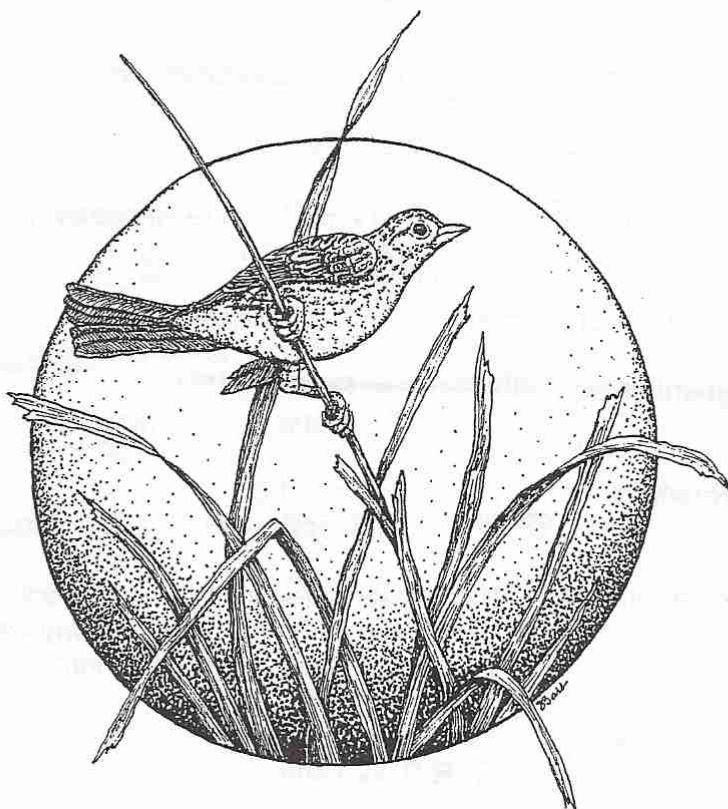


A Celebration of Life
SR. MARY FAITH O'MALLEY, O.P.

1918 - 2008



**"Trust in God still, and trust in me."
John 14:1**

**Funeral Mass
March 13, 2008**

**Sr. Mary Faith O'Malley, OP
March 12, 1918 – March 8, 2008**

- Gathering Song: M #428 Be Not Afraid
- Welcoming: Sr. Rosemary Rule
- Placement of the Rose: Mrs. Ednamarie Haggerty
Mrs. Teresa Dewey
- Sprinkling of Holy Water: Fr. R.B. Williams
- Placement of the Pall: Sr. Patricius Henderson
Sr. Maria del Rey Mangan
- First Reading: Isaiah 41:8-10, 13
Mrs. Joanne Haggerty-Johnson
- Responsorial: Responsorial Psalm #475: Sr. Mary Ann Budka
*"Shepherd me of God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life ."*
- Gospel Reading: John 14:1-4
Fr. R.B. Williams
- Homily: Sr. Theresa Fox
- Intercessions: Sr. Joan Miriam Glaser

Gift Bearers: Mrs. Loretta Hargaden
Mrs. Mildred Goggins
Mr. Joseph O'Malley

Eucharistic Ministers: Fr. R.B. Williams
Sr. Rosemary Kirsten
Sr. Bridget Major

Communion Song: M #617 Blessed Are They

Parting Words: Mr. Duane Dowd

Recessional Song: Celtic Song of Farewell
(see back side of program)

Closing Song: M #409 How Great Thou Art

Cross Bearer: Sr. Appoline Simard

Pall Bearers: Mr. Joseph O'Malley
Mr. Tom O'Malley
Mr. Hugh Heron
Mr. Gregory Heron

For those who are able, please follow the funeral procession
to the cemetery for the graveside service in the cemetery led
by Sr. Margaret Marie Hofstetter.

224 Celtic Song of Farewell

May choirs of an - gels lead you in-to par-a-dise, — and may the
mar - tyrs come to wel-come you — to bring you home in-to the ho-ly
cit - y, — so you may dwell in new Je - ru - sa - lem. May ho-ly
an - gels be there at your wel-com-ing, — with all the
saints who go be-fore you there, — that you may know the peace and joy of
par-a-dise; — that you may en-ter in-to ev-er-last-ing rest.

The musical score consists of six staves of music in 4/4 time, written in treble clef. The melody is simple and folk-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the sixth staff.

In Paradisum
Adapt. by Steve Schaubel
Text © 1998, WLP

Irish melody

FUNERAL FOR SR. MARY FAITH O'MALLEY
ISAIAH 41:8-10, 13

MARCH 13, 2008
JOHN 14:1-4

The reading we heard from Isaiah was quite short. But we can use it in describing Sr. Mary Faith.

"But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, offspring of Abraham my friend"
Or we can say - But you, my servant, Isabel O'Malley, whom I have chosen, offspring of Lawrence and Blanche, my friends, and sister to so many.

"You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth and summoned from its far-off places."
Now - with our modern means of transportation we know that O'Neil, Nebraska where Mary Faith was born and raised and Denver, Colorado, where she worked, are not really far-off places. Yet that is where God called her from. And God called her to go to what may have seemed to be another far-off place - St. Catharine, Kentucky. Then on to Massachusetts and California and places in between.

Mary Faith didn't enter religious life until she was almost 30. In those days that was very unusual. But like Francis Thompson described in his famous "Hound of Heaven" -

God fled her, down the nights and down the days:

God fled her, down the arches of the years:

Until - Isabel O'Malley recognized the God of her heart, and heard God speak -

I am He whom thou seekest!

Or as Isaiah wrote -

"You whom I have called my servant, whom I have chosen and will not cast off."

*"Fear not, I am with you; be not dismayed; I am your God.
I will strengthen you, and help you, and uphold you with my right hand of justice."*

So God strengthened Mary Faith when she found it difficult to leave her parents and siblings and be so far away. God helped Mary Faith when she began her teaching ministry; when she was determined that each student be the very best. God upheld her when she found it difficult to make decisions or to say no to what others wanted her to do. And again when she visited the sick and homebound and brought a good word and Communion to them. When it came time to leave her beloved Spalding where she had spent 32 years of ministry and retire to St. Catharine's. God helped her as she struggled to hold up her head when the bones of her body resisted. In all these works and struggles God strengthened her through her faithful praying of the rosary and participation at Eucharist.

*"For I am the LORD, your God, who grasp your right hand;
It is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.'"*

It was the Lord, her God, who on last Saturday afternoon grasp her right hand, and for the last time said, "Fear not, I will help you." I have prepared a place for you. I have come back to take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.

So we bring the body of Sr. Mary Faith to its final resting place, trusting that the person of Mary Faith is enjoying the place prepared for her. There she is in union with the God who pursued her throughout 90 years of life and has brought her safely home.

Prayer at the graveside

Our dear Sister Mary Faith has gone to her rest in the peace of Christ. May the Lord now welcome her to the table of God's children in heaven.

Come, you who are blessed by my Father, says the Lord, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

All praise to you, Lord of all creation Praise to you holy and living God. We praise and bless you for your mercy. We praise and bless you for your kindness.

Response: Blessed is the Lord our God.

We praise you, our refuge and strength
We bless you, our God and Redeemer
Your praise is always in our hearts and on our lips.

Response: Blessed is the Lord our God.

Almighty and ever-living God, remember the mercy with which you graced your dear servant, Mary Faith.

Response: Receive her into the mansion of the saints, Grant this through Christ our brother.

Song: WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING, SURE IT'S LIKE A MORN
IN SPRING. IN THE LILT OF IRISH LAUGHTER, YOU CAN HEAR THE
ANGELS SING WHEN IRISH HEARTS ARE HAPPY, ALL THE WORLD
SEEMS BRIGHT AND GAY. AND WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING
SURE THEY STEAL YOUR HEART AWAY.