mary, fount of life alone,
here we hail thee present on thine altar-throne.
Humbly we adore thee, Lord of endless might,
in the mystic symbols veiled from earthly sight.**

**Think, O Lord, in mercy on the souls of those
who, in faith gone from us, now in death repose.
Here 'mid stress and conflict toils can never cease;
there, the warfare ended, bid them rest in peace.**

**Often were they wounded in the deadly strife;
heal them, good Physician, with the balm of life.
Every taint of evil, frailty and decay,
good and gracious Saviour, cleanse and purge away.**

**Rest eternal grant unto them, after weary fight;
shed on them the radiance of thy heavenly light.
Lead them onward, upward, to the holy place,
where thy saints made perfect gaze upon thy face. (NEH 329, t. 1)**

*After Communion - A Song of Clare (composed by Jean Malcolm,
words after Clare of Assisi)*

Place your mind in the mir-ror of e-ter-ni-ty — Place your soul in the
splen-dour of glo-ry — Place your heart in the i-con of the
sub-stance di-vine — Con-tem-pla-ting, be trans-formed in-to the im-age ofth

God-head it-self

1. Taste and know the hidden sweetness of
2. Taste and know the hidden sweetness

God for all time ex-is-ting to be found by those who love — The
 God whose beau-ty is end-less and whose love in-flames our love — whose

sac-red ban-quet which all may share, if they dare — All it costs is
 con-tem-pla-tion re-fresh-es us, brings us joy — All our be-ing

every-thing, a heart o-pen, long-ing, trust-ing gi-ving — place your
 o-ver-flows with You, O Most Ho-ly fra-grant Lo-ver —

CODA ♯
 - self

19 June 1993
 Jean Te Papa

Prayer after Communion

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.

Commendation and Farewell

Members of the First and Third Order are invited to come and stand either side of the coffin. The presider sprinkles the coffin with holy water as a reminder that through the waters of Baptism we die and rise to new life in Christ. The presider then venerates the coffin with incense, reminding us that, throughout our lives our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit, that God lives in each of us and that as a result, we should always be treated with honour and respect. During the sprinkling and censing the following words written by Charles Wesley are read by a brother.

Rejoice for a brother deceased,
Our loss is his infinite gain;
A soul out of prison released,
And freed from its bodily chain;
With songs let us follow his flight,
And mount with his spirit above,
Escaped to the mansions of light,
And lodged in the Eden of love.

Our brother the haven hath gained,
Out-flying the tempest and wind,
His rest he hath sooner obtained,
And left his companions behind,
Still tossed on a sea of distress,
Hard toiling to make the blest shore,
Where all is assurance and peace,
And sorrow and sin are no more.

There all the ship's company meet
Who sailed with the Saviour beneath;
With shouting each other they greet,
And triumph o'er trouble and death:
The voyage of life's at an end,
The mortal affliction is past;
The age that in heaven they spend,
For ever and ever shall last.

The presider continues

Colin Wilfred, our companion in faith and brother in Christ,
we entrust you to God who created you.

May you return to the Most High who formed you
from the dust of the earth.

May the angels and the saints come to meet you
as you go forth from this life.

May Christ, who was crucified for you,
take you into his Kingdom.

May Christ the Good Shepherd
give you a place within his flock.

May Christ forgive you your sins
and keep you among his people.

May you see your Redeemer face to face
and delight in the vision of God for ever.

Amen.

Colin Wilfred, may Christ give you rest in the land of the living
and open for you the gates of paradise;
may he receive you as a citizen of the Kingdom,
and grant you forgiveness of your sins:
for you were his friend.

Amen.

Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon him.

May he rest in peace.

And rise in glory. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*The presider, altar party and community members leave during the
singing of:*

**Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,**

Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise! (NEH 408, t. 1)

You are invited to farewell Colin's earthly remains by approaching the coffin and sprinkling water on it. The coffin will stay in St Peter's Church until later this afternoon before a private committal at the crematorium.

As you leave St Peter's an offering may be given for the Pilgrims' Hospice, Canterbury.

Please come to refreshments at the Master's Lodge, 58 St Peters Street – into the high street outside the church, turn left and about 100 yards on your right.

Greater than stars or suns,
Bounding O Soul thou journeyest forth;
Away O Soul! hoist instantly the anchor!
Cut the hawsers—haul out—shake out every sail!
Sail forth—steer for the deep waters only,
Reckless O Soul, exploring, I with thee, and thou with me,
For we are bound where mariner has not yet dared to go,
And we will risk the ship, ourselves and all.
O my brave Soul! O farther farther sail!
O daring joy, but safe! Are they not all the seas of God?
O farther, farther, farther sail!

From Passage to India in Leaves of Grass, by Walt Whitman; as set by Vaughan Williams as the conclusion of his Sea Symphony. Colin had attended a performance of this in Canterbury in July and commented on how he was moved by this particular stanza.

“May God grant that, as beloved disciples, we may also perceive more and more that ‘wider reality’ where love and life and light, glory and joy may be ours: in and beyond all our imagining, all our daring, all our dancing ...”

The concluding words of the final address of the retreat, “Beloved Disciples,” which Colin was to have been giving this week for Affirming Catholicism at West Malling.

