

Holy Mass
in Celebration and Thanksgiving
for the life of

John Bosco Whitehead

25th September 1934 - 8th May 2024



Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Tuesday 21st May 2024
10am



One more Angel in Heaven, One more Star in the Sky



Christine, Tony, John, David,
Pauline, Tricia, Mary and Michael,
together with their families,
would like to welcome you all today
to celebrate and give thanks
for the wonderful life of

John Bosco



Reunited and back in the loving arms of his beloved Josie

Blessing of coffin

Procession to altar - Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana

Opening Hymn - Sweet Heart of Jesus

Sweet heart of Jesus, fount of love and mercy,
today we come, Thy blessing to implore;
O touch our hearts, so cold and so ungrateful,
and make them, Lord, Thine own for evermore.

**Sweet heart of Jesus, we implore,
O make us love Thee more and more.**

Sweet heart of Jesus, make us know and love Thee,
unfold to us the treasures of Thy grace;
that so our hearts, from things of earth uplifted,
may long alone to gaze upon Thy face.

Sweet heart of Jesus, make us pure and gentle,
and teach us how to do Thy blessed will;
to follow close the print of Thy dear footsteps,
and when we fall - sweet heart, oh, love us still.

Sweet heart of Jesus, bless all hearts that love Thee,
and may Thine own heart ever blessed be,
bless us, dear Lord, and bless the friends we cherish,
and keep us true to Mary and to Thee.

Welcome and Opening Prayer

First Reading - Read by Martin

The first reading is taken from the Breviary Daily Prayer

The Lord, who left the heavens,
our life and peace to bring.
To dwell in lowliness with us,
our pattern and our King.
He to the lowly soul
will still himself impart,
And for his dwelling and his throne,
will choose the pure in heart.
Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be;
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple fit for thee.

Psalm - 'Dwelling Place'

Solo Verses - Sung by David

Refrain

**May Christ find a dwelling place of faith in our hearts,
may our lives be rooted in love, rooted in love**

Second Reading - Read by Tony

A Reading from St Paul to the Philippians
Chapter 4 Verses 4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord;
I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance
be evident to everyone, the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Come, you whom my father has blessed, says the Lord.

Take for your heritage the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.

Alleluia

Gospel

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John
Chapter 6 Verses 51-58*

And Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread which came down from Heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then argued amongst themselves saying "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and I will raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in him. As the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me. This is the bread which came down from Heaven, not such as the Fathers who ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ

Homily

Fr. Ged Kelly

Bidding Prayers - Read by the grandchildren

Procession of Roses

John's Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

Bring Him Home - Danny

Offertory Hymn

1. In bread we bring you Lord, our bodies' labour.
In wine we offer you our spirits' grief.
We do not ask you Lord, who is my neighbour,
But stand united now, one in belief.
O we have gladly heard, your word, your holy word,
And now in answer Lord, our gifts we bring.
Our selfish hearts make true, our failing faith renew,
Our lives belong to you, our Lord and King.

2. The bread we offer you is blessed and broken,
And it becomes for us our spirits' food.
Over the cup we bring your word is spoken;
Make it your gift to us, your healing blood.
Take all that daily toil plants in our hearts' poor soil,
Take all we start and spoil, each hopeful dream,
The chances we have missed, the graces we resist,
Lord in thy Eucharist, take and redeem.

Communion Hymns

A new commandment I give unto you
That you love one another as I have loved you
That you love one another as I have loved you

1. By this shall all know
That you are my disciples
If you have love one for another (repeat)
2. You are my friends
If you do what I command you
Without my help you can do nothing (repeat)
3. I am the true vine
My father is the gard'ner
Abide in me: I will be with you (repeat)
4. True love is patient
Not arrogant nor boastful
Love bears all things, love is eternal (repeat)

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord

1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free
Woman or man, no more
2. Many the Gifts, many the works
One in the Lord of all
3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown
Gathered to one, for all

Taize Ubi caritas et amor
 Ubi caritas Deus ibi est (repeat)

Post Communion Reflection

I'll walk with God - Mario Lanza

One of John and Josie's favourite song and artist

Eulogy - Read by John on behalf of all the family

Commendation and Farewell

Pie Jesu - Danny and Olivia

Final Hymn - Easter Hymn from Cavalleria Rusticana
by Mascagni

In thanksgiving to God for his many blessings,
the family of the late John Bosco take this opportunity
of thanking you all for attending this Mass
and for your many prayers and Mass Offerings.
Your prayers have certainly been a great source of
comfort and consolation to us, his family,
and have helped John Bosco to be received
into the strong loving arms of Jesus.
He dedicated his life to the loving and caring
of his children and all their families,
but especially to his best friend and wife, Josie.

We take this opportunity to thank all our many
friends and relatives and also our Salesian family
and Parish Priests.

We thank you so much!

May the good Lord reward you all with his many
blessings and keep you in His loving care.

Our Love and Prayers

John and Josie's family

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As the family privately say their final farewell at
Wardley Cemetery, we invite you all to make your way
to St Gregory's Social Club, Church Street, Farnworth,
BL4 8AG for refreshments.

We will join you shortly in the celebration
for the wonderful life of our dear Dad and Grandpa.



Salesian Crest 1884



Donations in memory of John Bosco are for The Salesians of
 Don Bosco Missions or H.C.P.T. Manchester Region c/o
 Howarth's Funeral Service, 2-4 Balmoral Road, Farnworth,
 BL4 9HR. Tel 01204 707755 www.1hfs.co.uk

John's Prayer

Now that I've left you for a while,
Please remember me and try to smile
And for my sake and in my name
Live on and do all things the same.
Don't spend your life in empty days
But fill each hour in useful ways
Reach out your hand in comfort and cheer
And I will comfort you and hold you near.
Until the day we meet again
Carry on and do all things the same

xxx

