

Final Commendation & Farewell

# Raymond Neville Poulton

28th July 1946 - 17th December 2021



“Ray”

Ss Mary and Joseph's Cathedral, Armidale  
2pm Friday, 7th January 2022

## ENTRANCE HYMN In Faith and Hope and Love

In faith and hope and love  
With joyful trust we move  
Towards our Father's home above

Christ our star, our map, our road  
To the Father's high abode

Christ our bread along the way  
Christ our rescue when we stray

Christ our shelter, Christ our friend  
Our beginning and our end

Christ our hope and our reward  
Our redeemer and our Lord

James McAuley/Richard Connolly MCA

## SPRINKLING OF THE COFFIN & PLACING OF THE PALL

### A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH (25:6-9)

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death forever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

The Word of the Lord

**Response:** Thanks be to be God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 23 THE LORD'S 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'vn for his own name 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 forever more  
My dwelling place shall be

Francis Rous/Jessie Irvine

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*To be sung*

Alleluia, alleluia  
I am the resurrection and the life, said the Lord;  
Whoever believes in me will not die for ever.  
Alleluia

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN (Jn 11:17-27)

On arriving at Bethany, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you'. 'Your brother,' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life if anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes Lord, she said, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

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

HOMILY

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Priest:** My dear friends in Christ, let us pray to our merciful Father and ask his help in our time of sorrow:

In baptism Ray received the light of Christ. Let us pray that God will now scatter the darkness and lead him over the waters of death.

Let us pray to the Lord.      **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

For the family and friends of our brother, Ray, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus.

Let us pray to the Lord.      **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom.

Let us pray to the Lord.      **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Let us pray that all the faithful departed will find in God refreshment, rest and peace.

Let us pray to the Lord.      **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who bear the cross of pain in mind or body may never feel forsaken by God.

Let us pray to the Lord.      **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Priest:** God, our shelter and our strength, you listen in love to the cry of your people. Hear the prayers we offer in faith and confidence. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

OFFERTORY HYMN Where There is Charity and Love

Where there is charity and love  
There the God of love abides

The love of Christ has gathered us as one  
Rejoice in him with joy that he imparts  
Let us revere and love the living God  
And love each other with unfeigning hearts

And so when we are gathered here as one  
Let quarrels die and envious rancour cease  
Be our resolve all bitterness to shun  
And in our midst be Christ his love and peace

O lead us master by your saving grace  
To where the blessed glory in your sight  
Then let us see and love you face to face  
Gathered once more in everlasting light

J McAuley/R Connolly

COMMUNION HYMN Soul of my Saviour

Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast  
Body of Christ, be thou my saving guest  
Blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide  
Wash me with water flowing from thy side

Strength and protection may thy Passion be  
Oh Blessed Jesus, hear and answer me  
Deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me  
So shall I never, never part from thee

Guard and defend me from the foe malign  
In death's dread moments make me only thine  
Call me, and bid me come to thee on high  
Where I may praise thee with thy saints for aye

Pope Jn XXII/William Maher

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Natalie Poulton  
John Winter

## FINAL COMMENDATION Invitation to Prayer

**Priest:** Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our brother. May our farewell express our affection for him; 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 May Flights of Angels

May flights of angels lead you on your way  
to paradise and heavens eternal day  
May martyrs greet you after deaths' dark night  
and bid you enter into Sion's light;  
May choirs of angels sing you to your rest  
with once poor Lazarus, now for ever blest

Trans J Quinn/Orlando Gibbons/V Williams

**Priest:** Saints of God come to his aid!  
Hasten to meet him, angels of the Lord!

**Response:** Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

May Christ, who called you, take you to himself;  
May angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham. **R**

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon him. **R**

Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our brother, Ray, in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with him on the last day. We give you thanks for the blessings which you bestowed upon Ray in this life: they are signs to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ. Merciful Lord, turn toward 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 with our brother forever. Amen

## RECESSIONAL HYMN Farewell We Come

Farewell, we come to send you on the way  
we all must walk, so final, secret, strange.  
In wond'ring awe, in grief and hope we pray,  
pilgrims of time, to one who does not change,  
whose love can lead us through the darkest night  
to life and joy in everlasting light.

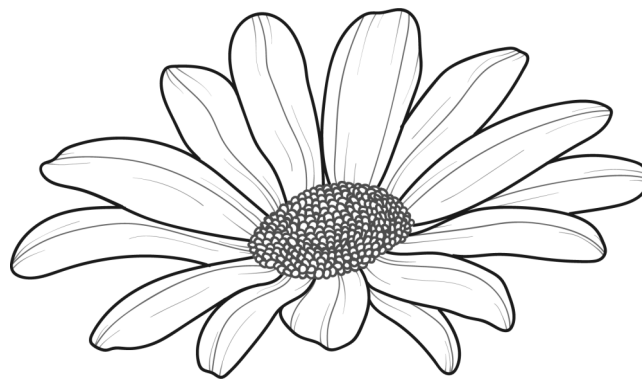
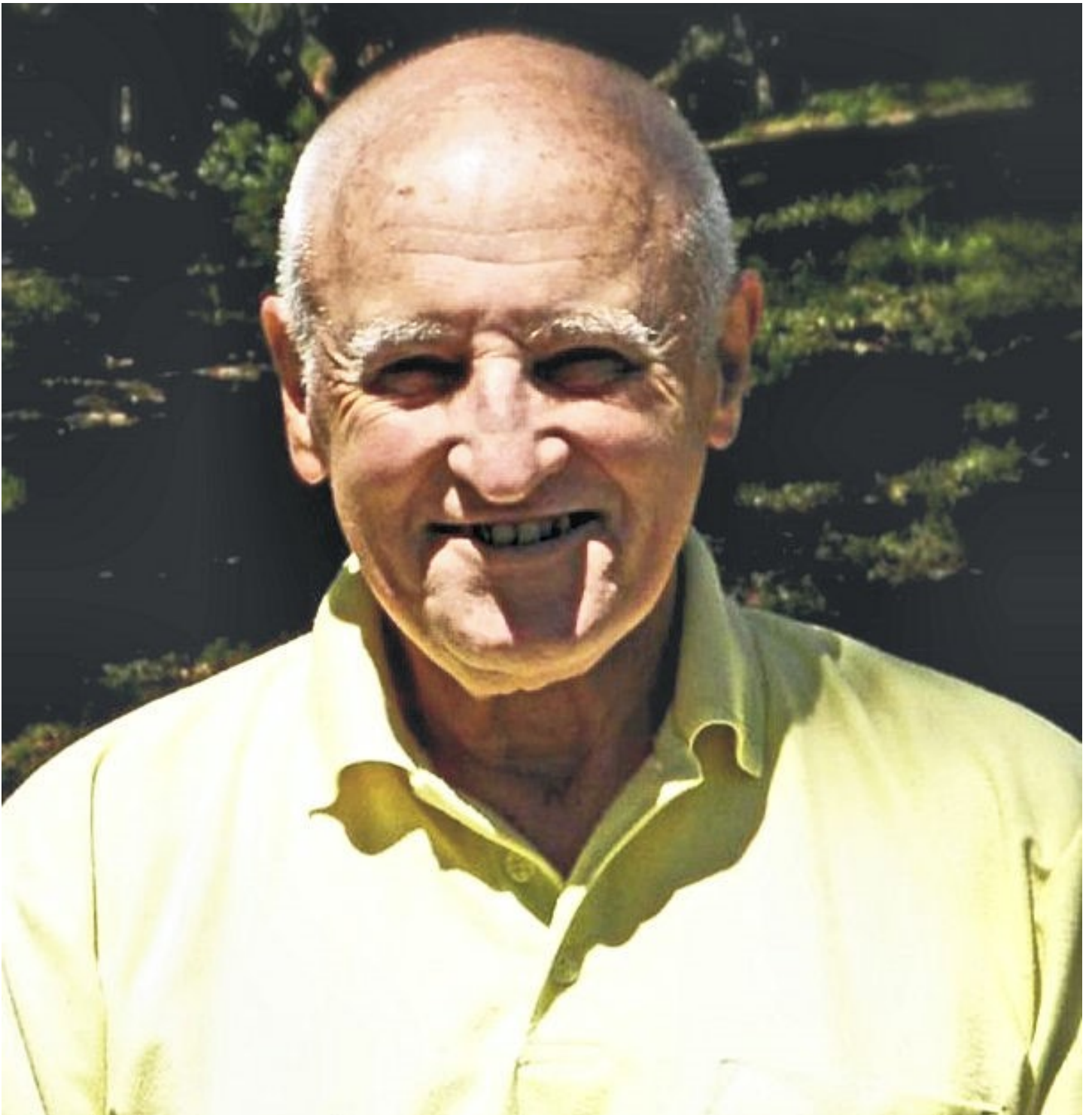
No more we hear your voice or see your face,  
gone from our world, our close familiar home.  
Yet one who went before prepared a place,  
his Father's house, with room for all who come,  
whose love can lead us through the darkest night  
to life and joy in everlasting light.

Now for your life, your love and labours here  
our hearts give thanks. Your spirit we commend  
to him who told his sad flock not to fear,  
'Look, I am with you all, till time shall end',  
whose love can lead us through the darkest night  
to life and joy in everlasting light.

Far from our sight you journey: travel well.  
All still are one who hear the promise giv'n:  
one battle joined to conquer death and hell,  
one Lord of all, on earth as now in heav'n,  
whose love can lead us through the darkest night  
to life and joy in everlasting light.

Thwaites Heritage Association/Jean Sibelius, Finlandia





*The family would like to thank you for your presence here today, for your kind thoughts, prayers and for your expressions of sympathy and support.*



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