

Memorial Service for Aborted Children

*A candle-lit service held at night to reinforce John 1:5: “**The light shines in the darkness.**”*

Held on a Friday to remind us of Christ’s life which was laid down for us on a Friday.

7:30 pm
June 10, 2016
St. Patrick’s Parish, Maple Ridge, BC

Opening Remarks

Stephanie Gray

Opening Song: Come to the Water

Music is led by Jesse and Kathleen LeBlanc of A Guy and a Girl

O let all who thirst
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money, without price
Why should you pay the price
Except for the Lord?

And let all who seek
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money, without strife
Why should you spend your life
Except for the Lord?

And let all who toil
Let them come to the water
And let all who are weary
Let them come to the Lord
All who labor without rest
How can your soul find rest
Except for the Lord?

I will run to you, I will run to you
I will run to you my Lord

Opening Prayer

Fr. Matthew To

Song: Be Not Afraid

You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.

You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.

You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand.

You shall see the face of God and live.

Be not afraid.

I go before you always.

Come follow me, and

I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.

If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.

If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side, know that

I am with you through it all.

Scripture Reading

Fr. Matthew To

Song: Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;

Leave to your God to order and provide;

In every change he faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul; your best, your heavenly Friend

Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and wind still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul; the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Homily

Fr. Matthew To

Song: Death Be Not Proud

Death, be not proud, though the whole world fear you:
Mighty and dreadful you may seem,
But death, be not proud, for your pride has failed you
You will not kill me.
Though you may dwell in plague and poison,
You're a slave to fate and desperate men,
So death, if your sleep be the gates to Heaven,
Why your confidence?
When you will be no more,
You will be no more,
When you will be no more.
Even death will die.
Even death will die.

Death, be not proud.
Death, be not proud.
Death, be not proud,
Cause even death will die.

Testimony

Elizabeth Sutcliffe of Silent No More Awareness

Song: Nothing is Impossible

Nothing is impossible for You O God
No mountain high that can't be moved by You O God

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! I believe

There's none too dead that can't be raised by You O God
No prison cell where light can't reach for You O God

No I will not fear, no I will not fear
For my God in my dark You are near, You are near

Candle Lighting and Reflection Time

Stephanie Gray

Song: Beautiful Things

All this pain
I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life could really change at all
All this earth
Could all that is lost ever be found
Could a garden come up from this ground at all

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us

All around
Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life is being found in You

You make me new, You are making me new

Song: Lord I Need You

Lord, I come, I confess
Bowing here I find my rest
Without You I fall apart
You're the One that guides my heart

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are, Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay

Closing Remarks

Stephanie Gray

Final Song: How Great Thou Art

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:

Refrain:

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:

Refrain

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!"

Refrain

Reception

World Youth Day Attendees and their Families

Coffee, tea, and sweets are provided at St. Patrick's
Parish Centre, beside the school. All are welcome.

Notes

Prayer and counselling support:

If you wish to speak with someone following the service, and/or pray with someone, Stephen Ching (Canadian Certified Counselor), Sarah Ruggier (Registered Clinical Counselor), and Anna Loch (completing Masters in Counseling), will all be at the reception wearing name tags. Feel free to approach them to either talk there or move with them to the small chapel next to the reception room. Feel free to also approach Elizabeth Sutcliffe or Fr. Matthew To. Finally, if you wish to stay at the church

and pray, confession will be offered by Fr. Mark McGuckin in the confessional near the church entrance.

Local Opportunities for Post-Abortion Healing and Pro-Life Outreach:

- Rachel's Vineyard, Post-Abortion Retreat: rcav.org/rachels-vineyard/
- Hope for Women Post-Abortion Support: hopeforwomen.ca/had-an-abortion/
- LifeCanada: lifecollective.io/lifecanada
- Life Compass Society: lifecollective.io/meadow-ridge
- Love Unleashes Life: stephaniegray.info
- National Campus Life Network: ncln.ca
- Signal Hill: thesignalhill.com/
- United for Life BC: unitedforlifebc.ca/

Thank You

Thank you to all who helped make this memorial happen. In particular, thank you to Fr. Matthew To, Fr. Mark McGuckin, Margaret Jakus, Jesse and Kathleen LeBlanc, Christopher Loch, Elizabeth Sutcliffe, Stephen Ching, Sarah Ruggier, Anna Loch, Stephanie Gray, St. Patrick's World Youth Day attendees and their families, and any others we may have accidentally neglected to mention.

Feedback

We'd love to hear from you about your thoughts on this memorial service. Please send your feedback to sgray@stephaniegray.info. Thank you for coming!