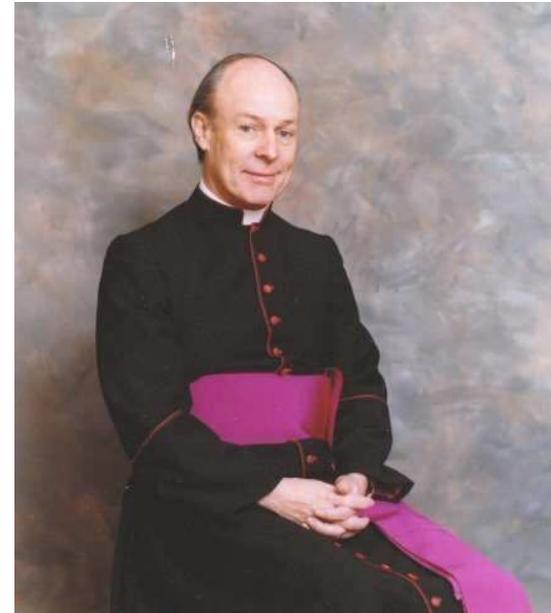


ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, TETBURY

DIOCESE of CLIFTON



REMEMBERING MGR WILLIAM MITCHELL

ON HIS GOLDEN JUBILEE

1961 26th JUNE 2011

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Processional Hymn – Be still for the presence of the Lord

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The holy one is here
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear
In him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The holy one is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour he is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant king of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister his grace
No work too hard for him
In faith receive from him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place

Penitential Rite:

what ever their circumstance or tongue, he never turned away anyone in need. A warm and gentle man, with a twinkle in his eye; he loved children and retained a bit of a child in him. He suffered with his heart for many years after his first heart attack many years ago, but he never complained. Today we give thanks for the many years he was a priest of the diocese and especially here in Tetbury for the last seven years of his life; he loved the countryside and the people of Tetbury. Fifty years ago at his ordination he promised to preach the word, administer the sacraments and give pastoral care to those in his charge; he carried that tasked out well. Mgr William Mitchell is now in the kingdom of God out of pain and suffering. Good night, God Bless to a wonderful priest and friend until we meet again.

Ten years ago he invited me to the Celebration at Clifton Cathedral of his Ruby Jubilee; he said that it would be a very small gathering; well I wouldn't agree with that! Both Bishop Mervyn and Bishop Declan were present along with other priests of the diocese and many friends he made during his time in the diocese. His family celebrated with him on the Sunday; however, the occasion was marred with sadness, his cousin, her husband and children were killed on their way up from the south to Bristol. Both Bishops spoke of his enormous contribution to the diocese and no matter how busy he was, he would always sit down with anyone who had a problem. Five years ago when it was his forty fifth anniversary, we here at St Michaels celebrated with him with a luncheon party at Maggie Marum's home which I know he enjoyed; his brother Michael also attended and it was a glorious afternoon. We all wish that he was still here with us to celebrate his Golden Jubilee but he is with us spiritually and I am sure he would despite of the changes that have been made he would want us to continue together as God's family in the parish he enjoyed for seven years. We all have our memories of him but what shone through were his wonderful homilies, his ability to talk to people

Gloria:

*Refrain: Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on Earth,
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father.
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You
take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us,
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
Refrain

For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ;
With the Holy Spirit, in thee glory of God the Father.
Refrain

Prayer of the Day:

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading:

A Reading from the book of Deuteronomy 8: 2-3. 14-16

Responsorial Psalm:

Response: O Praise the Lord Jerusalem

Reading:

Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 10:16-17

Gospel Acclamation:

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia (sung)
(Spoken: All) I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia (sung)

Gospel:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 6: 51-58

Homily:

Prayer of Faith

Profession of Faith:

Reader: Lord in your Mercy

All: Hear our Prayer

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts: I am the bread of life

I am the bread of life
He who comes to me shall not hunger
He who believes in me shall not thirst
No one can come to me
Unless the Father draw him

And I will raise him up
And I will raise him up
And I will raise him up on the last day

His fondness for pasta and Alfa Romeo cars, were legacies of those happy years. In 1987 he returned to the Clifton Diocese and was appointed Vicar General by Bishop Mervyn Alexander; a position he held until 2001. During this time he was Parish Priest at St John's Bath, St Antony's Henbury, Bristol and St Mary on the Quay, Bristol. In 1997 Bishop Alexander appointed him as the Administrator at the Cathedral Church of SS Peter and St Paul, Clifton Bristol. A role he held until 2001 when he moved to St Michaels Tetbury as Parish Priest. In December 2002 Bishop Declan Lang appointed him Vicar Judicial and Episcopal Vicar for Matrimonial Matters following the death of Monsignor Joseph Buckley. He was a priest member of the Holy Sepulchre; he served the Clifton Diocese as a Trustee for many years. The cause of Christian Unity was close to his heart and his contribution to the ecumenical life of the diocese was enormous. During his life he served as a Mayor Chaplain; was invited to preach at various locations throughout the diocese which included Mayor's call of prayer in Bath.

**Remembering Mgr William Mitchell on the Golden Jubilee
of his Ordination**

After leaving St Brendan's College, Bristol; Mgr William studied law at Corpus Christi College, Oxford; appropriate due to us celebrating the Solemnity of Corpus Christi today. Mgr then attended the seminary of St Sulpice, Paris prior to his ordination to the priesthood on 25th June 1961. He was ordained at Pro Cathedral, Clifton, Bristol, by Bishop Rudderham. After his ordination he studied Canon Law in Rome until 1963; upon his return he became a curate of the Pro Cathedral. His next appointment in 1964 took him to St Ambrose, the Bishop's House, as Private Secretary to Bishop Joseph Rudderham a position he held for over 10 years. Following a three year spell as Parish Priest at St Bernadette, Whitchurch, Bristol; he then returned to Rome in 1975 as Rector at the Beda College. In 1978 Pope John Paul I appointed him Prelate of Honour (Monsignor). His ability to converse in perfectly accented Italian was a considerable asset. He loved his time in the Eternal City and kept in touch with many of his former students, visiting them in places as far apart as Korea and Papua New Guinea.

The bread that I will give
Is My flesh for the life of the world
And he who eats of this bread
He shall live for ever
He shall live for ever

Unless you eat
Of the flesh of the Son of Man
And drink of His blood
And drink of His blood
You shall not have life within you

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sanctus: Gathering Mass

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord
God of power, God of might
Heaven and Earth, Heaven and Earth
Are full of your glory, your power of might
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heavens
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heavens

Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heavens
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heavens

Memorial Acclamation: Gathering Mass

Christ has died, Christ is risen Jesus Christ will come again
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest heavens

Great Amen

COMMUNION RITE

The Lords Prayer:

Agnus Dei: Mass of Creation

Jesus Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world
have mercy on us

Jesus Bread of Life, you take away the sins of the world
have mercy on us

Jesus Prince of Peace, you take away the sins of the world
have mercy on us

Jesus Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace

Holy Communion: O Bread of Heaven

O bread of heaven, beneath this veil
thou dost my very God conceal;
my Jesus, dearest treasure, hail;
I love thee and adoring kneel;
each loving soul by thee is fed
with thine own self in form of bread.

O food of life, thou who dost give
the pledge of immortality;
I live; no, 'tis not I that live;
God gives me life, God lives in me:
he feeds my soul, he guides my ways,
and every grief with joy repays.

O bond of love, that dost unite
the servant to his living Lord;
could I dare live, and not requite
such love then death were meet reward:
I cannot live unless to prove

some love for such unmeasured love.
Belovèd Lord in heaven above,
there, Jesus, thou awaitest me;
to gaze on thee with changeless love,
yes, thus I hope, thus shall it be:
for how can he deny me heaven
who here on earth himself hath given?

CONCLUDING RITES

Recessional Hymn: Guide me O thou Great Redeemer

Guide me, O thou great redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer;
Be thou still my strength and shield;
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.