

Mass of Christian Burial

Reverend Richard M. Gantert



"...act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

Born: April 28, 1949

Ordained a Priest: May 24, 1975

Born to eternal life: April 19, 2006

April 25, 2006

11:00 a.m.

St. Paul the Apostle Church

Memphis, Tennessee

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Greeting

Sprinkling with Holy Water

Placing of the Pall

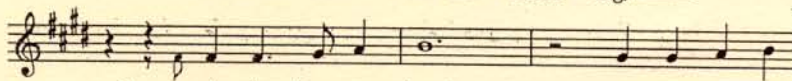
Processional Hymn

"City of God," Daniel L. Schutte

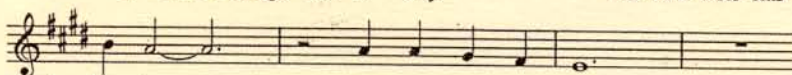
VERSES 1, 2



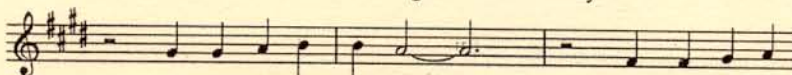
1. A - wake from your slum - ber!____
2. We are sons of the morn - ing;____



1. A - rise from your sleep! A new day is
2. we are daugh--ters of day. The One who has



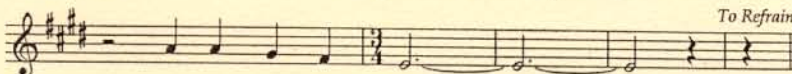
1. dawn-ing____ for all those who weep.
2. loved us____ has bright-ened our way.



1. The peo-ple in dark-ness____ have seen a great
2. The Lord of all kind-ness____ has called us to



1. light. The Lord of our long - ing____
2. be a light for his peo - ple____



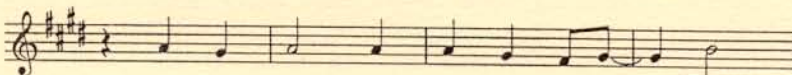
1. has con-quer-ed the night.____
2. to set their hearts free.____

To Refrain

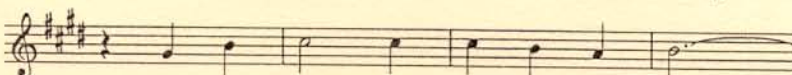
REFRAIN



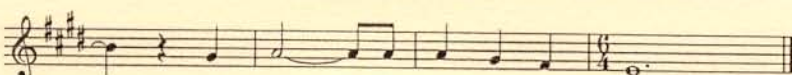
Let us build the cit - y____ of God.



May our tears be turned in - to danc - ing!



For the Lord, our light and our love,____



____ has turned____ the night in - to day!

VERSE 3

3. God _____ is light; _____ in him there is no
 3. dark-ness. Let us walk _____ in his light, _____ his
 3. chil - dren, one and all. _____
 3. O com-fort my peo-ple; _____ make gen-tle_ your
 3. words. Pro-claim to my cit-y _____
To Refrain
 3. the day of her birth. _____

VERSE 4

4. O cit-y_ of glad-ness, _____ now lift up your
 4. voice! Pro-claim the good tid - ings _____
To Refrain
 4. that all may re - joice! _____

City of God

Text: Based on Isaiah 9, 1 John 1; Dan Schutte. Music: Dan Schutte. Text & Music © 1981, Daniel L. Schutte & New Dawn Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission. License #RN3054414.1

Placing of Christian Symbols

Opening Prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Response

Response: Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's just something about that name!
 Master, Savior, Jesus! Like the fragrance after the rain:
 Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all heaven and earth proclaim: Kings and kingdoms
 will all pass away, but there's something about that name!

Gospel Acclamation

“Melchizedek Alleluia,” Roger Smith

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

1. Sing His mes - sage loud and clear: Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Je - sus is the Lord of life: Al - le - lu - ia!

1. Je - sus Christ our Lord is near: Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Ris - ing ov - er death and strife: Al - le - lu - ia!

Melchizedek Alleluia
 Roger Smith, © 1975, North American Liturgy Resources. Administered by New Dawn Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission. License # RN3054414.1

Gospel

Luke 9:28b-36

Homily

General Intercessions

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

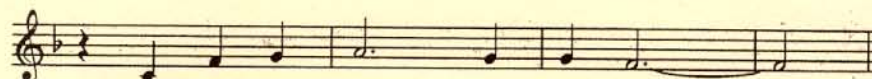
Preparation of the Gifts and Altar

“How Can I Keep from Singing,” Robert Lowry

1. My life flows on in end - less song;
 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife,
 3. What though the tem - pest 'round me roar,

1. A - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion,
 2. I hear the mu - sic ring - ing,
 3. I hear the truth, it liv - eth;

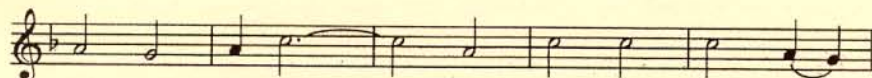
1. I hear the real though far - off hymn
 2. It sounds and ech - oes in my soul;
 3. What though the dark - ness 'round me close,



1. That hails a new cre - a - tion. _____
2. How can I keep from sing - ing? _____
3. Songs in the night it giv - eth. _____



No storm can shake my in-most calm While to that



rock I'm cling-ing. Since love is Lord of



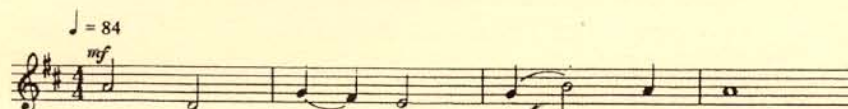
heav-en and earth, How can I keep from sing-ing?

How Can I Keep From Singing

Text: 87 87 with refrain; anon. in Bright Jewels for the Sunday School, 2869, adapt. by Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, alt.

Music: ENDLESS SONG, Quaker Hymn.

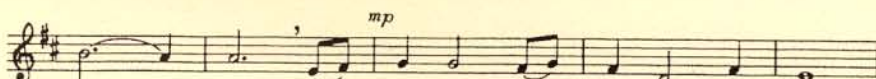
Holy, Holy, Holy



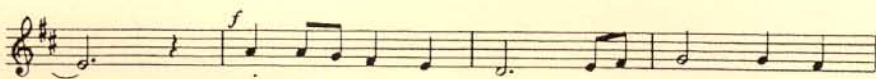
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,



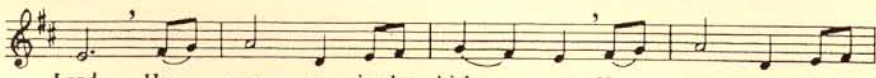
God of pow'r and might. Hea - ven and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, on high.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na on high.

Holy

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Memorial Acclamation

"We Remember," Marty Haugen

REFRAIN

We re-mem-ber how you loved us to your death,
and still we cel-e-brate, for you are with us here;
And we be-lieve that we will see you when you come
in your glo-ry, Lord. We re-mem-ber, we
cel-e-brate, we be-lieve.

We remember

Text & Music: Marty Haugen, © 1980, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under
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Concluding Acclamation

"Amen"

3. A - men, al - le - lu - ia, for -
ev - er and - ev - er, for - ev - er, al - le - lu - ia, for -
ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Amen

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COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God

“Lamb of God Litany”

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. *{Choir verse}*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. *{Choir verse}*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. *{Choir verse}*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. *{Choir verse}*

{Final verse}

Lamb of God, you lay down your life for the world: O grant us, O grant us, your peace.

Communion

“Love Was When,” Don Wyrzten & John E. Walvoord

“When the Sun is Still Shinin’,” Randi Gantert Kelly

Composer, Randi Kelly, is the niece of Father Rick

“Galilee Song,”

Deep within my heart I feel— voices whispering to me...
words that I can't understand.. meanings I must clearly hear.
Calling me to follow close....lest I leave myself behind.
Calling me to walk into....evening shadows one more time.

REFRAIN

***So I leave my boats behind. Leave them on familiar shores.
Set my heart upon the deep. Follow You again, my Lord.***

In my memories I know...how You send familiar rains;
falling gently on my days....dancing patterns on my pain.
And I need to learn once more...in the fortress of my mind:
to believe in falling rain....as I travel deserts dry!

REFRAIN

As I gaze into the night.....down the future of my years,
I'm not sure I want to walk....past horizons that I know!
But I feel my spirit called....like a stirring deep within..
Restless 'till I live again....beyond the fears that close me in.

REFRAIN

Galilee Song

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Communion Meditation

“Spread Out Your Wings,” Larry Hodges

Prayer after Communion

FINAL COMMENDATION

Invitation to Prayer

Song of Farewell

"In Paradisum," Adapt. by Steve Schaubel
Tune of "Danny Boy," Irish melody

May choirs of angels lead you into paradise, and may the martyrs come to welcome you
To bring you home into the holy city, so you may dwell in new Jerusalem.
May holy angels be there at your welcoming, with all the saints who go before you there,
That you may know the peace and joy of paradise; that you may enter into everlasting rest.

Prayer of Commendation

Procession to the Place of Committal

Recessional Song

"And the Father Will Dance,"

REFRAIN
Vigorously



And the Fa-ther will dance as on a day of joy.-



He will ex - ult o-ver you - and re -

1. 2. (to Verses)



new you by His love. love.

Last time Fine



love. He will re - new you by His love!_

VERSE 1



Shout for joy, all you, His peo - ple.



Sing a - loud and ex - ult with all your

(to Refrain)



heart, for - Yah-weh, your God is in your midst.

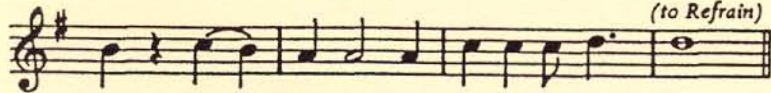
VERSE 2



You have no more e - vil to fear. You have



no more e - vil to fear. Do not let your hands fall



limp, for — Yah-weh, your God is in your midst. (to Refrain)

VERSE 3



And when the time comes I will res - cue the



lame, and when the time comes I will gath-er the



strays, and when the time comes I will be your



guide. I will gath-er you in and



give you re - nown a - mong all peo - ples. (to Refrain)

Ministers of the Liturgy

Presiding Celebrant	The Most Rev. J. Terry Steib, S.V.D., D.D. Bishop of Memphis in Tennessee
Homilist	Rev. John B. McArthur Pastor, St. Louis Catholic Church
Concelebrating Priests	Rev. Msgr. Peter Buchignani, V.G. Vicar General, Diocese of Memphis Rev. Robert D. Ponticello, E.V. Episcopal Vicar, Diocese of Memphis Rev. Richard Cortese Associate Pastor, St. Paul the Apostle Rev. Delfin "Dennis" Manzano, Jr. Associate Pastor, St. Paul the Apostle Priests of the Diocese of Memphis
Master of Ceremonies	Rev. J. Keith Stewart Director of Vocations, Diocese of Memphis
Deacons	Rev. Mr. Bill Herbers Rev. Mr. James P. Schmall
Lectors	Andy Burns Chris Micallef
Gift Bearers	Emma Covello, Katie Covello, Kristi Fulmer, Lyndsey Gantert, Jennifer Janssen, Randi Gantert Kelly, Jessica Riden
Ministers of Music	St. Paul Church Combined Choir; The Formal Choir, Contemporary Choir, and Schola Choir Cathy Weirich, Director Carolyn Magnini, Organist/Pianist Melvin Brooks, Larry Hodges & Cathy Weirich, Della Lambert, Soloists

Liturgy & Music Preparation

Cathy Weirich
Administrative Assistant, St. Paul the Apostle

Program

Mary Jo Hoffsommer & Brian O'Donnell, St. Louis Church

Rev. Richard M. Gantert

Father Rick Gantert lived and loved and laughed with a unique sense of wonder, a keen respect for reality, and an honest appreciation for the unique beauty and potential in every person and every situation. He died Wednesday April 19 at Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore. With the support of his devoted family, friends and doctors, Father Rick struggled bravely with leukemia for the past two years. He has touched the hearts of countless people and will be forever a part of our lives.

Born in Minneapolis on April 28, 1949, the son of the late Tom and Bee Gantert, Father Rick's family moved to Memphis during his childhood. He attended St. Therese the Little Flower School in Memphis, and was a graduate of Catholic High in 1967. Father Rick attended St. Ambrose College in Davenport, Iowa graduating in 1971. In September of the same year, he entered Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, and was ordained a priest on May 24, 1975 at St. Therese the Little Flower Church. Father Rick served as Associate Pastor at the Cathedral, then St. Louis Church and later at Holy Spirit Church. He served as pastor of St. Mary Church in Camden, TN from 1981-1987. . . pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Memphis from 1987-2000. . . and was made pastor of St. Paul Church, Memphis in 2000.

Father Rick also served in several Diocesan roles. He did prison ministry for a number of years, was the Secretary of Catholic Schools for the Diocese, served on the Presbyteral Council, the Diocesan Finance Council and was a member of the College of Consultors. He was also a member of the Tennessee Public Policy Commission, the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Tennessee.

Father Rick marveled at the beauty of scripture, the Baptism of a new baby niece, the abundance of an early morning market in Jerusalem, a perfect putt at the 18th hole, a nephew's burst of insight, a Grizzlies game. He had the highest hopes for those Tigers! He brought humor and joy to each of our lives while holding us to the highest expectations. He listened to our needs and our hearts. He encouraged us to become the change we hoped to see in the world while reminding us that God does not expect us to be perfect.

Most Reverend J. Terry Steib, SVD, Bishop of the Memphis Diocese said of Father Rick Gantert: "I've known Father Gantert since I first arrived in Memphis. He was a thoughtful, caring priest. He was also a friend and I will miss his wise counsel and straight forward awareness of the people around him to whom he ministered. Rick was a friend of the poor and a careful advocate for justice. He recognized his illness for what it was and fought it valiantly. But there is consolation for his fellow priests and me in knowing that God has called him home at this Easter season. As St. Paul puts it: 'In life and in death we are the Lord's.' I extend my sympathy and prayers to Father Gantert's family, and to the faith community at St. Paul Church in Whitehaven."

Father Rick is survived by his six sisters and brother: Mary Micallef and Charlie Campbell of Bitburg, her three sons and five grandchildren; Cathy Hughes of Franklin, TN, her husband Bob, their three children and two grandchildren; Barbara Covello of Pleasantville, NY, her three children; Stephanie Sisk of Southaven, MS, her husband Harold, their four children and six grandchildren; Laurie Meddings of Bozeman, MT, her husband Greg and their son; Terry Gantert of Southaven, MS, and her daughter; and Tom Gantert of Charlotte, NC, his wife Maggie and their two children, and Father Rick's aunts, uncles and cousins.

Rick studied Christ's words and walked in His footsteps. He comforted, counseled and cared for each of us in His name. Imagine the conversations they're having right now! Long ago Rick began his journey to Christ, and he's left each of us with a higher, clearer and steadier path to follow—and a good personal friend along the way.

“A Thought on Dying”

I am standing upon the seashore.

A ship at my side spreads his white sails to the morning breeze
and starts for the blue ocean.

He is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch him until at length
he hangs like a speck of white cloud
just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says: “There, he is gone!”

“Gone where?”

Gone from my sight. That is all.

He is just as large in mast and hull and spar as he was when he left my side
and he is just as able to bear his load of living freight to his destined port.

His diminished size is in me, not in him.

And just at the moment when someone at my side says: “There, he is gone!”

There are other eyes watching him coming,

and other voices ready to take up the glad shout: “Here he comes!”

And that is dying.

Henry Van Dyke