

Mass of Thanksgiving  
for

*Mary Frances Coulter*



July 16, 1934 - October 16, 2023

Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church Alstonville.

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** “Come as you are”

Come as you are, that’s how I want you.  
Come as you are, feel quite at home.  
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven;  
come as you are, why stand alone.

No need to fear, love sets no limits.  
No need to fear, love never ends.  
Don’t run away, shamed and disheartened.  
Rest in my love, trust me again.

I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.  
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.  
Each time you fail to live by my promise,  
why do you think I’d love you the less.

Come as you are, that’s how I love you.  
Come as you are, trust me again.  
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.  
All will be well, just come as you are.



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**SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER:** The coffin is sprinkled with Holy water, as a reminder of Mary’s baptism and initiation into the community of faith.

**PLACING OF THE PALL:** The pall, a sign of Christian dignity is a reminder of the garment given at baptism, and therefore signifying life in Christ that the deceased shared with the Lord through baptism. It also signifies that all are equal in the eyes of God.

**PASCHAL CANDLE:** The Easter candle reminds us of Christ’s undying presence among his faithful people. It symbolizes his victory over sin and death, and our share in that victory by virtue of our initiation through baptism.

**THE SACRED SCRIPTURES:** The Sacred Scriptures are placed on the coffin as a sign that Christians live by the Word of God and that fidelity to that Word leads to eternal life.

**THE CROSS;** The cross is a reminder that the Christian is marked by the cross in baptism and through Jesus' suffering on the cross we are bought to the victory of his resurrection

**FLOWERS:** A symbol of the family's love for Mary

**EULOGY:** Bill Coulter

**GRANDCHILDREN REFLECTIONS:** Jemma & Samuel

## **MEMORIES OF MARY**

### **OPENING PRAYER:**

**FIRST READING:** A Reading from the second letter of St. Paul to Timothy 4:6-8  
Reader: Elizabeth Ryall

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

**PSALM:** "The Lord is my Shepherd" (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.

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.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**This is the will of my Father, says the Lord,  
all who believe in the Son will have eternal life  
and I will raise them to life again on the last day.**

**Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

Priest: **The Lord be with you.**

People: And also with you.

Priest: **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. 14:1-6.**

People: Glory to you Lord.

**Jesus said to his disciples:**

**'Do not let your hearts be troubled.**

**Trust in God still 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, '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.'**

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### HOMILY

## **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFULL**

Reader: James, Elizabeth, Maureen and Nick

1. We pray for Mary who in Baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that she now be admitted to the company of the saints. Lord, hear our prayer.
2. For Mary's family, especially her husband Geoff and children Elizabeth, Bill and Gabrielle and also for her extended family, and friends, may the healing power of Christ bring them comfort now and in the future. Lord, hear our prayer.
3. For deceased relatives who are no longer with us, Marie and Bill, Philomena and Peter, David, Margaret and Doug and Nola and hope for the day when we all be together in God's eternal peace and love. Lord, hear our prayer.
4. For all those who are gathered here today in faith and for her family and friends in Sydney, particularly Trisha, Matthew and Ben and Mum's friend Audrey. May they be consoled and receive God's strength as they grieve for Mary. Lord, hear our prayer.
5. We pray with gratitude for the gift of Mary's life and for the many wonderful moments we shared with her. May she continue to inspire us in a spirit of faith, love, and generosity. Lord, hear our prayer.
6. To all the health care professionals and doctors who have cared for Grandma with such compassion and sensitivity. May they continue to be inspired with the healing touch of Christ. Lord, hear our prayer.

## **OFFERTORY HYMN "The Prayer of St Francis"**

Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love,  
where there is injury, your pardon Lord,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace

Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,  
where there is darkness - only light,  
and where's there's sadness ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved, as to love, with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all men that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **OUR FATHER**

### **SIGN OF PEACE:**

### **LAMB OF GOD:**

### **COMMUNION**

### **COMMUNION HYMN** "I am the Bread of Life"

I am the bread of life.  
You who come to me shall not hunger;  
you who believe in me shall not thirst.  
No one can come to me  
unless the Father beckons.

*And I will raise you up,  
and I will raise you up,  
and I will raise you up on the last day.*

The bread that I will give  
is my flesh for the life of the world,  
and you who eat of this bread,  
you shall live forever,  
you shall live forever.

Unless you eat  
of the flesh of the Son of Man  
and drink of his blood,  
and drink of his blood,  
you shall not have life within you.

I am the Resurrection!

I am the life.

You who believe in me,  
even if you die,

You shall live forever.

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### **REFLECTION HYMN: "Ave Maria"**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

### **FINAL COMMENDATION**

### **SIGNS OF FAREWELL**

### **SONG OF FARWELL**

Priest: Saints of God come to her aid!

Hasten to meet her, angels of the Lord.

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

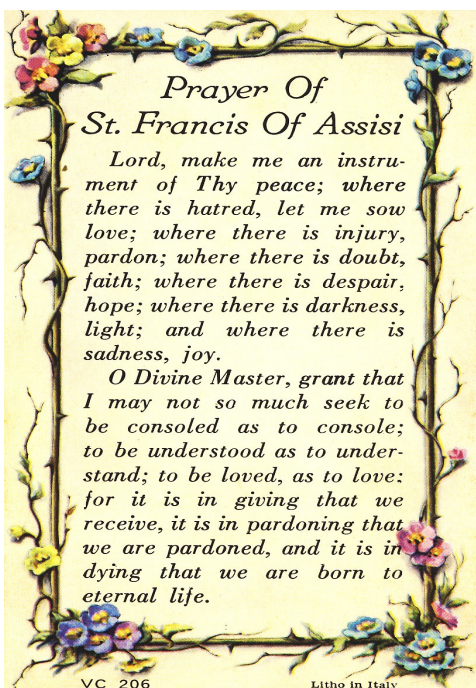
Priest: May Christ who called you, take you to himself; may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

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

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

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

### **RECESSIONAL HYMN "An Irish Blessing"**



This was one of Mary's favourite prayers,  
which hung on the kitchen wall





The Coulter family would like to thank those present today and those from  
afar for your prayers and support.

To all those who have been part of Marys life -  
we thank you.