

Thanksgiving Service
For the life of
Maris Serene Gertrude Lobo
18 June 1942 - 3 January 2021



Thursday 21 January, 2021
St. Pancras Cemetery Chapel
East Finchley



She is gone

By David Harkins

You can shed tears that she is gone
Or you can smile because she has lived
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
Or you can be full of the love that you shared
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday
You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what she would want: smile,
open your eyes, love and go on.





Entrance Hymn

I Watch The Sunrise

John Glynn

I watch the sunrise lighting the sky,
Casting its shadows near.
And on this morning, bright thought it be,
I feel those shadows near me.

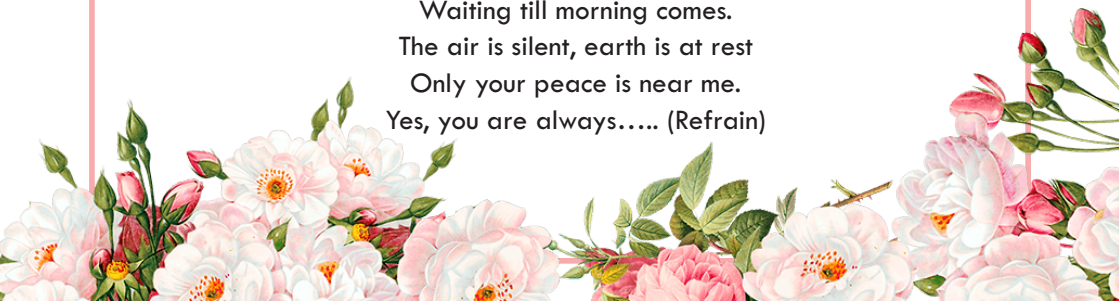
Refrain:

But you are always, close to me,
Following all my ways.
May I be always close to you,
Following all your ways, Lord.

I watch the sunlight shine through the clouds,
Warming the earth below.
And at the mid-day, life seems to say:
I feel your brightness near me.
For you are always.... (Refrain)

I watch the sunset fading away,
Lighting the clouds with sleep.
And as the evening closes its eyes,
I feel your presence near me.
For you are always.... (Refrain)

I watch the moonlight guarding the night,
Waiting till morning comes.
The air is silent, earth is at rest
Only your peace is near me.
Yes, you are always..... (Refrain)





Opening Prayer

Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain, the Lord 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.

The Lord God will destroy death for ever,
He 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 who we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
That He has saved us.

This is the word of the Lord.





Prayers of the faithful

Response: Lord hear our prayer

For Mavis, may her new life with Jesus be peaceful, joyful and everlasting

We pray to the Lord

For the souls of Mavis, our Dad, Thomas and Mum Leonie, and all our relatives that have gone before her. May they all be reunited with the risen Lord in their new home - Heaven.

We pray to the Lord.

For Mavis's family, that they may find comfort with their friends and family, as they try to fill the void in their lives that she has left.

We pray to the Lord

Almighty God we pray for the sick, that you may bless them with your healing hands. Give comfort to the dying that they may enter your kingdom and receive your reward of eternal happiness.

We pray to the Lord.

Let us intercede with Our Blessed Mother Mary and pray
Hail MaryAmen





Eulogy to our Sister, Mavis

Our dearest darling sister, Mavis

Today, we thank the Almighty God for the gift of your life Mavis, to us your family, our many relatives and friends all over the world. We know you would have loved to have seen many loved ones together here, to celebrate your life, but it was not to be. You so loved family gatherings and were always happiest when your family was around you.

In your younger days it was difficult for you as one leg was affected with polio, when an outbreak in Kenya in the early 1950's affected many children. You inspired us with your determination to get on with life irrespective of your burdens. Thank God, our beloved parents ensured that you received the same opportunities in life as us. They encouraged you to use your God given talents, which were many.

Mavis was an exceptional cook. She used to make the best sorpotel, butch, fish curry and more! All this she did without Mum's help and even had the cook follow her instructions! Her other talent was her love for knitting. She patiently taught Betty to knit using 'broom sticks' and complained when she could not hold the needles together the way she did. Up to now Betty cannot do it like Mavis! One other gift Mavis had, was an amazing memory. She could remember who came to the house to visit, the year, what they wore and who accompanied them, plus the names of all members of our extended family and children and even the dates of marriages!!! We often wondered how she could do this, when we could not even remember the old address of the place that we last lived!

She so loved to receive letters from family members and friends and was delighted when they enclosed photos of nieces, nephews, and family friends. She proudly showed them off, to visitors.





What often comes to mind, is her personal appearance. Mavis was always exquisitely turned out, impeccably matched, with handbag and jewellery. At weekends, she would iron and keep all her clothes ready for the week and had a passion to place everything in the right place.

Mavis hated to miss her visits to the day centers each week, where she made many friends. Her work and friendships meant a lot to her and she never missed a day, even when she felt unwell. There were many times when the taxi was late to pick her up in the morning, and she would pace up and down the corridor, until poor Dad had to get on the phone to find out what the problem was!

Almost every Saturday, our parents took Mavis shopping. Mum would spoil her by buying her the best clothes! They would treat Mavis to her favourite lunch at McDonalds or Wendy's - a double cheeseburger, fries and a coke! We too did the same when we were around!

Since our parent's life was centered around the church, they attended church socials and day trips, and Mavis too accompanied them. She also enjoyed the sports events and dances held by the Goan Community. Mavis once again felt the excitement like in Nairobi, going to the Goan Institute (GI) and meeting old friends, who had also moved to London.

Mavis continued to face many obstacles throughout her life. Years later, she endured great pain in her leg and hip, making sleeping and walking very painful. Shortly, after Mums passing, Neil arranged a hip operation which was an immediate success and for the first time in years, she was pain free!

In 2010, Dad and Mavis moved into the Nazareth House Care Home and both were happy there. Mavis made friends easily and loved the routine.





games, singing, art classes, daily rosary, Christmas parties and concerts. Sadly, after three years, our Dad passed away peacefully, of old age, in his 104th year. Mavis really missed him, but slowly picked up again. In the summer of 2017 we planned a party to celebrate her 75th birthday, which she thoroughly enjoyed.

Darling Mavis, your sudden departure left us with an emptiness and heartache. It was made worse for us, as we could not be there to say goodbye. You will never believe the number of calls and tributes we received from all over the world. Many remembered You darling sister, as someone who was always cheerful and enjoyed life. You never complained and endured everything that came your way with fortitude and courage. You were truly an inspiration to all of us.

Mavis has now gone home guided by her faith and by the light of those she loved and lost. At last, she is with Daddy and Mummy, leaving those of us who grieve with many happy memories.

Mavis is now God's angel. She has paid her dues and gone to her reward. May God bless you Darling Mavis.

Your loving siblings,
Maureen, Betty & Neil





Exit Hymn

How Great Thou Art

by Chris Rice

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds thy Hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout, the universe displayed

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!





And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on a cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

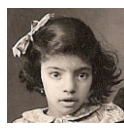
Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

When Christ shall come, With shout of acclamation,
And take me home, What joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow, In humble adoration
And there proclaim, My God, how great Thou art!

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul,
My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!







"I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their Love"

Leo Buscaglia

Thank you

On behalf of our family, we would like to thank you for all the love and support you all gave Mavis during her life. In particular, to Angela Pinto, our dearest cousin, thank you for always being there to visit Mavis and keep us updated on how she was faring. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you, for your kind and loving messages.

Maureen, Betty and Neil

