Requiem in thanksgiving for the life of

Celia Mary East

Born: 27th May 1937

Born to Eternal Life: 22nd April 2026

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Nambour

Thursday, 7th May, 2026

Officiated by Fr Odinaka Nwadike

Entrance Hymn:
You Are Near

O Lord, I know you are near
Standing always at my side
You guard me from the foe
And you lead me in ways everlasting

Lord, you have searched my heart
And you know when I sit and when I stand
Your hand is upon me
Protecting me from death
Keeping me from harm

O Lord, I know you are near
Standing always at my side
You guard me from the foe
And you lead me in ways everlasting

Where can I run from your love?
If I climb to the heavens you are there
If I fly to the sunrise
Or sail beyond the sea
Still I'd find you there

O Lord, I know you are near
Standing always at my side
You guard me from the foe
And you lead me in ways everlasting.

Welcome & Introductory Rites:
Sprinkling Rite

Priest: In the waters of baptism Celia died with Christ and rose with him to new life.
All: May she share with him eternal glory.

Placing of the White Pall *by Roselyn & Julia*

Placing of Symbols *by Jacqui & Lucy*

Lighting of the Easter Candle *by Grandchildren*

Words of Remembrance

Photographic Tribute

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 *by Michael*

Reader: The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: *The Lord is my Shepherd (Sung - Crimond)*

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill,
for thou art with me and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forever more
My dwelling place shall be.

Gospel Acclamation *(Sung)*

Gospel: Mattthew 5:1-12

Priest: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful *by Jacqui & Lucy*

Priest: Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and sits at the right hand of the Father, where He intercedes for His Church. Confident that God hears the voices of those who trust in the Lord Jesus, we join our prayers to His:

Reader: In Baptism Celia received the light of Christ and the promise of eternal life, may the Lord welcome her into the peace of his Heavenly Kingdom.
(Pause) We pray to the Lord

All: **Lord, hear our prayer**

Reader: Loving God, we pray for Celia's family and friends who loved her and were loved by her. May they be given comfort, peace and consolation at this time of their farewell. Heal their pain and strengthen them against any doubt that may come from grief.
(Pause) We pray to the Lord

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: Generous God, we give thanks for Celia's many years of living life to the best of her ability whilst holding strongly onto her faith.
(Pause) We pray to the Lord

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: Compassionate God, we pray for the many people who valued Celia for her caring, gentle and peaceful spirit. May they all be blessed for having shared in her life and having experienced her special gifts.
(Pause) We pray to the Lord

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: Faithful God, Celia lived her life based on the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we strive to live with the humility, kindness, and grace that she has shown us. Help us to comfort each other in our grief.
(Pause) We pray to the Lord

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest: Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the Kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Presentation of the Gifts *by Kay & Joan*

Hymn: *On Eagle's Wings*

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
under his wings your refuge,
his faithfulness your shield. **Refrain**

You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. **Refrain**

For to his angels he's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone. **Refrain**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: Pray, brothers and sister, that my sacrifice and yours…,

All: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands**
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest: Lord, accept this sacrifice we offer for our sister, Celia. May your love cleanse her from any human weakness, and forgive any sins she may have committed. We ask this through Jesus our Saviour.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right and just.**

Preface

Sanctus *Glory and Praise (sung)*

All: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation *Glory and Praise (sung)*

All: **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,**
We proclaim your death O Lord until you come again.

Great Amen

All: **Amen, Amen, Amen , Amen**

The Communion Rite

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
All: Our Father...

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, …
All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Sign of Peace

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, ...
who lives and reigns forever and ever.
All: Amen.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Lamb of God *Glory and Praise (sung)*

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, ...
All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Hymn: *Lay Your Hands*

Lay your hands gently upon us
Let their touch render your peace
Let them bring your forgiveness and healing
Lay your hands, gently lay your hands

You were sent to free the brokenhearted
You were sent to give sight to the blind
You desired to heal all our illnesses
Lay your hands, gently lay your hands

Lay your hands gently upon us
Let their touch render your peace
Let them bring your forgiveness and healing
Lay your hands, gently lay your hands

Lord, we come to you through one another
Lord, we come to you in our need
Lord, we come to you seeking wholeness
Lay your hands, gently lay your hands

Lay your hands gently upon us
Let their touch render your peace
Let them bring your forgiveness and healing
Lay your hands, gently lay your hands

Lay your hands, gently lay your hands

Reflection Song: *Gentle Woman*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women, and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of death. Amen.

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright, gentle Mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom; teach us love.

You were chosen by the Father; you were chosen for the son.
You were chosen from all women and for woman, shining one. **Refrain**

Blessed are you among women, Blest in turn all women, too.
Blessed they with peaceful spirits. Blessed they with gentle hearts. **Refrain**

Prayer after Communion

Priest: Lord, we have received the pledge of eternal life.
Hear the prayers we offer for your servant Celia.
Freed from the limitation of this life,
may she be one with all the redeemed in the joy of eternal life.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

***Poems By Celia** presented by Syndiri, Jacqui & Lucy*

Photographic Tribute

Final Commendation & Farewell

Priest: Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our sister Celia. 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.

Song of Farewell

Priest: Saints of God, come to her aid! Come to meet her, angels of the Lord!

All: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

Priest: May Christ, who called you, take you to Himself:
May Angels lead you to Abraham's side.

All: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

Priest: Eternal rest, grant unto her O Lord, may your perpetual light shine upon her.

All: Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

Prayer of Commendation

Priest: Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend Celia, in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, she will rise with him on the last day. Merciful Lord, turn to us and listen to our prayers: open the Gates of Paradise to your servant Celia, 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 Celia forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: In peace let us take our sister Celia to her place of rest.

All: Amen.

Recessional Song:
Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

Musician: *James Simpson*
Vocalist: *Paula Ford Simpson*

Celia's Family sincerely thank you for your prayers, support, friendship and gathering with them here today.

You are also invited to continue celebrating Celia's life by joining her family after Mass for refreshments in the Parish Centre covered area. If you would like to leave a memorial message for her family or you would prefer a digital copy of this service sheet, please scan the QR code below.

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