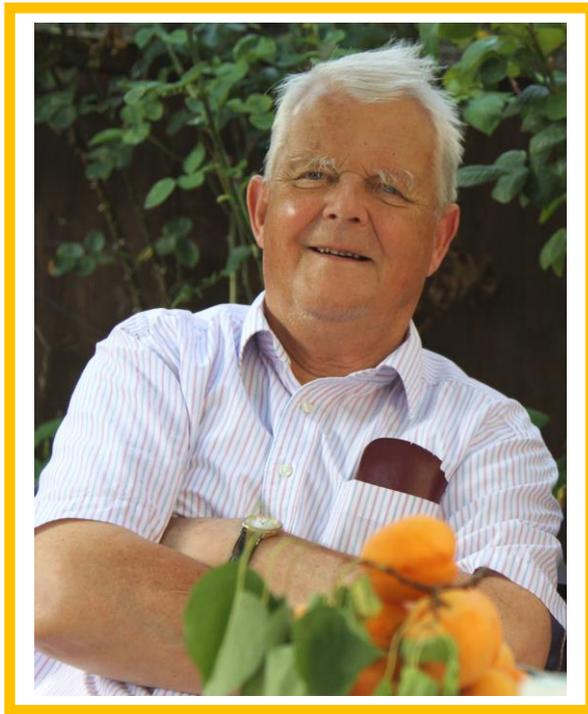


*Funeral Mass  
in thanksgiving for the life of*

# **Bruce Kent**

*22 June 1929 – 8 June 2022*



**St Mellitus Church  
Tollington Park, London N4 3AG  
4 July 2022 at 11am**



# Order of Service

**Celebrant: Most Rev Malcolm McMahon OP  
Archbishop of Liverpool**

*Gathering song: Laudate Omnes Gentes, Laudate Dominum  
Sing praises all you peoples; sing praises to the Lord (Taizé)*

**Greeting and blessing of the coffin with holy water  
at the church door**

*Please stand*

## **Entrance Hymn: Be thou my vision**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
naught be all else to me save that thou art;  
thou my best thought in the day and the night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;  
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,  
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,  
raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.

Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise,  
thou mine inheritance through all my days;  
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, when battle is done,  
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's sun;  
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall  
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

*Irish 8<sup>th</sup> century. Tr: Mary E. Byrne and Eleanor H. Hull*

*Please sit*

**Welcome by Fr Chinedu Udo, Parish Priest**

*Symbols representing Bruce's life will be placed on the coffin.*

### **Appreciation**

#### **Collect**

#### **First Reading - Isaiah 25: 6-9**

*Reader:* The word of the Lord      ***All:* Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 8**

*Sung by the cantor*

#### **Second Reading - Romans 8: 31-35, 37-39**

*Reader:* The word of the Lord      ***All:* Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

*Alleluia (Taizé)*

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord:  
whoever believes in me will never die.

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.      ***All:* And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

***All:* Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 25: 31-40

*P:* The Gospel of the Lord  
**A: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Please sit*

**Homily: Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP**

*Please stand*

**Bidding prayers**

*Each prayer concludes with:*

Lord, in your mercy      **All: Hear our prayer.**

*Please sit*

**Offertory procession and hymn**  
**In bread we bring you, Lord**

In bread we bring you, Lord, our bodies' labour

In wine we offer you our spirits' grief.

We do not ask you, Lord, who is my neighbour?

But stand united now, one in belief.

O we have gladly heard your word, your holy word,  
and now in answer Lord, our gifts we bring.

Our selfish hearts make true, our failing faith renew,  
our lives belong to you, our Lord and King.

The bread we offer you is blessed and broken,

And it becomes for us our spirits' food.

Over the cup we bring your word is spoken;

make it your gift to us your healing blood.

Take all that daily toil plants in our heart's poor soil.

Take all we start and spoil, each hopeful dream,  
the chances we have missed, the graces we resist

Lord, in thy Eucharist, take and redeem.

*Kevin Nichols*

*After each prayer offering the bread and wine all respond:*

**Blessed be God forever.**

*Please stand*

**Priest:** Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**All:** **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.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**A:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**A:** **It is right and just.**

*The priest reads the Preface, after which all join in saying:*

**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 or sit*

*Acclamation after the Consecration:*

**Priest:** The mystery of faith:

**All:** **We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.**

*At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer:*

**Priest:** 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, for ever and ever.

**All:** **Amen**

*Please stand*

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

**A:** **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.**

**P:** 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.

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

**P:** Lord Jesus Christ, you 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.

**A:** **Amen.**

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**A:** **And with your spirit.**

**P:** Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*Greet one another saying: 'Peace be with you'. Then we all say:*

**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 or sit*

**Priest:** 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.

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

*If you do not usually receive Communion but would like to receive a blessing, join the queue and indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.*

*Instrumental medley during Communion:  
Father we adore you; Swing low, sweet chariot;  
As I went down to the river to pray.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Please stand*

## **Prayer of Commendation**

*The coffin is sprinkled with holy water as a reminder of baptism, and incense is used as a sign of respect for the holiness of the body.*

**In paradisum**  
*Sung by the cantor*

*May the Angels lead you into Paradise, the Martyrs welcome you  
as you draw near and lead you into Jerusalem, the heavenly city.*

*May the choir of angels welcome you and, where Lazarus is poor  
no longer, there may you have eternal rest.*

*As the coffin is taken from the church:*

**Recessional Hymn:  
For the Healing of the Nations**

For the healing of the nations,  
Lord, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing  
of the things that earth affords.

To a life of love in action  
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead your people into freedom,  
from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred,  
all may come and go in peace.

Show us how, through care and goodness,  
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,  
let it from the earth be banned:  
pride of status, race or schooling,  
dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator-God, have written  
your great name on humankind;  
for our growing in your likeness,  
bring the life of Christ to mind;  
that by our response and service  
earth its destiny may find.

*Fred Kaan*



*Bruce with his sister, Rosemary, and brother, George*

Bruce's family would like to thank Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, Fr Chinedu Udo, the Parish Priest of St Mellitus, mezzo-soprano Patricia Hammond and the other musicians, A. France & Son, the undertakers, and a great team of friends, for their help in making the funeral arrangements.

Everyone is invited to the hall downstairs for refreshments.

Those going to the cemetery will leave at 1.45pm. If you need directions to the cemetery, please ask one of the ushers.

A recording of today's service, along with tributes to Bruce, can be found on the website: [bruce-kent.com](http://bruce-kent.com)



Some friends have asked about donations. If you would like to make a gift in Bruce's memory, then a donation to one of the organisations he was most closely associated with (details below) would be very warmly received. Anything given in the collection as you go out today will be divided between the organisations.

**Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament,**

162 Holloway Road, London N7 8DQ

<https://cnduk.org/donate/donate-in-memory-of-bruce-kent/>

**Movement for the Abolition of War**

1 Old Mill Place, Vicarage Lane, Haslemere, GU27 1NE

<https://abolishwar.net/support-us/donate/>

**Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London NW4 4TY**

[www.paxchristi.org.uk](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk)

**Progressing Prisoners Maintaining Innocence, c/o Compass House, 57**

Meridian Centre, North Street, Havant, PO9 1UW

<http://www.prisonersmaintaininginnocence.org.uk/>

*Thank you so much for coming.*



*'Wrong Loch, Monsignor!'*  
*John Ryan's cartoon in the Catholic Herald after Bruce conducted a service of 'cleansing and exorcism' at the Faslane nuclear submarine base in Scotland, Easter 1973*