

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST DENYS,  
THE MINSTER, WARMINSTER

A Celebration of the Life of  
**Canon Edward John Townroe**  
*Sancte et Sapienter*

14<sup>TH</sup> January 1920 – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018

*Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018*  
*At 12.30 pm*

# Funeral Eucharist

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## The Gathering

*Processional Music*

*Jesus, Joy of Man's Desiring – J. S. Bach*

*We stand.*

## Sentences

*Said on the entry of the ministers.*

## Welcome and Introduction

*The Bishop says:*

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.

**All    And also with you**

*The Bishop introduces the service in these words:*

We have come here today  
to remember before God our brother *John*;  
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.

*The Bishop says this prayer.*

Almighty God,  
you judge us with infinite mercy and justice  
and love everything you have made.  
In your mercy  
turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life,  
and the sorrow of parting into the joy of heaven;  
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All Amen.**

### **Hymn**

All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray his trust;  
what with care and toil he buildeth,  
tower and temple, fall to dust.  
But God's power,  
hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,  
deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light, and life attend him,  
beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore

from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th' Almighty giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand  
at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.

Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ his Son.  
Christ doth call  
one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

*Robert Bridges (1844-1930),  
based on the German of Joachim Neander (1650-1680)*

*We sit.*

**Eulogy**  
*Sister Carol CHN*

## Prayers of Penitence

*We sit or kneel. A minister introduces the prayers of penitence.*

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

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The Bishop says:*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## Collect

*Silence is kept for prayer.*

*The Bishop says:*

Merciful Father,  
hear our prayers and comfort us;  
renew our trust in your Son,  
whom you raised from the dead;  
strengthen our faith  
that all who have died in the love of Christ  
will share in his resurrection;  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### The Readings

*We sit.*

Romans 8.35-39

*Read by Mary Stott, John's niece and goddaughter*

*At the end*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84

*Read by Martin Priestley,  
former headmaster of Warminster School.*

*Please stand.*

### **The Gospel Reading**

John 14.1-6

*Read by The Venerable Robin Turner*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John

**All    Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All    Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Homily**

*The Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury*

### **Intercessions**

*Led by the Revd John Perry*

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*We stand.*

*The Bishop introduces 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. Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All      And also with you.**

*A minister says:*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Offertory Hymn

*i*

The King of love my Shepherd is,

Whose goodness faileth never,

I nothing lack if I am his

And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow

My ransomed soul he leadeth,

And where the verdant pastures grow,

With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,

But yet in love he sought me,

And on his shoulder gently laid,

And home, rejoicing, brought me.



In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
Thy unction grace bestoweth;  
And O what transport of delight  
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
Within thy house forever.

Henry William Baker (1821-1877),  
based on Psalm 23

## **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*The Bishop takes the bread and the wine and says this prayer.*

May all who are called to a place at your table  
follow in the way that leads to the unending feast of life.

**All    Amen**

## Eucharistic Prayer

*The Bishop says:*

The Lord be with you  
**All and also with you.**

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

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

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth,  
giver of life, and conqueror of death.

By his death on the cross,  
your Son Jesus Christ offered the one true sacrifice for sin,  
breaking the power of evil and putting death to flight.

With all your saints

**All we give you thanks and praise.**

Through his resurrection from the dead  
you have given us new birth into a living hope,  
into an inheritance which is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading.

With all your saints

**All we give you thanks and praise.**

The joy of resurrection fills the universe,  
and so we join with angels and archangels,  
with John and all your faithful people,  
evermore 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence  
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

*A minster introduces the acclamation*

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

Lord of all life  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen**

### **Lord's Prayer**

*We kneel or sit.*

*The Bishop says.*

In joyful expectation of the resurrection to new life,  
as our Saviour taught us so we pray;

**All    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

*The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread.*

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

## Giving of Communion

*The Bishop says this invitation to communion.*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*The following hymns may be sung during the distribution of the communion.*

### Hymn

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness,  
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness;  
come into the daylight's splendour,  
there with joy thy praises render  
unto him whose grace unbounded  
hath this wondrous banquet founded:  
high o'er all the heavens he reigneth,  
yet to dwell with thee he deigneth.

Now I sink before thee lowly,  
filled with joy most deep and holy,  
as with trembling awe and wonder  
on thy mighty works I ponder:  
how, by mystery surrounded,

depth no mortal ever sounded,  
none may dare to pierce unbidden  
secrets that with thee are hidden.

Sun, who all my life dost brighten,  
light, who dost my soul enlighten,  
joy, the sweetest heart e'er knoweth,  
fount, whence all my being floweth,  
at thy feet I cry, my Maker,  
let me be a fit partaker  
of this blessed food from heaven,  
for our good, thy glory, given.

Jesus, Bread of Life, I pray thee,  
let me gladly here obey thee;  
never to my hurt invited,  
be thy love with love requited:  
from this banquet let me measure,  
Lord, how vast and deep its treasure;  
through the gifts thou here dost give me,  
as thy guest in heav'n receive me.

*Johann Frank (1618-1677)*

*Trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

## **Hymn**

*Solo : David Costley-White*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
For with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth he stood,

Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood;  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth  
From the realms of endless day,  
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph,  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence,  
As with ceaseless voice they cry:  
"Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

*From the Liturgy of St James*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*The congregation say:*

**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.**

## Hymn

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same for ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him;  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

*Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)*



## Commendation and Farewell

*We remain standing.*

*The Bishop says:*

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

God our creator and redeemer,  
By your power Christ conquered death  
and entered into glory.  
Confident of his victory and claiming his promises,  
We entrust John to your mercy  
in the name of Jesus our Lord,  
who died and is alive and reigns with you  
now and forever.

**All     Amen**

*The Bishop censes and asperges the coffin saying silently the Lord's Prayer.*

*The following hymn may be sung by David Costley-White after the commendation.*

God be in my head,  
and in my understanding;  
God be in mine eyes,  
and in my looking;  
God be in my mouth,  
and in my speaking;  
God be in my heart,  
and in my thinking;  
God be at mine end,  
and at my departing.

*Book of hours (1514)*

# The Dismissal

## Blessing

*The Bishop says this blessing.*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

**All Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**All Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**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.**

*A minister then says*

Rejoicing in the promises of  
the joyful resurrection to eternal life.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All In the name of Christ. Amen**

*"In Paradisum" will be sung as the ministers depart.*

*The coffin will remain in church as we depart.*

*Recessional Organ Music*

*Back : Pièce d'Orgue, BWv572*

### **The Committal**

*A brief committal will be held later today at 4 pm at West Wilts Crematorium, Semington. All are welcome.*

*There will be a retiring collection in John's memory to benefit the Minster church.*

**All are warmly invited for refreshments  
at Warminster School's St Boniface Hall.**



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