

Very Rev Isidore Anantharaj EV



Born 2nd February, 1951
Entered Eternal Life 20th January, 2021

Mater Dei Catholic Church
Blakehurst
1st February, 2021

Holy Mass of Christian Burial

For the Repose of the Soul of Fr. Isidore Anatharaj EV

ORDER OF MASS

Entrance Hymn: Have Thine Own Way Lord

Have Thine own way, Lord,
Have Thine own way;
Thou art the Potter,
I am the clay.
Mould me and make me
After Thy will,
While I am waiting,
Yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord,
Have Thine own way;
Search me and try me,
Master, today.
Whiter than snow, Lord,
Wash me just now,
As in Thy presence
Humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord,
Have Thine own way;
Wounded and weary,
Help me, I pray.
Power, all power,
Surely is Thine,
Touch me and heal me,
Saviour divine.

Have Thine own way, Lord,
Have Thine own way;
Hold o'er my being
Absolute sway.
Fill with Thy Spirit
Till all shall see
Christ only, always,
Living in me.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Peace be with you.
And with your spirit.

Sprinkling with Holy Water

In the waters of baptism
Isidore Anatharaj died with Christ and rose with him to new life.
May he now share with him eternal glory.

Placing of Christian Symbols

The first symbol of the Good Shepherd will be placed on the coffin by Penny O'Reilly.
This image of the Good Shepherd was carried around by Fr. Isidore from the time he entered the seminary at the age of 18 through his journey to Seychelles and Australia. Even during his illness he would hold this image close to his heart and sleep.

The second symbol is the stole and chalice placed on the coffin by Robin McCabe.

The third symbol is our Lady of Perpetual Help placed on the coffin by a representative of the parish community, Dr Norman Yenson.

Collect

Let us pray.
Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that the soul of Fr. Isidore Anatharaj, your servant and Priest,
whom you honoured with sacred office
while he lived in this world,
may exult for ever in the glorious home of heaven.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Job 19:1,23-27

(Robyn McCabe)

A reading from the book of Job

Job said:

'Ah, would that these words of mine were written down,
inscribed on some monument
with iron chisel and engraving tool,
cut into the rock for ever.
This I know; that my Avenger lives,
and he, the Last, will take his stand on earth.
After my awaking, he will set me close to him,
and from my flesh I shall look on God.
He whom I shall see will take my part:
these eyes will gaze on him and find him not aloof.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 22

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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. *R.*

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. *R.*

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

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. *R.*

Second Reading – 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

(Kylie Cullen)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel – John 14:1-6

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you O Lord!

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 now going 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.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

The Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP

General Intercessions

Archbishop:

God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save all his people, living and dead:

Read in Dinka by the South Sudanese community

For Fr Isidore, brother, uncle, priest and great friend.

We thank God for his life, self-giving, gentleness and fidelity and we ask God to scatter the darkness and lead him over the waters of death.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

Read in Samoan

For Fr Isidore's family especially Angelina, Samantha, Ben, Penny and Peter. We also pray for his two brothers in India, Raja and Kishore and their families. May God give them comfort and peace.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

Read in Indonesian

For the many people touched by the life and ministry of Fr. Isidore, especially those in the Diocese of Victoria, Seychelles, the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore where he was ordained and the Archdiocese of Sydney. May we remember him by continuing the work of Jesus, who was missionary to all.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

Read in Arabic by the Syriac Catholic community

For the parishioners of Mater Dei and South Hurstville and for all the children here at Mater Dei school. May they be inspired by the life of their pastor and find hope in Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

Read in Spanish

For all who shared Fr Isidore's ministry in the Immigration office over many years. May they be consoled, strengthened and empowered as they continue their work with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

Read in German

For members of our families who have died before us. We also pray for members of this parish community and the clergy in the Archdiocese of Sydney who have recently died. May they meet the mercy of God and enter into his Kingdom.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

Archbishop:

God of our salvation, you reward the just and console those who mourn. Hear our prayers in the name of your risen Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to prayer

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),
that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

*May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good
and the good of all his holy Church.*

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that through these holy mysteries
Isidore Anantharaj, your servant and Priest,
may behold with clarity for ever
what he faithfully ministered here.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

The Archbishop prays the Preface for the Dead and then all say the following:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer

Memorial Acclamation

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

Doxology

Through Him and with Him and in Him, O God almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honour is yours forever and ever.

Amen

Please stand

The Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

***For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.***

Sign of Peace

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.
Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

Please kneel.

Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Hymn: 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.

**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!**

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 see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

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!

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on a Cross, my burdens gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

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!

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 then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

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!

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.
Having received the Sacrament of salvation,
we implore your kindness, O God,
for Isidore Anantharaj, your servant and Priest,
that, as you made him a steward of your mysteries on earth,
so you may bring him to be nourished
by their truth and reality as unveiled in heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE FINAL COMMENDATION

Words of Remembrance: Angelina Coelho

Invitation to Prayer

With faith in Jesus Christ, we must reverently bury the body of our brother Isidore.
Let us pray with confidence to God, in whose sight all creation lives, that he will raise up in holiness and power the mortal body of our brother and command his soul to be numbered among the blessed.
May God grant him a merciful judgment, deliverance from death, and pardon of sin. May Christ the Good Shepherd carry him home to be at peace with the Father. May he rejoice for ever in the presence of the eternal King and in the company of all the saints.

All pray in silence.

Signs of Farewell – Sprinkling with Holy Water and Incensing of the Coffin

Song of Farewell

Saints of God, come to his aid!
Hasten to meet him, angels of the Lord!
Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.
May Christ, who called you, take you to himself;
may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.
Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.
Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Prayer of Commendation

Into your hands, Father of mercies,
we commend our brother priest Isidore Anantharaj
in the sure and certain hope
that, together with all who have died in Christ,
he will rise with him on the last day.

We give you thanks for the blessings
which you bestowed upon Fr Isidore in this life:
they are signs to us of your goodness
and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.

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 brother for ever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PROCESSION TO THE PLACE OF COMMITTAL

Procession to the Place of Committal

In peace let us take our brother to his place of rest.

Recessional Hymn: We Stand For God

We stand for God and for His glory
The Lord Supreme and God of all.
Against his foes, we raise His standard,
Around His cross, we hear His call.
Strengthen our faith, Redeemer,
Guard us when danger is neigh
To Thee we pledge our lives and service,
Strong in a trust that ne'er shall die.
To Thee we pledge our lives and service
Strong in a trust that ne'er shall die.

