

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF



Jean Mary Belford

10 AUGUST 2025 – 15 AUGUST 2025

ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, YASS
TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2025, AT 11.30AM
FR DAMIAN STYLES OFFICIATING



ENTRANCE HYMN – *Hail Mary, Gentle Woman*

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Fr Damian: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And with your spirit.**

EULOGY: *Erin-Louise Mary Belford*

OPENING PRAYER

Fr Damian: Lord, in our grief we turn to you. Are you not the God of love always ready to hear our cries? Listen to our prayers for your servant Jean whom you have called out of this world: lead her to your kingdom of light and peace and count her among the saints in glory.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

All **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Jarrod Roesler

A Reading from the Book of Lamentations (3:17-26)

I have been deprived of peace; I have forgotten what prosperity is. So I say, "My splendour is gone and all that I had hoped from the Lord."

I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 23

Read by Belle Trevaskis

Response: *The Lord Is My Shepherd; there Is Nothing I Shall Want.*

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. **Response**

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. **Response**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. **Response**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. **Response**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

May the love of God give us comfort always.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

A reading from the holy gospel from according to Matthew.

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father; And no one knows the Son except the Father, And no one knows the Father except the Son And anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; For I am gentle and humble in heart, And you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY – FR DAMIAN

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Read by Lara Belford

We pray for our Jean, who has been called to God's loving embrace, that she may know perfect peace and joy in God's eternal kingdom.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Christopher, Erin-Louise and Belle that the Holy Spirit helps them find hope in their grief.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Jean's extended family, especially her grandparents, may they be given peace and find comfort in the memories they have of her.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who care for the sick and dying especially those working with Neonatal Intensive Care patients and families struggling with HDFN, may God grant them strength to continue their work.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who have died especially Jean's Fafa Tony. May all Jean's deceased family enjoy eternal life in heaven with her.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Fr Damian: Lord God, giver of peace and healer of souls, hear the prayers of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the voices of your people, whose lives were purchased by the Blood of the Lamb. Forgive the sins of all who sleep in Christ and grant them a place in the kingdom. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The liturgy of the eucharist now continues as normal.

OFFERTORY

The gifts are brought forward by Leah, Jesse and Teddy Hagerty, Joseph and Ada Davis (Jean and Belle's cousins).

OFFERTORY SONG – *The Unclouded Day*

COMMUNION SONG – *O Come to the Altar*

Prayer after Communion

Fr Damian: Lord God, may the death and resurrection of Christ which we celebrate in this eucharist, bring Jean, the peace of your eternal home. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

REFLECTION SONG – *Bigger than the Whole Sky*

FINAL COMMENDATION

Fr Damian: Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of Jean. May our farewell express our affection for her; may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet her again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

The coffin is incensed in memory of the fact that in life the body was the temple of the Holy Spirit.

SONG OF FAREWELL

Fr Damian: Saints of God, come to her aid! Hasten to meet her angels of the Lord.

All: **Receive her soul and present her to God, the Most High.**

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

All: **Receive her soul and present her to God, the Most High.**

Fr Damian: Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

All: **Receive her soul and present her to God, the Most High.**

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

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 Jean forever.

All: **Amen**

RECESSIONAL SONG – *Won't Stop Loving You*

*Chris and Jarrod, followed by Erin and Belle
may now come forward and escort Jean from the Church*



*The service will continue at the
Yass Lawn Cemetery.*



Thank You

The Belford family wish to sincerely thank you for your presence here today, and for your prayers, love and support.



**FOLLOWING THE BURIAL AT YASS LAWN CEMETERY,
YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN THE FAMILY FOR REFRESHMENTS
AT THE YASS SOLDIERS CLUB.**