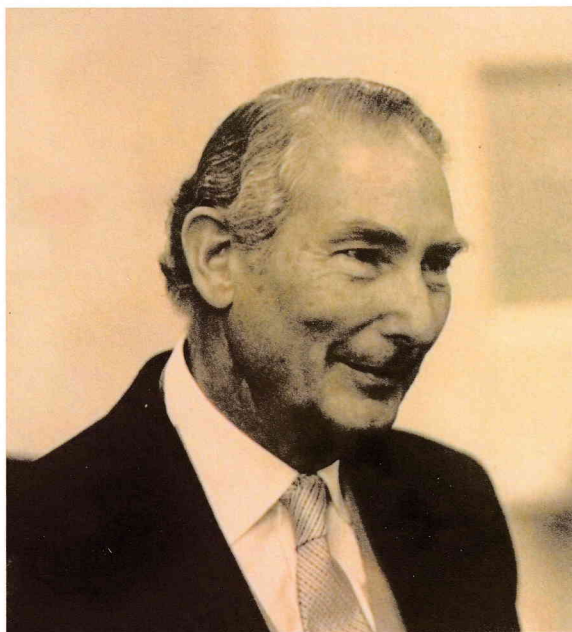


CATHOLIC CHURCH
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



JOHN LEECH MBE
HANS-JOACHIM FREIHERR VON REITZENSTEIN

21st April 1925 to 21st November 2024

Farm Street Church
114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH
Friday 29th November 2024
at 2.30pm

Celebrant: Fr Michael Holman SJ
Director of Music and Organist: David Graham



Andante (Sonata IV), BWV 528 – J.S. Bach

HYMN AT THE ENTRANCE

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light.

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words: St. Francis of Assisi translated by W.H. Draper

Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 3: verses 1-8

Read by Caroline von Reitzenstein

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

The word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God

Prelude in B minor, BWV 855a – J.S. Bach, Arr. A. Siloti

Performed by Sasha Grynyuk

SECOND READING

First epistle of St. John Chapter 4, verses 7-21

Read by Juliette Leech

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

The word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God

Laudate Dominum – W.A. Mozart

*Praise the Lord, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Praise the Lord!*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

GOSPEL READING

John 14, verses 1-6 & 27

Read by Fr Michael Holman

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. 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, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to 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.

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

HOMILY

Hansi: A Legacy of Love and Wisdom

Written and read by Zoe von Scharfenberg, Great Niece

In the quiet of a life well lived,
there was always the hum of purpose,
a steady rhythm that carried him through
ninety-nine years,
from Germany’s fields to England’s shores.
In both lands, he stood tall,
an unwavering presence—
wise beyond measure,
a mind that grasped the world's vastness,
and a heart that held its depths with care.

To me, he was more than an uncle,
he was a grandfather of the spirit,
his words both a challenge and a comfort,
his lessons etched not in books,
but in the quiet moments between us.
His life, a tapestry of thought and action,
woven with love, intelligence, and grace.

Though his body has gone to rest,
his wisdom remains,
a guide through the maze of life
and a legacy carried in every step I take.

We will remember him,
not only for his years,
but for the quiet power of his example—
how he lived,
how he loved,
and how he shaped the world around him.

Goodbye, Hansi
In the silence,
your presence will linger forever.

Andante Lagrimoso

from *Harmonies poétiques et religieuses*, S. 173, No. 9 – F. Liszt

Performed by Leslie Howard

Fear no more the heat o' the sun, from *Cymbeline*, Shakespeare

Read by Marco Gambino

Fear no more the heat o' the sun,
Nor the furious winter's rages;
Thou thy worldly task hast done,
Home art gone, and ta'en thy wages:
Golden lads and girls all must,
As chimney-sweepers, come to dust.

Fear no more the frown o' the great;
Thou art past the tyrant's stroke;
Care no more to clothe and eat;
To thee the reed is as the oak:
The scepter, learning, physic, must
All follow this, and come to dust.

Fear no more the lightning flash,
Nor the all-dreaded thunder stone;
Fear not slander, censure rash;
Thou hast finished joy and moan:
All lovers young, all lovers must
Consign to thee, and come to dust.

No exorciser harm thee!
Nor no witchcraft charm thee!
Ghost unlaïd forbear thee!
Nothing ill come near thee!
Quiet consummation have;
And renownèd be thy grave!

HYMN

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 temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve Thee as thy hosts 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.

*Words: C. Wesley
Tune: J. Stainer*

Intercessions, with the response “Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer”

Ave Maria - Bach-Gounod

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen*

EULOGIES

given by Guy Leech and Sir Geoffrey Nice

Prayers of commendation, during which is sung by the choir with the following congregational response,

May the choirs of angels – Ernest Sands

All: May the choirs of angels come to greet you.
May they speed you to paradise.
May the Lord enfold you in His mercy.
May you find eternal life.

HYMN TO CONCLUDE

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 or 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.

The sun that bids us rest is waking
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

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.

Words: John Ellerton

Tune: Clement Cotteril Scholefield

Fantasia in G minor, BWV 582 – J.S. Bach

Wandrer's Nachtlied,

By Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Translated by Henry Longfellow

Über allen Gipfeln	O'er all the hilltops
Ist Ruh,	Is quiet now,
In allen Wipfeln	In all the treetops
Spürest du	Hearest thou
Kaum einen Hauch;	Hardly a breath;
Die Vögelein schweigen im Walde.	The birds are asleep in the trees:
Warte nur, balde	Wait, soon like these
Ruhest du auch.	Thou too shalt rest.

Nunc Dimitis (Luke 2 v 29-32)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:
 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

RECEPTION

After the service, the family would welcome anyone who would like to join them at The Lansdowne Club, 9 Fitzmaurice Place, W1J 5JD

