

**The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin,
Horsham**

**Monday, 3rd August 2015
11 am**



Funeral Eucharist



**The Reverend Christopher Loveless
1961-2015**

There will be a retiring collection in aid of
'The Mission and Ministry of St. Margaret's Warnham'
and 'Street Child of Sierra Leone.'
Cheques may also be sent via Freeman Brothers, Horsham
payable to 'Warnham PCC' and 'SCOSL.'

Following the Funeral Mass
Christopher will be taken to St. Margaret's, Warnham,
where people are welcome to pray and reflect.
At 3pm there will be
a service of memories and commendation
followed by burial.
Following this there will be a reception at Warnham Village
Hall, to which all welcome.

Receiving of the Coffin

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'
John 11.25, 26

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8.38, 39

Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.
1 Thessalonians 4.14, 17b, 18

The Bishop says

We receive the body of our brother Christopher
with confidence in God, the giver of life,
who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead.

The coffin is sprinkled with Holy Water as the Bishop says

With this water we call to mind Christopher's baptism.
As Christ went through the deep waters of death for us,
so may he bring us to the fullness of resurrection life
with Christopher and all the redeemed.

Let us pray.

God of all consolation,
your Son Jesus Christ was moved to tears
at the grave of Lazarus his friend.
Look with compassion on your children in their loss;
give to troubled hearts the light of hope,
and strengthen in us the gift of faith,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Come down, O Love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing:
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

tune: tune: Down Ampney

*words: Italian, Bianco da Siena d.1434
translated. R. F. Littledale 1833-90*

The Bishop says:

+ In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Peace be with you
and also with you.

Final Hymn

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That thou, My God, should'st die for me?

'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds enquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above –
So free, so infinite his grace –
Emptied himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray –
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light,
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee,

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

tune: Sagina

words: Charles Wesley 1707-88

Prayer after Communion

The Bishop says:

God of mercy, we who have received the sacrament of salvation pray for Christopher your servant and priest. You made him a minister of your mysteries on earth. May he rejoice in the full knowledge of your truth in heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Commendation and Prayers of Farewell

The Bishop says:

Let us commend our brother Christopher to the mercy of God our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

The Bishop says:

Christopher, our companion in the faith and brother in Christ, we entrust you to God who created you.
May you return to the Most High who formed you from the dust of the earth.
May the angels and the saints come to meet you as you go forth from this life.
May Christ, who was crucified for you take you into his kingdom.
May Christ the Good Shepherd give you a place within his flock.
May Christ forgive you your sins + and keep you among his people.
May you see your Redeemer face to face and delight in the vision of God forever.
Amen.

The coffin is sprinkled with baptismal water and censed with fragrant incense.

Penitential Rite

The Bishop says:

As children of a loving heavenly Father, let us ask his forgiveness, for he is gentle and full of compassion.

Lord you raise the dead to new life in the spirit
Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

Lord you come to us with the good news of eternal life
Christ have mercy.
Christ have mercy.

Lord you bind up hearts that are broken with grief
Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

May God our Father forgive us our sins, and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom, where dust and ashes have no dominion. **Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Let us pray:

Lord, you gave Christopher your servant and priest the privilege of a holy ministry in this world. Grant, that he who lived with devoted service to your name on earth, may now rejoice forever in the glory of your heavenly kingdom. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Book of Psalms.

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

When shall I come and behold
the face of God?

My tears have been my food
day and night,

while people say to me continually,
'Where is your God?'

These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:

how I went with the throng,
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.

By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

**I bind unto myself today
The virtues of the starlit heaven
The glorious sun's life-giving ray,
The whiteness of the moon at even,
The flashing of the lightning free,
The whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
The stable earth, the deep salt sea,
Around the old eternal rocks.**

**I bind unto myself today
The power of God to hold and lead,
His eye to watch, his might to stay,
His ear to hearken, to my need;
The wisdom of my God to teach,
His hand to guide, his shield to ward;
The word of God to give me speech,
His heavenly host to be my guard.**

**Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.**

**I bind unto myself today
The strong Name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same,
The Three in One, and One in Three.
Of whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my salvation,
Salvation is of Christ the Lord.**

*tune: St. Patrick's Breastplate
translated. Mrs. C. F. Alexander (1818-95)*

words: ascribed to St. Patrick (c.372-461)

The Bishop says:

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,
happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord I am not worthy to receive you
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Please come forward to the Altar rail to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing, please bring this sheet with you.

Anthem

'The Lord is my Shepherd' adapted from the Opera 'Margaret of Antioch'
by Mark Browse and Christopher Loveless.

Communion Hymn

**I bind unto myself today
The strong Name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same,
The Three in One, and One in Three.**

**I bind this day to me for ever,
By power of faith, Christ's Incarnation;
His baptism in Jordan river;
His death on cross for my salvation;
His bursting from the spiced tomb;
His riding up the heavenly way;
His coming at the day of doom:
I bind unto myself today.**

**I bind unto myself the power
Of the great love of cherubim;
The sweet "Well done" in judgment hour;
The service of the seraphim;
Confessors' faith, apostles' word,
The patriarchs' prayers, the prophets' scrolls;
All good deeds done unto the Lord,
And purity of virgin souls.**

I say to God, my rock,
'Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?'
As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
'Where is your God?'

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

**Brother, sister, let me serve you;
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
And companions on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
Till we've seen this journey through.**

Psalm 42

**When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you;
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.**

tune: Servant Song

words: Richard Gillard b. 1953

Please stand

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Matthew 14. 13-21

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Margaret of Antioch and all the saints, may praise and glorify you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours almighty Father forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Bishop introduces the Lord's Prayer, and then all 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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Agnus Dei

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

And now we give you thanks because through him you have given us the hope of a glorious resurrection; so that although death comes to us all, yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life; for to your faithful people life is changed, not taken away; and when our mortal flesh is laid aside an everlasting dwelling place is made ready for us in heaven.

Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name for ever praising and saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. 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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Who in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them saying: Drink this all of you this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

Praise to you Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death.

Rising you restored our life;

Lord Jesus come in glory.

And so Father; calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

The Address

given by:

The Right Reverend Mark Sowerby,
Bishop of Horsham

Tributes may follow.

The Prayer of the Faithful

The Bishop introduces the prayers, saying:

In peace let us now pray to the Lord.

During the prayers, one of these responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us.

hear our prayer.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Bishop concludes the prayers, saying:

God of mercy,

entrusting into your hands all that you have made
and rejoicing in our communion

with all your faithful people,

we make our prayers through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Bishop says:

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

**Sing we of the blessed Mother
Who received the angel's word,
And obedient to his summons
Bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the joys of Mary
At whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
And the everlasting Bread.**

**Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
Of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
She his weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
Reigning high on Calvary's tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
Paid to set the sinner free.**

**Sing again the joys of Mary
When she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,
Waited on his promised word:
From on high the blazing glory
Of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Manifested through wind and flame.**

**Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
When on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
Brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May your Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.**

tune: Abbot's Leigh

words: George Timms 1910-1997

Prayer over the gifts

Lord, in your mercy may this sacrifice of praise, this offering of peace, bring our brother Christopher to the fullness of risen life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Bishop says:

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up you hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.