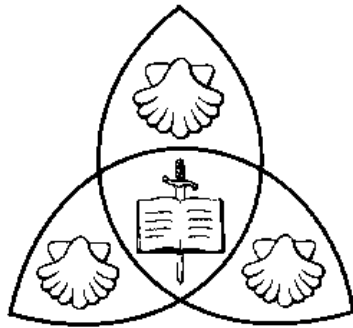


# THE PARISH OF BUSHEY



**At the time of a  
Funeral**



**Thank you** for asking us to assist with the arrangements for the funeral. It is a privilege for us to be sharing this time with you.

A funeral marks the close of a human life on earth. It is the opportunity for friends and family to celebrate the life of a loved one, to give thanks for the life which has now completed its journey in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. It is also an opportunity to hear words of reassurance reminding us that we remain in the hands of a loving God who will support us through our grief.

A funeral service in the Church of England - whether in a parish church or a crematorium chapel - may be very short and quiet with only a few members of the family present, or an occasion with music, hymns and a packed church.

Whatever the pattern of service, the words and actions all speak of a loving God and the preciousness to him of every human being.

The funeral service will reflect the personality of the one who has died and the circumstances of their death. Feelings of grief, gratitude, joy and sadness often intermingle.

Funeral services often raise profound questions about the meaning of life and death. Jesus himself believed in a life-giving God. Christians believe that Christ's resurrection is the triumph of good over evil and of life over death and has made eternal life available to us. The minister who is conducting the funeral will be pleased to discuss with you any questions you may have – before or at any time after the funeral.

## ***Familiar Hymns and Bible Readings for Funeral Services***

### **Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;**

the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:  
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's dark sting? where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;  
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

### **The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,**

the darkness falls at thy behest;  
to thee our morning hymns ascended,  
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy Church, unsleeping  
while earth rolls onward into light,  
through all the world her watch is keeping  
and rests not now by day nor night.

As o'er each continent and island  
the dawn leads on another day,  
the voice of prayer is never silent,  
nor dies the strain of praise away.

So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,  
like earth's proud empires, pass away;  
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,  
till all thy creatures own thy sway.

**The King of love my shepherd is,**  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love He sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.**  
he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
even for his own Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill;  
for thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff my comfort still.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me;  
and in God's house forevermore  
my dwelling place shall be.

**All things bright and beautiful,**  
*all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
he made their glowing colours,  
he made their tiny wings. *Refrain*

The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden,  
he made them every one. *Refrain*

He gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty,  
who has made all things well. *Refrain*

**Now thank we all our God,** with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son, and Holy Ghost, supreme in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

**I watch the sunrise lighting the sky,**

Casting its shadow near.

And in the morning bright though it be,

I feel those shadows near me.

*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 ...*

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 ...*

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....*

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;**

to his feet thy tribute bring.

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,

who like me his praise should sing?

Praise him! Praise him!

Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour

to our fathers in distress;

praise him still the same for ever,

slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Praise him! Praise him!

Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;

well our feeble frame he knows;

in his hands he gently bears us,

rescues us from all our foes.

Praise him! Praise him!

Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him;  
dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

**Love divine, all loves excelling,**  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temple leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy host above;  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*You may also like to select other hymns which are not suggested here.*

## Bible Readings

### *John 6.35-40*

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

### *John 11.17-27*

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

### *John 14.1-6*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'

### *Revelation 21.1-5*

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'



# After the funeral

People who have lost someone close to them are often so busy with practical details and arrangements between the death and the funeral that they do not experience the full sense of their loss until later. Grieving is a natural and important part of coming to terms with and healing this loss and it may continue for longer than you expect. As your local church we are there to help with support after a funeral. If you would like to speak to one of the clergy or ministers, please don't hesitate to contact one of us – you'll find our details at the end of this leaflet.

## Some things we offer

- We hold a **Service of Commemoration** on the first Sunday in November, when those whose funerals have taken place in the previous twelve months are remembered by name. You will receive details from us about this service and we hope you will want to attend.
- There is a **Memorial Book** in the Church and you can have the name of a loved one inscribed on the page which corresponds to the day they died, their birthday or some other significant date. If you would like to have more details please contact one of the people listed below.
- We have a **Garden of Remembrance** in the Churchyard at the south-east end of the Church. If you wish to have ashes interred here, and the name inscribed on the memorial wall, please speak to one of the people listed below.

# Some prayers to use

## ***Before the funeral***

We commend into your hands, O Lord,  
all those whom we have loved  
and especially today N.  
You gave them breath  
and loved them through their lives.  
Receive them now in your infinite tenderness,  
and give them peace. Amen.

Father of all,  
we pray to you for those we love,  
but see no longer.  
Grant them your peace,  
let light perpetual shine upon them,  
and in your loving wisdom and almighty power,  
work in them the good purpose of your perfect will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ***After the funeral***

Lord, do not abandon us in our desolation.  
Keep us safe in the midst of trouble,  
and complete your purpose for us  
through your steadfast love and faithfulness,  
in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

O God, who brought us to birth,  
and in whose arms we die,  
in our grief and shock  
contain and comfort us;  
embrace us with your love,  
give us hope in our confusion  
and grace to let go into new life;  
through Jesus Christ. Amen.

# Sunday Services

A warm welcome awaits you at any of our Sunday Services:

## **St. James's (High Street, WD23 1BD)**

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.30 am Sung Eucharist followed by coffee and croissants

## **Holy Trinity (Bushey Mill Lane, WD23 2AS)**

9.30 am Family Eucharist followed by refreshments

## **St. Paul's (Bushey Hall Road, WD23 2HJ)**

11.15 am Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments

### ***Our Ministry Team:***

Fr. Neil Kelley - 0208 950 1546

Fr. Graham Adamson – 0203 645 1037

Revd. Dave Poultney - 01923 805061

Revd. Mary Kingsley – 01923 771172

Revd. Verity Harvey – 01923 492863

### ***Bereavement counselling:***

The Peace Hospice offers bereavement support, free of charge, for any bereaved person in South West Hertfordshire. You can contact this service by email: [bereavement@peacehospice.org.uk](mailto:bereavement@peacehospice.org.uk) ; or by telephone: 01923 229595. You might like to visit their website for more information: [www.peacehospice.co.uk](http://www.peacehospice.co.uk)

### ***Enquiries about our Garden of Remembrance, our Memorial Book and other information:***

Parish Office: 020 8421 8192 [office@busheyparish.org](mailto:office@busheyparish.org)

Website: [www.busheyparish.org](http://www.busheyparish.org)