

*We celebrate and give thanks  
for the life of Joan Evans*



*Born: 5 March 1932*

*Entered Eternal Life: 14 February 2023*

*Celebrant: Fr Maurice Shinnick*

*Venue: St Joseph's Chapel*







## Acknowledgement of Country

Sr Michele Madigan

Welcome

Sr Brigette Sipa

### Greeting

Fr Maurice: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
*All: And with your spirit.*

Fr Maurice: In the waters of baptism Joan died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May she now share with him in glory.

### *Sprinkling of the coffin*

Fr Maurice: Gathered with this faith community Joan was nourished at the table of the God's Word and the table of the Eucharist. We have been graced by her faith and love as she faithfully lived her Baptismal Promises.

*Joan's body is accompanied into the  
Chapel by her Community*

# INTRODUCTORY RITE

## Gathering Song

**Joseph Holy**

© Dom Moreno osb

**Refrain:** *Joseph Holy, Faithful guardian,  
Spouse of Mary, ever Virgin,  
Loving Teacher of God's Word.*

1. You the model of obedience,  
You the poor and humble worker,  
You the Patron of the Church. R
2. Then we ask you, Joseph faithful,  
Help us always be attentive,  
Listening, hearing God's own Word. R

## Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Fr Maurice: In Baptism, Joan received the light of Christ. This light has guided Joan throughout her life and rises with her to new life. May she now enjoy eternal life with the risen Christ.

## Placing of the Pall

Fr Maurice: Like the white coffin, the white pall represents our Baptism. Joan was claimed by Christ and clothed in a garment of white. May Christ now gently enfold her in love and receive her into the embrace of God

## The Placing of Symbols

**Sr Patricia Keane**

**Eulogy** **Sr Josie Huppertz**

## Opening Prayer



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading      Sr Susan Pollard

Adaptation of 11: 16-18 from the Book of Proverbs

When one meets a faithful woman, the moment is an awakening.  
She has committed her heart to goodness and the world has an  
unfailing friend.

She develops her gifts with joy; She empowers those around her.  
She will dance in response to song; She will grieve in response to pain.  
She is decisive to wisdom and insight;  
With compassion she makes her choice.

She knows that she is wounded and needs healing;  
She cannot do all things.

Life for her has purpose and pattern, yet she bows before mystery.

The Word of the Lord.

*All: Thanks be to God*

### Responsorial Psalm      The Lord is Shepherd

© Brian Boniwell

The Lord is my Shepherd and I want to follow,  
Wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.  
Over the mountains the waters and by-ways  
Valleys and highways he's waiting for me.

I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.  
The Lord is my Shepherd and I want to follow.  
Wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.

And while on the journey to where we are going,  
He promised to be there to help us along.  
And over the mountains we'll walk on together,  
To know all the wonders, he's given to me.

May songs of the angels welcome you  
and guide you along your way.

May the smiles of the martyrs greet your own  
as darkness turns into day.

Ev'ry fear will be undone, and death will be no more,  
as songs of the angels bring you home before the face of God.

**Gospel** Matthew 5: 1 - 12 *The Beatitudes*

When Jesus saw the crowds he went up on the mountainside.  
After he had sat down his disciples gathered around him,  
and he began to teach them.

“How blest are the poor in spirit: the reign of God is theirs.

Blest too are the sorrowing: they shall be consoled.

Blest are the lowly: they shall inherit the land.

Blest are they who hunger and thirst for holiness:  
they shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy: mercy shall be theirs.

Blest are the single-hearted: for they shall see God.

Blest too are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

Blest are those persecuted for holiness' sake:  
the reign of God is theirs.

Blest are you when they insult you and persecute you and  
utter every kind of slander against you because of me.

Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is great in heaven”.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Homily**

**Fr Maurice Shinnick**



## Universal Prayer Srs Chris McArthur and Catherine Mead

Fr Maurice: We gather to honour and give thanks for Sister Joan Evans' wholesome life given in love and shared with so many. Let us unite in prayer, as she did, turning to the needs of today with love and hope.

1. We pray that in the spirit of Pope Francis' call to us as the people of God, we continue to walk together in justice and truth. We pray to God.  
*Response: Loving God, hear our prayer.*
  
2. We pray for Joan's family at this time, especially Francie, Fred and Joan's nieces, nephews and families. We remember too, the deceased members of Joan's family; her parents George and Violet, her beloved sister and brother, Kath and Tom.  
We pray to God.  
*Response: Loving God, hear our prayer.*
  
3. In Joan's words we pray for "Her dear Sisters of St Joseph", both living and deceased, her faithful companions throughout her Josephite life. We give thanks for Joan's wholehearted commitment in nurturing community. We pray to God.  
*Response: Loving God, hear our prayer.*
  
4. We pray for all those who have benefitted from Joan's dedication to education, ensuring they received access and equity to an authentic Catholic education and a pathway to a hope-filled future. We pray to God.  
*Response: Loving God, hear our prayer.*
  
5. May Joan's awareness, active involvement and prayerful concern for those most in need continue to inspire us to action. We particularly pray for the First Nations people of Australia as we journey with them toward a more just Australia for all.  
We pray to God.  
*Response: Loving God, hear our prayer*

6. As a true daughter of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Joan responded to the needs of the time, leading in creative and forward-looking ways. Likewise, may leaders everywhere work to ensure the dignity and wellbeing of all those they serve  
We pray to God.  
*Response: Loving God, hear our prayer*

Fr Maurice:

Tender, loving God, thank you for being with us, amongst us and in each other. We are confident that you receive our prayers and continue to walk with us and through us as we journey through life. We ask this in Jesus name.  
*Response: Amen.*

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

**Presentation of Gifts**

**Quiet Music**

**Prayer over the Gifts**

**Holy, Holy** Spoken

**Eucharistic Acclamation**

*All: We proclaim your death, O Lord  
And profess your Resurrection  
Until you come again.*

**Great Amen**





## COMMUNION RITE

**Our Father** Spoken

**Sign of Peace**

**Lamb of God** Spoken

**Communion Hymn**

**Sing a New Song**

© Dan Schutte



**Antiphon:** Sing a new song unto the Lord.  
let your song be sung from mountains high.  
Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing alleluia.

1. Shout with gladness, dance for joy.  
O come before the Lord.  
And play for him on glad tambourines,  
and let your trumpet sound.
2. Rise, O children, from your sleep.  
your Saviour now has come.  
he has turned your sorrow to joy,  
and filled your soul with song.
3. Glad my soul for I have seen the glory of the Lord.  
The trumpet sounds: the dead shall be raised,  
I know my Saviour lives.

**Prayer after Communion**

**Solo**      **Psalm39**      **Brian Forester**

**Final Commendation**

*The coffin is sprinkled with holy water and incensed*

## Song of Farewell *(Melody of Amazing Grace)*

Come to Joan's aid, O Saints of God! O Angels meet her now.  
Receive her spirit, present her now to God, the Lord Most High.

May God who called you, take you home, to rest and live in peace.  
Receive her spirit, present her now to God, the Lord Most High.

Give Joan eternal rest, O God, may she have endless light.  
Receive her spirit, present her now, to God, the Lord Most High.

## Final Song

### How Great Thou Art

© Stuart K Hine

1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder.  
Consider all the works Thy hands have made.  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

*Refrain* Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee.  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee.  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

2. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin. R
3. When Christ shall come with shouts 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! R

## Psalm 139: Prayer of Trust

© Michael Herry

*You know the way for me; you know the time.  
Into your hands I trustingly place mine.  
Your plan is perfect, born of perfect love.  
You know the way, Your way is love.*



## Prayer to Mary MacKillop

*Ever generous God, you inspired Saint Mary MacKillop,  
to live your mission of bringing hope and encouragement  
to the marginalised, disheartened, lonely, sick and needy.  
With confidence in your generous Providence and praying with  
Saint Mary MacKillop we trust in your loving care of us.  
We ask that our faith and hope be fired anew by your Holy Spirit,  
so that like Mary MacKillop, we may act more justly,  
love more tenderly, and walk humbly with God.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

You are very welcome to gather, after Mass today, in Bethany  
(which is the building just behind the Chapel) for refreshments, fellowship,  
to share stories and to celebrate some time together in Joan's honour.



**FRANK J SIEBERT**  
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*RITE OF COMMITTAL*  
*Joan Evans*

Sister Joan Evans answered your call many times; as a loving member of her family and in her life as a Sister of Saint Joseph. Now, after living in faith and joy, she has answered your final call to her. We pray that Joan will live on in the minds and hearts of her family, Josephite family and friends. With reverence we entrust the body of our sister, Joan Evans, to be buried in the company of the many Sisters of Saint Joseph who have gone before her.

*Sign of the Cross*

May God's love and mercy free Joan from the power of death and bring her to the fullness of life in heaven.

May she be united forever with her God whom she loved and served with her whole heart.

We pray with confidence that God, in whose sight all creation lives, will raise up the body of our sister, Joan.

May she be numbered among the blessed.

May she rejoice forever in the presence of her Creator.



## Scripture Reading:

### Psalm 91

You have sent your angels to watch over me,  
to guide me in all my ways.  
On their hands, they will bear me up  
lest I stumble and fall.

### Micah 6:8

This is what God asks of you:  
Only this, to act justly, to love tenderly  
And to walk humbly with your God.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

## Committal

Through Christ Jesus we commend Joan to God, and now with love and reverence we commit the body of our sister to her final resting place on earth under the watchful care and love of God.

Mothering earth, receive Joan's mortal body, formed by the hand of God and now returning to your embrace. Receive her now as your own.

Joan, we let you go now, into the soil from which all life springs, into the earth that has nurtured you throughout life;

Into communion with the sunshine of the world, into the waters and rains of life; into at-oneness with the winds and the air, into the stars and stardust of our beginnings;

Into the One in whom you have lived and moved and had your being, into the heart of the mystery and beauty of our God.

## *We pray together*

God of our life, you invited Joan to walk the journey of life among your people. We thank you for the gift she has been to us and for calling her now into your loving embrace to be in the company of Saint Joseph, Saint Mary MacKillop, Julian Tenison Woods, all the Josephite Sisters who have gone before her, her parents George and Violet. May God's face shine on our sister, Joan, as she is welcomed into Heaven to be with her Creator. Eternal rest grant to Joan, and let perpetual light shine upon her. *May Sister Joan Evans rest in peace. Amen*

We now commission Siebert Funerals to take Sr Joan Evans to her final resting place at St Joseph's Cemetery, Mitcham

*All:* Eternal rest You gift to Joan, O God, and let perpetual light shine within her. Now she rests in peace.



### *Leaving it in our hands*

This painting commemorates the handing over of leadership by the Sisters of Saint Joseph SA, after 141 years of continuous Principalship at Caritas College, Pt Augusta.

*Sr Joan Evans, Principal*  
1.4.1985 - 30.4.1995





