

FUNERAL SERVICE

- for -



# THELMA VOWLES

25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1931 - 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

2.30 PM

THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, FALLOWFIELD

*Officiant:* THE REVD. RICHARD YOUNG

---

*Welcome to Holy Innocents.*

*Please be still and silent as we wait for the service to begin,  
holding Thelma and her family in our prayers.*

---

# ORDER OF SERVICE



*As the coffin arrives at the door of the church,  
the sentences of scripture are read:*

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord:  
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:  
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.  
The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away;  
blessed be the name of the Lord.

Remember not the sins and offences of my youth:  
but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

*Please stand.*

## ENTRANCE MUSIC

**I know that my Redeemer liveth** *from* **Messiah**

G.F. Handel, arranged for flute and organ

“I know that my redeemer liveth,  
and that he shall stand on the latter day, upon the earth;  
and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.  
For now is Christ risen from the dead - the first fruits of them that sleep.”

The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers,  
nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth,  
nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God,  
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord

## INTRODUCTION

Revd Richard Young

We have come here today to remember before God  
our beloved Thelma;  
to give thanks for her life;  
to commend her to God our merciful redeemer and judge;  
to commit her body to be cremated,  
and to comfort one another in our grief.

## HYMN

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here;  
Come bow before him now with reverence and fear:  
In him no sin is found - we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned:  
How awesome is the sight - our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;  
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace -  
No work too hard for him. In faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

## PSALM 67

God be merciful unto us, and bless us;  
and cause his face to shine upon us;  
*All:* **That thy way may be known upon earth,  
thy saving health among all nations.**

Let the people praise thee, O God;  
*All:* **let all the people praise thee.**

O let the nations be glad and sing for joy:  
*All:* **for thou shalt judge the people righteously,  
and govern the nations upon earth.**

Let the people praise thee, O God;  
*All:* **let all the people praise thee.**

Then shall the earth yield her increase;  
and God, even our own God, shall bless us.  
*All:* **God shall bless us;  
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.**

## TRIBUTE

by Thelma's daughter, Anna

## HYMN

O thou who camest from above the fire celestial to impart:  
kindle a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn with inextinguishable blaze;  
and trembling to its source return, in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire to work and speak and think for thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire, and still stir up the gift in me.

Still let me prove thy perfect will, my acts of faith and love repeat,  
till death thy endless mercies seal, and make the sacrifice complete.

## THE LESSON

### **A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John, 14:1-8**

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know." Thomas saith unto him,

"Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?"

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

The Gospel of the Lord

*All: Praise to you, O Christ.*

## ADDRESS

The Revd. Canon Alma Servant

*After the address there will be a short time of silence.*

## THE PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*All:* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*All:* **Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.**

*The choir sings:*

Enter not into judgement with thy servant, O Lord;

for in thy sight shall no one living be justified.

Grant unto her eternal rest; and let perpetual light shine upon her.

We believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

O Lord, hear our prayer; and let our cry come unto thee.

## THE COLLECT

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is the resurrection and the life;  
in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though they die;  
and whosoever liveth, and believeth in him, shall not die eternally;  
who also hath taught us, by his holy Apostle Saint Paul, not to be sorry,  
as those without hope, for them that sleep in him:  
We meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin  
unto the life of righteousness;  
that, when we shall depart this life, we may rest in him,  
as our hope is this our sister doth;  
and that, at the general resurrection in the last day,  
we may be found acceptable in thy sight;  
and receive that blessing, which thy well-beloved Son  
shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying,  
'Come, ye blessed children of my Father,  
receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world.'  
Grant this, we beseech thee, O merciful Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer.

*All: Amen.*

O Father of all,  
we pray to thee for those whom we love, but see no longer.  
Grant them thy peace;  
let light perpetual shine upon them;  
and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power  
work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All: Amen.*

*Short prayers of intercession follow.*

*Between each section:*

Lord hear us:

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

*At the end:*

Holy God,

**All: holy and strong, holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**

## 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.

## THE COMMENDATION

*Please remain standing*

*As the coffin is sprinkled with holy water, the Collect of Easter Eve is said:*

Grant, O Lord, that as we who are baptized into the death of thy blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections we may be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection;  
for his merits, who died and was buried and rose again for us,  
thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All: Amen.*

Let us commend Thelma to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

May our farewell express our affection for her,  
may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope.

One day we shall joyfully greet her again,  
when the love of Christ which conquers all things,  
destroys even death itself.

## THE FAREWELL & BLESSING.

Thelma, 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.  
May choirs of angels welcome you and lead you to eternal rest.

*All: Amen.*

May God the Father bring us to the home  
which his Son prepares for all who love him.

*All: Amen.*

May God the Son give us the will  
to live for him each day in life eternal.

*All: Amen.*

May God the Holy Spirit give us the assurance  
that our citizenship is in heaven with the blessed and beloved,  
and the whole company of the redeemed.

*All: Amen.*

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All: Amen.*

## THE NUNC DIMITTIS

*As the coffin is lifted to leave the church, we hear:*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,

and to be the glory of thy people, Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

---

*Our funeral service for Thelma continues as the immediate family  
attend the committal at Manchester Crematorium*

---



Thelma's family would like to thank everyone for their attendance here today and for the many cards and kind words of sympathy received at this sad time.

You are warmly invited to continue sharing your memories of Thelma, after the service, at

**The Metropolitan Hotel**

Lapwing Lane, West Didsbury, M20 2WS

Donations, in memory of Thelma, would be gratefully received towards the work of

**RNLI**

and may be placed in the donations box or given online.

*Funeral arrangements entrusted to*

**PEPPERDINE BARRETT**

Alexandra House, 5 Manchester Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester M21 9JG  
Tel. 0161 881 5363 | info@pepperdinebarrett.co.uk