



JOHN PETER McLOUGHLIN

22nd July 1978- 20th July 2023

FUNERAL MASS

St. Conleth's Parish Church, Newbridge, Co Kildare.

Monday 31st July 2023 11am

Burial afterwards at St. Conleth's Cemetery

Mass Celebrated by Fr Ruairí Ó Domhnaill P.P.

Crinan Canal, Co. Clare

ENTRANCE HYMN

Here I am Lord

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

Reader: 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 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 throw 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 throw away;

A time to tear, and a time to sew;

A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time for war, and a time for peace.

God has made everything suitable for its time.

The word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: *On Eagles Wings*

SECOND READING

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans. (14: 7 – 12)

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others;
if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die,
we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we
belong to the Lord.

This explains why Christ both died and came to life,
it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead

and of the living. We shall all have to stand
before the judgement seat of God; as scripture says:
By my life – it is the Lord who speaks –
every knee shall bend before me,
and every tongue shall praise God.
It is to God, therefore, that each of us must
give an account of ourselves.
The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation: *Alle Allelu*

GOSPEL

A reading from the book of Matthew

Jesus exclaimed, ‘I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.’

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Response: Lord hear our Prayer

Reader: John Peter was made a child of God in Baptism. May God now welcome him with these words “Well done good and faithful servant”. You have been faithful in small things, Inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the beginning of the world.
We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: We pray especially for Johns wife Anita and their beautiful little daughter Clare, that they may be consoled in their grief and that the memories of their love and the happy times they had together will help to keep the past alive. We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For Johns Parents, John and Marie together with his brothers Kenneth and Michael, his sisters Alison and Emma. We pray that God will give them the strength to cope with their great loss through prayer and faith in Christ. We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: We pray for each of us here today, that we may never lose sight of Gods eternal plan. May we live in love and peace always.
We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: We pray for all our departed relatives and friends and that they may be reunited with all whom we love. Especially Paddy Fallon Anita’s Father, Anita’s brother in law Fergus Hopkins and Alison & Charles baby Laura who died in Infancy.
We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: We pray for the church, our pope Francis, Our Bishop Denis and priests of our own parish & locality. Give them strength and courage to continue their work of spreading the good news of your love & mercy. We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: We pray for all of Johns friends. Those he grew up & went to school with. The friends he made in his adult life, at work and at play. Please always remember him and pray for him. We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: We pray lord for the staff and crew of the Scottish Air Ambulance Service. Where John spent many years flying from Glasgow to the Islands where he formed many friendships. May they continue with their great work and Lord keep them safe on their many journeys. We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: John may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace. Lord hear our prayer

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Offertory Hymn:

Ave Maria (Schubert)

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION: *He is Lord*

COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer - *Sung*

P: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

All: **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.**

Holy Communion:

I Watch the Sunrise & Ag Críost an Síol

Communion Reflection:

I Believe & Wonderful World

COMMUNION REFLECTION:

Trying to Understand

“I’ll lend you, for a little while, a child of mine” he said,
“For you to love while he lives, and mourn when he is dead.

It may be six or seven years, or twenty-two, or three.

But will you, ‘til I call him back, take care of him for me?
He’ll bring his charms to gladden you, and shall his stay be brief,
You’ll have his lovely memories as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise he will stay, as all from earth return,
But there are lessons taught down there I want this child to learn.
I’ve looked the wide world over, in my search for teachers true,
And from the throngs that crowd life’s lanes, I have selected you.
Now will you give him all your love- nor think the labour vain,
Nor hate me when I come to call to him back again.”

“Dear Lord, thy will be done.

For all the joy this child shall bring, the risk of grief we’ll run.
We’ll shower him with tenderness and love him while we may,
And from the happiness we’ve known, forever grateful stay.
And should the angels call for him much sooner than we planned,
We’ll brave the bitter grief that comes and try to understand.”

Blessing and Dismissal:

Blessing at Coffin

May Songs of the Angels Welcome You

Concluding Hymn:

Be Not Afraid



EULOGY

(See Next Page >)

Eulogy for John Peter McLoughlin,

Read at John's Funeral Mass on Monday 31st of July 2023.
St Conleth's Parish Church, Newbridge, Co Kildare, Ireland.

[RIP.ie Notice Link](https://www.rip.ie/notice-link)

For John

Good morning, Fr Ruari - Fr Harris Fr Anthony and Congregation. Both our Families are so touched by your presence and support here today! We also want to welcome all of you- John's relatives and friends watching today via the Internet link. We want you all to know that we have felt your support and love this week and that we appreciate you being with us here with John this morning.

Fr Ruari, you have been an excellent spiritual support to the whole family in helping us to cope this week and thank you for being there with us throughout this difficult time. You have been wonderful!

Father Harris, we thank you for joining Fr Ruairi to concelebrate this mass. You married John and Anita 5 years ago and you also baptised Clare. Your powerful presence here today is so appreciated by us . We want to thank Our Aunt, Margaret Early and Anita's aunt Yvonne Gissane for the enormous support that we received and our relatives the Brennan Family in England. In particular Pat & Ciaran & Chris and Brendan Barret. Last Monday in England we really felt that we had the support of an Army in depth, and it is because of the way you helped us, that we had John Home quickly to have this last weekend with him and here today. I also want to acknowledge the support of Anita's loving mother Stella and her sisters Ber, Paula, and Lisa and brother William.

We have received many messages from his friends from the Schools and Colleges that John attended. Those were the Christian Brothers'

Primary school here beside the Church. Headfort School in Kells, Roscrea Cistercian Secondary School, The College of Commerce for his Degree in Business Studies, & CAB Air at Cranfield England where John gained his commercial Pilot Wings.

From the messages on the several pages of condolences, I have picked a few and would like to read them to you. One said John was so charismatic, that he could fill a room with complete calm and joy, he radiated such positive energy and his spirit will always live with us.

Another Said -He was a wonderful man, a kind dear friend and colleague. He would speak of you and Clare so often with such love and affection, you both brought such joy to his life. He was an Amazing Pilot, we had such Joy flying the Air Ambulance over the beautiful mountains and loughs of Scotland. He cared deeply for the Job and for the sick Patients we carried. I feel honoured to have known him and to have been able to fly with him.

Another said John was a special guy. Always smiling and full of devilment! A real character. But most importantly a fantastic husband, dad, son and brother.

In our home, there were 7 of us and we will remain 7. We were blessed by having loving parents John and Marie who are always supportive and encouraging no matter what the challenge. Station Road was a wonderful home to be reared in. Ken, Alison, and I; well- we were in the first POD and John & Emma were in the second Pod. John had the cunningness to move between both Pods when the time was opportune. He could really “play us” ! For us in the first POD John was a fantastic little brother full of happiness, sport and fun. For Emma - all of that and also a Soul mate.

One message that stood out for us and made us Smile was -His heart was a perfect blend of kindness and devilment, leaving an indelible mark on each of us while ensuring that fun was never at the expense of others.

One of his Friends from Roscrea wrote to me, and I would like to share with you what he said.

He wrote. “, it was more about the friends he met there than the school at Roscrea itself. He loved his Rugby, and he was super-fast on the running field. He had unbelievable strength in those legs and could reach serious heights! On the Rugby pitch, he was a fearless winger. He could cut people in two with ferocious tackles. However, he did not have the best of hands. But if he held onto the ball - then it was “Try time”. I know he had Leinster schools’ trials, which were hard to come by and only the best went to trials.

After Roscrea, the incredible bond that we all had, became even stronger. John Introduced us to his many pals from Newbridge and University (Led by Pierce Fagan and Gay McCann) & then with Emma’s friends joining us - and forming a sort of Super Group of friends. John was the Glue in the group and was always by our side, through the good times and the hard times. Many of us lived with him in college and the early years of our careers. We travelled all over the world together. We had summers in America or wider adventures to Australia, New Zealand, and Asia. He lifted our spirits no matter what situation we found ourselves in. We all have many funny stories to tell, but some of them are not for today!

As friends, we took great interest in our career progress, and we were so proud to see him realise his dream and become a pilot. When he became a Flight Instructor at Weston some of the lads were brave enough to go flying with him. We were impressed by his skills and he put the fear of God into us with his surprise aerobatic manoeuvres. He will be missed by us all, but we are so glad he was here and was one of the boys.” Yours sincerely John.

Family

For us, the day John married Anita here in Newbridge was one of the happiest days that we will remember. It was a beautiful occasion, We knew John had landed on his feet with you Anita. Your beautiful wedding at Moy Valley, the festivities, and the smiles on both your

faces were magical. Another memory I hold of John was when I collected him from the Airport the night Clare was born and I recall John like a Lion “charging” into the Coombe hospital to be with you and your beautiful daughter Clare.

I asked Anita if she would share some memories of John and she did. Anita wrote the following words. It’s really a Love Letter---

I will always treasure the memory of John and Clare embracing when he arrived home from work. John would listen to her little stories of the day and admire the arts and crafts, that she made especially for him. Clare would say “Daddy I made this for you”. And John would praise her!

John had a bicycle with a front carrier seat for Clare. They would cycle all around the beautiful countryside of Kilmacolm together. He remarked that it was one of the most wonderful experiences he had ever had and we did this special cycle many times.

When we walked in the woods together in Kilmacolm, John would always turn it into a little adventure for Clare (and himself) with imaginary Bears and Tigers and chocolate egg hunts. He always wanted Clare to experience the joys of nature.

John was amazed at Clare’s energy, imagination and kindness, they were so alike in these ways, like two peas in a pod. She was certainly the apple of his eye and she adores her Daddy.

John always made me laugh, not necessarily his jokes but how he would tell a story about situations he found himself in and there were many. He would often start with “*Anita -Did I every tell you about the time I did*”.

I always felt blessed and proud to have John as my husband. Firstly, I thought he was gorgeous (his smile, his eyes) but more than that he was the best of company. There is no one I would want to spend time with more than John. He made me feel so loved and respected and so very very happy and I know that went both ways.

We had such a beautiful life together (a great trio). I am just so sad

that we can't have more time. My John, My Love

John's character foundation was built by his experience working in the family oil business as was the case for all of us. Strong values of hard work, honesty and fairness were bedded into all of us by our parents.

Five years ago John was attracted by an Advert by the Scottish Air Ambulance to become a Pilot with them flying their King Air Ambulances Aircraft out of Glasgow. We were delighted for him when he started this dashing new role in Scotland with Gama Aviation. It was a -A sort of professional Military run operation but without the guns. Instead, John was flying on daily missions out over the sea, often late at night , often in bad weather, landing down on short island airstrips to bring sick Islanders back to centres of excellence in Scotland for treatment.

We were very proud of John doing this Job and when he would visit home or call, we would love to hear of his missions in the Yellow King Air. I would like to acknowledge the presence of 5 crew members from Scotland, Johns Friends who are in the church with us this morning, Martin, Alex, Amanda, Stevie, and Bill. Thank you for being with us. I would also like to acknowledge the presence of Greg and Sandra from West Atlantic UK who are also with us today.

Finally, once more I wish to thank you on behalf of the family, all of you here and online for being with us this week and today.

The focus of all our love is now on you Anita and Clare and you can count on our support.

We know John had a strong faith, and he took many opportunities to teach Clare prayers even when away. Zoom and Facetime prayers mixed with songs & giggles were Clare's favorites. He was also a Romantic at heart.

I'd like to finish by dedicating this poem and prayer to John. It's called

“ High Flight ”

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;

Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth of sun-split clouds, — and I've done a hundred things you have not dreamed of, — wheeled and soared and swung High in the sunlit silence.

*Hov'ring there,
I've Chased the shouting wind along and
Flung my eager craft through footless halls of air...*



*Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with
easy grace
Where never lark nor ever/ even eagle
flew—
And, while with silent lifting mind I've
trod this high trespassed sanctity of
space,
Put out my hand/, and touched/
the face of **God**.*

Poem by Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee.

Thank you all!

Michael

Funeral Mass was celebrated by Fr Ruairí Ó Domhnaill

Bearers,

Kenneth McLoughlin

Michael Mc Loughlin

Charlie Smith

Tommy Sheehy

Pierce Fagan

Gay McCann

[RIP.ie Notice Link](#)

The final song at John's Graveside was [“The Parting Glass”](#)

John's Grave is located at
[St Conleth's Cemetery, Newbridge.](#)



A FAVOURITE VIEW OF JOHNS.

*From the hill looking down at Knapps Loch, Kilmacolm, Scotland,
which John climbed many a time.*