

*A Catholic Service Celebrating the Life
and Entrance into Eternal Life of*

*David William James
Sneddon*

18th July 1956 ~ 8th October 2025



*Xavier College Memorial Chapel
27th October 2025*

Church
Xavier College Memorial Chapel
135 Barkers Road, Kew

Celebrant
Fr Chris Gleeson

Pall Bearers
Nicholas Sneddon
Daniel Sneddon
Michael Sneddon
Mark Butler
David O'Sullivan
Dominic O'Sullivan

Singer
Georgina Docherty

Pianist
John McAll

Opening 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.*

WELCOME & RECEPTION RITE

Celebrant The grace and peace of God our Father, who raised Jesus from the dead, be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant In the waters of Baptism, David died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May Christ now share with him eternal life.

All **Amen.**

SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER

Celebrant I bless the body of David with the holy water that recalls his baptism of which St Paul writes:
All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. In the waters of Baptism he died with Christ and rose with him to new life.

LIGHTING OF THE PASCAL CANDLE *Patrick O'Sullivan*

Celebrant At his baptism, David received the light of Christ to be kept burning throughout his life. Enlightened by Christ, he walked as a child of the light, keeping the flame of faith alive in his heart.

All **May he now enjoy the risen life with his risen Lord.**

PLACING OF THE PALL *Siobhan Butler and Georgia Sneddon*

Celebrant On the day of his baptism David was clothed in Christ and given Christian dignity forever.

All **May Christ now enfold him in his love and bring him into eternal life.**

Celebrant David was a man of faith and prayer.

All **May Christ now greet him with these words of eternal life: "Come blessed of my Father".**

Hymn *As Gentle As Silence*

*Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence
of all that I love here on earth.
All the beauty I see he has given to me,
and his giving is gentle as silence.*

*Every day, every hour, every moment,
have been blessed by the strength of his love.
At the turn of each tide, he is there at my side,
and his touch is as gentle as silence.*

*There've been times when I've turned from his presence
and I've walked other paths, other ways.
But I've called on his name in the dark of my shame,
and his mercy was gentle as silence.*

OPENING PRAYER

Celebrant Dear Lord, You gave us the gift of Your son David to inspire us to live life to the full, and not to draw back in the face of challenge and difficulty. In the midst of our sadness for our beloved David, may we be also reminded of the great joy that he brought into our lives through his tireless love.

May all the family take enduring consolation in the grace he

was for every one of us, and the memories he has left us as his legacy. We pray that death will not steal his special grace from our lives. This is our prayer and we make it through Christ who is our and David's Risen Lord and who lives and reigns now and forever and ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Ecclesiastes 3:1-2*

Anne Butler Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses.

He sets the time for birth and the time for death,
the time for planting and the time for pulling up,
the time for killing and the time for healing,
the time for tearing down and the time for building,
He sets the time for sorrow and the time for joy,
the time for mourning and the time for dancing,
the time for making love and the time for not making love,
the time for kissing and the time for not kissing.
He sets the time for finding and the time for losing,
the time for tearing and the time for mending,
the time for silence and the time for talk.
He sets the time to love and the time to hate,
the time for war and the time for peace.

What do we gain from all our work? I know the heavy burdens that God has laid on us. He has set the right time for everything. He has given us a desire to know the future, but never gives us the satisfaction of fully understanding what he does.

So I realise that all we can do is to be happy and do the best we can while we are alive

This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 23)

Response **The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.**

Michael Sneddon The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.
Response.

Michael Sneddon He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **Response.**

Michael Sneddon You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.
Response.

Michael Sneddon Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days
of my life. In the Lord's house shall I dwell for ever and ever.
Response.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Catherine O'Sullivan Love is patient and kind, it is not jealous or conceited or proud,
love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep
a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with
the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope and patience
will never fail.

Love is eternal. There are inspired messages, but they are
temporary; there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues, but
they will cease; there is knowledge, but it will pass. For our gifts
of knowledge and of inspired messages are only partial; but
when what is perfect comes, then what is partial will disappear.

When I was a child, my speech, feelings and thinking were all
those of a child; now that I am a man, I have no more use for
childish ways. What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror;
then we shall see face-to-face. What I know now is only partial;
then it will be complete - as complete as God's knowledge of me.

Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the
greatest of these is love.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All Alleluia, Alleluia!
May he support us all the day long, till the shades lengthen
and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed
and the fever of life is over and our work is done.

Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging and a holy rest. Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Celebrant 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.

All Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Danae Kopanidis We pray for David with love today. He was always so proud of
his family – Helen, Nicholas, Daniel and Claire. May they feel
his love around them and find comfort in the memories they
shared. Lord, hear us.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Bridget O'Sullivan We give thanks that David will be reunited in heaven with his
daughter Sophie. It gives some solace for Helen, Nicholas,
Daniel and Claire to know that they are reunited. Lord, hear us.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Laura Butler We pray for Helen and for Helen and David's children –
Nicholas, Daniel and Claire. May they find strength and comfort
in the love, support and care extended to them in this difficult
time. Lord, hear us.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Jodi Sneddon We pray for all of David's extended family – his brother, sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and father-in law. May they find strength in each other. Lord, hear us.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Tim Sneddon We pray for David whose commitment to his family, his work, his work colleagues and his athletics and running clubs and associations was second to none. David had an extraordinary work ethic and such a sharp intellect that we have all benefited from in some way. Lord, hear us.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Richard Manly We pray for all of David's friends. David was such a loyal friend, workmate, running companion and competitor. May all his friends support one another at this sad, tragic time. Lord, hear us.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

PHOTOGRAPHIC REFLECTION

Bridge Over Troubled Waters

THE LORD'S PRAYER

POEM *David's favourite poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling
Read by Claire Sneddon*

EULOGY *Daniel Sneddon and Nicholas Sneddon*

FINAL COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

Response Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High

Celebrant Saints of God, come to his aid!
Hasten to meet him, angels of the Lord! **Response**

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

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him. **Response**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Celebrant Into your hands, God of mercies, we commend our brother David in the sure hope that, with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with Christ Jesus on the last day.

We give thanks for the blessings you bestowed upon him: they are signs to us of your loving kindness.

Open the gates of paradise to David. May he live in joy for ever in your presence. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

God of compassion and tenderness, surround with love all those who mourn. Help us to comfort one another with assurance of faith, until we are reunited with all those who are dear to us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Final Hymn *On Eagle's Wings*

*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 eagle's wings;
bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to 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 his command
to guard you in all of your ways.
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. **Refrain***

Recessional Song: *Piano Man (David's favourite song)*

IF

BY RUDYARD KIPLING

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

Following this, we will proceed for the burial service at Springvale Botanical Cemetery, 600 Princes Hwy, Springvale VIC 3171.



Helen, Nicholas, Daniel and Claire wish to thank you for your prayers and expressions of sympathy and for your presence here today.

Please join us to share your memories at the Postmaster Hotel,
186 High Street, Kew from 2pm to 4pm this afternoon.