

*Eucharistic Celebration
of Thanksgiving
for the life of
Sister M. Paula Cronin LCM*



*St Margaret's Chapel
Calvary Retirement Community
Ryde*

10:00am Wednesday 30 October 2024



*“There rests the one
who listened,
loved,
answered,
and now receives the reward of hope”*

Venerable Mary Potter



Sister M. Paula Cronin LCM

Born
4th March 1939

Entered the Little Company of Mary
9th April 1962

First Profession
20th December 1964

Perpetual Vows
20th December 1969

Born into Eternal Life
20th October 2024

Motto:
'Live through love in His Presence'

Celebrant: Mons Kerry Bayada
Concelebrant: Rev. Fr Terence Bell

Organist: Mrs Clare Whitelock
Welcome: Sr Kathleen Cotterill LCM

Invitation to the Procession

In receiving the body of our Sister, Paula, this community acknowledges her as one of our own; one who professed her religious vows with us and was part of our Congregation; one with us in the spirit of Calvary.

The Lord guards our coming in and going out. May God be with us today as we make this last journey with our Sister.

*The coffin is escorted into the Chapel by
Sr Kathleen Cotterill, Sr Jennifer Barrow,
Sr Elizabeth Gilroy, Sr Ronda Mary Singleton*

Entrance Hymn

(please stand)

On Eagles Wings

Michael Joncas

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!"

Refrain

**And He will raise you up on eagles wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn.
Make you 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 your ways:
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone. **Refrain**

And hold you, hold you in the palm of His hand.

Greeting

CELEBRANT:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of
the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT:

May the God of Mercies and all Consolation be
with you.

ALL: And with your spirit.

Sprinkling with Holy Water

CELEBRANT:

In the waters of Baptism, Paula died with Christ and
rose with Him to new life.

ALL: May she now share with Him eternal glory.

Placing of the Pall

Sr Patricia Ryan, Sr Judith Barwick

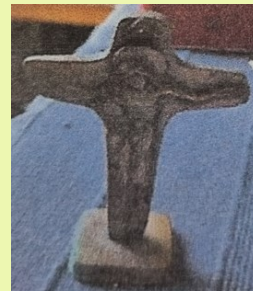
The Pall placed here today over the coffin is a symbol of Paula's white Baptismal Robe. It reminds us that she responded to Christ's call to be His disciple and it recognises the dignity conferred on her through Baptism.

Placing of the Symbols - Sr Helen Kelly

Mary at the foot of the Cross

Sr Marie Cummins

This symbol of Mary at the foot of the Cross was very dear to the heart of Paula for this was the spirit of the Constitutions of the Little Company of Mary, the Maternal Heart of Mary as she stood beneath the Cross. This was the spirit of Mary Potter to 'be there for others' as Mary was for her son Jesus.



Bible: Jerusalem Bible

Sr Mary Gleeson

The Bible and especially the New Testament was for Paula a constant reference. Her journey mirrored the life of Paul her patron, his conversion on the way to Damascus and through his active life and mission as he spread good news of Jesus through his life and energy and then contemplation til he was able to say 'it is no longer I but Christ who lives in me'. Paula too had time to contemplate her motto, from Paul to the Ephesians to 'Live through Love in His Presence'.

Glass Plaque**Sr Carmel Byrne**

The round glass Plaque placed here today is the symbol of the gift of Creativity that is Paula's, a gift shared generously with others a life circle, and fashioned in the spirit of the Maternal Heart of Mary.

Contemplative Photo**Sr Bernadette Fitzgerald**

This photo was a daily focus for Paula as she began her day with a listening ear in her meditation.

**Willow Figurines****Sr Judith Barwick**

The willow figurines without any faces scattered around Paula's place were often contemplated by her in prayer and each one brought here today particularly showed the hidden meanings of life's compassion, wisdom and healing and their deeper significance.

Classical Mozart and Richard Rohr Book**Michelle Bradley**

Paula enjoyed spiritual reading, mystery and fiction, grateful for this time, and classical music, especially Mozart, all her life to enhance her spirit and her growing in wisdom of life, creation and all God's gifts.



Opening Prayer

(please stand)

CELEBRANT:

Gracious God, You are for us, the way, the truth and the life. May we be constant in our hearing Your word and in responding with selfless commitment and steadfast faith. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

(please sit)

First Reading

Mrs Irene Dixon

Reading from St Paul to the Ephesians 1:1-4

Blessed be God the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of Heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, He chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless and to “live through love in His presence”. Determined that we should become his sons and daughters through Jesus Christ, for His own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of His grace, His free gift to us in Beloved.

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (sung)

Act Justly

Trish Watts & Monica Brown

Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God

Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God

The Lord requires only this, that we love one another
Reaching out with compassion to the Earth

Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God

Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God

The Earth our Mother, our life rejoices in our freedom
Healing lives that are broken and afraid

Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God
Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God

Let our voices be heard, sing the wonder of creation
Seeking lives of forgiveness for our world

Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God
Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with our God

Gospel Acclamation

(please stand)

Alleluia, Alleluia

All who love Me will keep My words, and My Father
Will love them and We will come to them

Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

CELEBRANT:

The Lord be with you.

ALL: And with your spirit.

CELEBRANT:

John 17:11, 21-24,26

Holy Father, keep those You have given Me true to
Your Name, so that they may be one like Us. May
they all be one, Father, may they be one in us, as
You are in Me and I am in You so that the world may
believe it was You who sent Me. I have given them
the glory You gave to Me, that they may be one as
We are one.

With Me in them and You in Me, may they be so
completely one that the world will realise that it was

You who sent Me and that I have loved them as much as You Loved Me. I have made Your name known to them, and I will continue to make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and so that I may be in them.
The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Prayers of Intercession

(please stand)

CELEBRANT:

Merciful God, we know you are present with us in all time and in all our needs. As we gather to celebrate the life of our sister, Paula, we ask you to hear the prayers we bring before You.

Reader: Sr Ronda Mary Singleton

For Pope Francis, in grateful thanks for his words of both encouragement and challenge on our faith journey, that the Lord may bless his life each day, we pray...

ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

For Paula in thanksgiving for her life of service as a Sister of the Little Company of Mary. For those she came in contact with, we ask Your blessing; and your peace as she now rests in the loving arms of her God she served so faithfully, we pray...

ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

For Paula's Family her parents George and Billie now resting in peace with their God. For Paula's brother Michael, we ask the support and blessing of God with the loss of his sister, and give thanks for

life's shared moments. We remember too Michael's family, other relatives and extended family as we pray.....

ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: Sr Francis Mansour

For all who mourn Paula's passing, for Jenny, Elizabeth, Lois and Lucia RIP who have travelled with Paula as companions on her LCM journey, we ask God's special blessings as we pray....

ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

For the sick and dying and those who care for them and for all those who have died. For our deceased LCM sisters who have shared with us Mary Potter's spirit, we pray may they know the presence of a loving God as we pray.....

ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

For those who have cared for Paula with great skill and presence and for LCM Health, Wellbeing and Support Team who particularly supporting Paula to continue to live life to the fullest here at Calvary Ryde, we pray....

ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

CELEBRANT:

Gracious God, in your tender care you have given us one another. Strengthen and console us as we mourn the loss of our loved sister Paula and bring us all to the fullness of life in You.

ALL: Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist
Preparation of the Gifts
Offertory Procession -

Family Members - Irene and Peter Dixon, Ann Brennan,
Ben Cronin, Graham Cronin

Offertory Hymn

Song A Journey remembered Kevin Bates SM

O Praise the Lord my soul, My God how great You are
My heart and my soul sing out Your praise
My God how great You are

You have carried me within your arms, whenever I've
known fear
You have waited patiently for me then You drew me
near
You have run beside me even when I didn't want to
know'
That You are my hope and my joy
In the doubting times you touched my hope and
showed me how to be
In the hours of fear and hopelessness Your truth set me
free
In the memory of family I learnt to know Your name
Learnt that You are my home and my joy
Lord bless the place where I was born and those who
carried me
Lord bless the many smiles that have kindly set me free
Lord bless the many little ones who've shown Your
face to me
You are my home and my joy
O praise the Lord my soul, My God how great You are
My heart and my soul sing out Your praise, my God
how great You are
My God how great You are

CELEBRANT:

Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation,
for through Your goodness we have received
the bread we offer You:
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,
it will become for us the bread of life.

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

CELEBRANT:

Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation,
for through Your goodness we have received
the wine we offer You:
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,
it will become our spiritual drink.

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Invitation to Prayer

(please stand)

CELEBRANT:

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice, and
yours, may be acceptable to God, the Almighty
Father.

ALL:

May the Lord accept this 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

CELEBRANT:

Lord, we are united in this sacrament by the love
of Jesus Christ. Accept these gifts and receive
Sister Paula into the glory of your Son, who is Lord
for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT:

The Lord be with you.

ALL: And with your spirit.

CELEBRANT:

Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

CELEBRANT:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right and just.

Preface for the Death of a Religious

CELEBRANT:

Father, all powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give You thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. He came the Son of a Virgin Mother, named those blessed who were pure of heart, and taught by His whole life the perfection of chastity.

He chose always to fulfil Your holy will, and became obedient even to dying for us, offering Himself to You as a perfect oblation. He consecrated more closely to Your heart those who leave all things for Your sake, and promised that they would find heavenly treasure. And so, we join the angels and the saints as they sing their undying hymn of praise:

ALL: (sung)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of Hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

(please kneel or sit)

Memorial Acclamation:

CELEBRANT:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL:

Save us Saviour of the world,
for by Your Cross and Resurrection,
You have set us free.

Great Amen

CELEBRANT:

Through Him and with Him, and in Him in the unity of
the Holy Spirit all glory and honour is Yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

Communion Rite

(please stand)

The Lord's Prayer

CELEBRANT:

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine
teaching, we dare to say:

ALL:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. Amen.

CELEBRANT:

Deliver us, Lord we pray from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that by the help of Your mercy, we may be free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, and grant us peace in our day.

ALL:

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and forever.

Sign of Peace

CELEBRANT:

Lord, Jesus Christ You said to Your Apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant us the peace and unity of Your kingdom, Where You live forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

ALL: And with your spirit.

CELEBRANT:

Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

ALL: Peace be with you.

Breaking of the Bread

CELEBRANT:

May the mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

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.

Holy Communion

(please kneel or sit)

CELEBRANT:

Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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 Music: Granpartita by Mozart

Thanksgiving Hymn

Magnificat

Michael Talbot

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
And my spirit exults in God my Saviour
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness
And my name will be forever exalted
For the mighty God has done great things for me
And His mercy will reach from age to age
And Holy, Holy, Holy is His name...
Holy, Holy, Holy is His name...
And Holy, Holy, Holy is His name

*We are now invited to reflect on
Paula's Thanksgiving Prayer in Gratitude for
the Gift of Life and Journey remembered
from Birth to the Fulness of Life*

Reflective Reader: Sr Jennifer Barrow LCM

1. For the Gift of Life

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

for my parents, my brother, family and friends who have been part of 'my family'. Being born in 1939 beginning of the second world war, I learnt many ways of appreciating values of living in times of challenge and change.

2. For the Gift of the Early Years

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

Under the guidance of the Brigidine and Loreto Sisters schooling, moving into adulthood especially remembering "my awareness of exploring life" and it's meaning on deeper levels at different steps. The Grail also had a large impact in my grounding as a woman.

3. For the Gift of the Formative Years

Especially my call to nursing under the guidance of the Sisters of Charity and the SHARING with my companions as we supported one another in the 'good times' and 'challenges' carrying us in the years to follow as we kept 'in touch'.

4. For the Gift of my call to LCM

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

To commit and live in the spirit given us through Venerable Mary Potter, to stand on Calvary with Mary prayerfully one, each day for the Calvaries of the world in the many ways we see 'dying' present – making visible the "healing presence of Christ" in our lives for all. Also, especially remembering my Aunt, Sr Timothy LCM, who was a great support and influenced my life in many ways, as we lived and shared the LCM charism.

5. For the Gift of Companions on the way

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

Especially remembering my batch, Jenny, Elizabeth, Lois and Lucia, RIP as we shared our years of Formation and those who guided us as we adapted to Vatican II and the opportunities to be open to the needs of our changing world in line with our charism and spirit

6. For the Many Gifts and Life Opportunities in Ministries as they presented

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

In Health Care LCM

- At Lewisham
- Midwifery Adelaide
- Psychiatric Nursing Ryde
- Pastoral Care/Palliative Care Kogarah

In Training CPE Programmes

- Setting up of Programmes in Pastoral Care in Far North Queensland
- Especially grateful for my Global Opportunities/Study and growth through pastoral Studies in Chicago - a good foundation for my ministries
- Mary Potter Volunteers to share LCM Charism with others

Richness of travel globally

Visiting our LCM Houses

- Pilgrimage to Holy Land
- Time in India and the Australian contingent with the Jesuits in Hazeribah - being with the culture, an experience I will never forget.

7. For the gift of various Training over the years in all aspects of Holistic Growth

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

- Opportunities for Retreats, Renewals, Spiritual Direction and Counselling, especially remembering those who gifted and companioned me along the way through those years - so helpful for deeper living.

8. For my personal and God given gifts shared

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

- The gift of Creativity and the potential and possibilities that were able to be shared through reflective prayer, gathering of themes to explore, using Symbols, Ambience and Music.
- The gift of being open to change, able to risk take through discernment when faced with decisions for the good of the whole

9. For the Gift of Latter Years Transitions and Contemplative Living

With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

- The opportunities to reflect and the grace to enable me to follow the 'contemplative way of life' as it evolved.
- Living the Calvary Spirit within myself and with those around me - aware of a sense of growth and change on the journey and lived out through my Motto to 'Live Through Love in His Presence'

10. Final Reflection
With Gratitude and Thanksgiving

- For the Many areas of my life - the 'richness' of my vocation in LCM, the people in all walks of life I have shared with and who have shared with me.
- Situations of being able to touch into lives of others and to be touched by them and living on Calvary, a place I called 'Home'.
- Those who have cared for me at Calvary Retirement Community
- For my special LCM Health and Wellbeing Support Team and Co-Ordinator.
- For many who have supported and cared for me during the time, LCM Sisters and friends - through the transitions and challenges.

May you all be Specially Blessed

With love and thanksgiving
One with Mary
On Calvary in the spirit of Mary Potter
Paula LCM

My thanks to Sr Helen and Sheila for being part of, and helping me with this reflection format

Prayer after Communion

CELEBRANT:

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 sister, Paula, who shared in the Eucharist come to the banquet of life Christ has prepared for us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Invitation to Prayer

CELEBRANT:

Our sister, Paula, has fallen asleep in Christ. Confident in our hope of eternal life, let us summon her to the loving mercy of our Father and let our prayers go with her. She was adopted as God's daughter in Baptism and was nourished at the table of the Lord.

May she now inherit the promise of eternal life and take her place at the table of God's children in heaven. Let us pray also on our own behalf, that we who now mourn and are saddened may one day go forth with our Sister to meet the Lord of life when He appears in glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Signs of Farewell

The coffin is now sprinkled with holy water and incensed.

Song of Farewell

CELEBRANT:

Saints of God, come to Paula's aid
Come to meet her, angels of the Lord.

ALL:

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

CELEBRANT:

May Christ who called you, take you to Himself and may the angels lead you to Abraham's side.

ALL:

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

CELEBRANT:

Give Paula eternal rest, O Lord, and may Your light shine upon her forever.

ALL:

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

Prayer of Commendation

CELEBRANT:

Into Your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our sister, Paula, in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, she will rise with Him on the last day.

We give thanks for the blessings which You bestowed upon our sister, Paula, in this life: they are signs to us of Your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.

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 with our sister, Paula, forever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Procession to the Place of Committal

CELEBRANT:

May the angels lead you into paradise;
may the martyrs come to welcome you
and take you to the holy city,
the new and eternal Jerusalem.

ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT:

Let us take the body of our sister, Paula,
to its final resting place.

*The coffin is escorted from the Chapel by Paula's
family members*

Recessional Hymn

Welcome Home

Frank Andersen MSC

Chorus:

Welcome Home, Welcome Home

Welcome home to the land of your freedom and joy

Welcome Home Welcome home

Be at peace in the arms of your God, Welcome Home

This is My body now given for you , this is the gift you have lived

And just as the Father embraces the Son, so do we embrace you, Welcome Home.. **Chorus**

We come to thank you the people you loved, for us you have been living Word

The word you have spoken has nourished our hearts, Now the Word comes to you, Welcome Home..

Chorus

Let there be music and let there be song, for the triumph that your life has been

Hear how the Angels and saints in their joy, join with us as they sing, Welcome Home.. **Chorus**

*Paula's family and the
Sisters of the Little Company of Mary
would like to express their
gratitude to those who were able to
join with us today and to all those who
ministered to Paula
God bless you.*

*Following Mass, the Interment
will take place at
Rookwood Catholic Cemetery
You are warmly invited for light refreshments...
In Dalton House, Calvary Retirement Community
Ryde*



*'There is no greater power
in life than love' (thf)
Venerable Mary Potter*

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