Requiem in thanksgiving for the life of

Alfio Pennisi

Born: 19th October 1938

Born to Eternal Life: 4th September 2026

Our Lady of the Rosary, Caloundra

18th September 2026

Officiated by Fr Joshua Whitehead

Those we love are never truly gone
They live in the treasured memories
In the hearts of those whose lives they've touched
And shared along the way...

Entrance Hymn:
Be Not Afraid

You shall cross the barren desert,
But you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
Though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
And I will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain: Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come follow me
And I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters in the sea,
You shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
You shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the power of hell
And death is at your side,
Know that I am with you through it all.

Introductory Rites:
***Lighting of the Easter Candle** by Sam & Matt*

Priest: In baptism, Alfio received the light of Christ.
This light has guided him throughout his life.
All: May he now enjoy eternal light and peace.

The Easter candle is now lit.

Sprinkling with Holy Water

Priest: Water is the source of all life, and a symbol of the new life received by Alfio at his baptism.
All: May he now enjoy the fullness of this life.

The coffin is sprinkled with Holy water.

Placing of the White Pall *by Paul, Sean, Michael & Jane*

Priest: On the day of his baptism, Alfio put on Christ and was clothed in white.

All: May Christ the Good Shepherd now enfold him in his tender love.

The white pall is placed on the coffin.

Words of Remembrance *by Sean & Allan Hickey****Photographic Tribute***

Opening Prayer

Priest: God of loving kindness, listen favourably to our prayers: Strengthen our belief that your Son has risen from the dead and our hope that your servant, Alfio, will also rise again. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You, and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 *by Jasper Giaroli*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant,and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.
The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 23: *The Lord is My Shepherd*

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.
My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me
And in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.

Second Reading: St Paul to Timothy 4:6-88 *by Jacob Pennisi*
A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to Timothy.

As for me,
I am already being poured out as a libation,
and the time of my departure has come.
I have fought the good fight,
I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith.
From now on there is reserved for me
the crown of righteousness,
which the Lord, the righteous judge,
will give me on that day,
And not only to me
but also to all who have longed for his appearing.
The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation: *(Please Stand)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will live forever.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel: John 14:1-6

Priest: From the Holy Gospel according to John.
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples,
"Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God, and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father's house;
if there were not, I should have told you.
I am going now to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,
I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am, you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am going."
Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you
are going, so how can we know the way?"
Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one can come to the Father except through me."

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

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful *by Paul, Max, Rhian, Erryn, Seb*

Reader: For Alfio, a child of God and heir to the kingdom, that he may be held securely in God's loving embrace now and for all eternity. Lord hear us.
All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For the support and consolation of Alfio's family, relatives and friends. Lord hear us.
All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For the support and encouragement of ourselves who continue on life's journey. Lord hear us.
All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For people everywhere who are grieving, that the pain they endure may not be too much to bear, and that they may experience consolation from the Christ who suffered and died. Lord hear us.
All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For the virtues of hope, love, and faith, that we may be strengthened and reassured on our own life journeys. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: For the nurses, doctors and carers, who looked after Alfio in these final days. May they be blessed with strength and peace. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn: *One Bread One Body*

Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, through 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.

Procession of Gifts *by Sam & Matt*

Communion Hymn: *Here I Am Lord*

Prayer After Communion

Priest: Lord God, your son Jesus Christ gave us the Sacrament of his body and blood to guide us on our pilgrim way to your kingdom. May our brother, Alfio, come to the banquet of life Christ has prepared for us. Who lives and reigns forever and ever.

All: Amen.

Final Commendation & Farewell

Priest: Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of Alfio. May our farewell express our affection for him; our thanksgiving that he has been part of our lives. May it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet him again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

Song of Farewell

Cantor: Come to his aid, O Saints of God; come meet him angels of the Lord.
All: Receive his soul O Holy Ones; present him now to God Most High.

Cantor: May Christ, who called you, take you home and angels lead you to Abraham.
All: Receive his soul O Holy Ones; present him now to God Most High.

Cantor: Give him eternal rest O Lord. May light unending shine on him.
All: Receive his soul O Holy Ones; present him now to God Most High.

Cantor: I know that my Redeemer lives. The last day I shall rise again.
All: Receive his soul O Holy Ones; present him now to God Most High.

Prayer of Commendation

All: Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our brother, Alfio, in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with him on the last day. Merciful Lord, turn towards us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and our brother forever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn:

I Am I Said by Neil Diamond

Pall Bearers:

Luke, Max, Sam, Matt, Jasper & Sebastian.

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

Following the Mass, the family invites you to Alfio's burial at the Caloundra Cemetery, commencing at 1:30pm, where we will lay Alfio to rest.
If you would like to leave a memorial message for the Pennisi family or you would prefer a digital copy of this service sheet, please scan the QR code below.

Further to this, the family welcomes you to join them from 2:30pm onwards at Parklands Tavern, for a time of remembrance.

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

GREGSON&WEIGHT