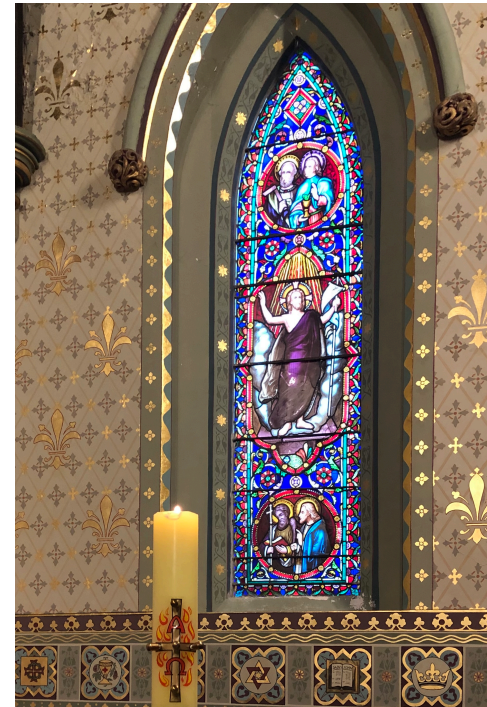


*The Anglican Parish of Christ Church,
South Yarra*

**The Funeral of
Stephen Miles**



May 3, 1944 – March 23, 2023

***Rest eternal grant him, good Lord,
and let everlasting light shine upon him***

Prelude Bach Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 659

All shall be Amen and Alleluia.

We shall rest and we shall see.

We shall see and we shall know.

We shall know and we shall love.

We shall love and we shall praise.

Behold our end, which is no end.

St Augustine of Hippo

**At the completion of the Funeral Liturgy
the congregation will follow the pall bearers
and gather outside the church
to farewell Stephen
as he proceeds to the Crematorium
for a private cremation.**

**The congregation is invited
to participate in refreshments
in the old Vicarage
following the departure of the hearse.**

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Officiant | Fr Ken Letts |
| Prayers | Fr Ramsay Williams |
| Episcopal Blessing | Bishop Philip Huggins |

Our grateful thanks to Fr Ray Cleary and the parish of Christ Church

a period in Melbourne during which time Stephen taught at Brighton Grammar School.

In 1980, Stephen was appointed Lecturer in English at UCLA so he and John moved back to California. After three years at UCLA, and the overwhelming re-discovery of his Christian faith and vocation, Stephen and John returned to Australia where Stephen began studies in Theology at the Melbourne College of Divinity. In 1987 he was ordained deacon and priest by the Archbishop of Melbourne. He served two curacies, at St John's East Malvern and St Andrew's Clifton Hill with St Luke's, North Fitzroy, and assistant Ecumenical Chaplain at Melbourne University.

In 1989 he was appointed Anglican Chaplain and Chaplain Co-ordinator at the new Monash Medical Centre, Clayton. Apart from his pastoral duties to patients and staff, he was responsible for setting up multi-faith chaplaincy and pastoral care services. At weekends, Stephen and John enjoyed time at their miner's cottage in Maldon where they regularly entertained friends.

After eight years in hospital chaplaincy, Stephen went to work in the Church of England Diocese in Europe to become Chaplain of All Saints, Cologne with St Boniface, Bonn. John pursued his career in Cologne's art community and held several exhibitions both in Germany and Australia.

In 2003 they returned to Australia and, for the next ten years, Stephen worked as an Associate Priest at Christ Church, South Yarra, and Anglican Chaplain to Cabrini Palliative Care Hospital, Prahran,.

In retirement, Stephen and John lived at Dromana on the Mornington Peninsula where Stephen embarked, like many people in later life, on exercises in self-understanding: he continued to read, wrote an autobiography of his early life, explored his British and German ancestry and wrote a Family History. He continued active ministry assisting in parishes and as Chaplain at Monash University, Clayton until, at the age of 76, he decided not to renew his license to exercise public ministry. He remained, however, a communicant Anglican and, as required of all clergy, prayed the Daily Office.

Welcome : **Fr Ray Cleary** **The Funeral Liturgy**

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'
John 11.25,26

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8.38,39

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5.4

We have gathered today
to remember before God our brother Stephen;
to give thanks for his life;
to commend him to God our merciful redeemer and judge;
to commit his body to be cremated,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

Let us pray

God of all consolation,
your Son Jesus Christ was moved to tears
at the grave of Lazarus his friend.
Look with compassion on your children in their loss;
give to troubled hearts the light of hope
and strengthen in us the gift of faith,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
who is the Resurrection and the Life:
Raise us, we humbly pray,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness
that when we depart this life
we may rest in Him,
and at the resurrection receive that blessing
which your well-beloved Son shall then pronounce:

"Come, you blessed of my Father,
receive the kingdom prepared for you
from the beginning of the world."
Grant this, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ,
our Mediator and Redeemer. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word (please be seated)

A Reading from the Old Testament:
Ecclesiastes 12:1-7
read by Libby Procter

A Reading from the New Testament:
Revelation 21:1-7
read by Philip Nichols

Hymn (please stand)

Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest -
the sight of it refreshes the weary and oppressed.
I know not, O I know not, what joys await us there,
what radiancy of glory, what bliss beyond compare.

They stand, those halls of Sion, all jubilant with song,
And bright, with many an angel, and all the martyr throng.
The Christ is ever with them, the daylight is serene;
the pastures of the blessed are ever rich and green.

There is the throne of David, and there, from care released,
the shout of them that triumph, the song of them that feast.

In mercy, Jesus, bring us to that dear land of rest
where sings the host of heaven your glorious name to bless.

O sweet and blessed country, the home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessed country that faithful hearts expect!
To God enthroned in glory the Church's voices blend,
the Lamb forever blessed, the Light that knows no end.

St Bernard of Cluny; Alexander Ewing (Ewing) NEH

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Stephen John Miles was born in the Mercy Hospital East Melbourne on 3rd May, 1944 to Malcolm John Miles, a Chemist and Jessie (nee Broadbent) a nurse, a brother for Kristin, Margaret and Elizabeth. After attending the Essendon State School, Stephen entered Geelong College as a boarder in 1955, and became Captain of School in 1962. One of the first students at Monash University, he graduated with a B.A. in English, History & Politics in 1966.

He first taught at Wadhurst, Melbourne Grammar School, and was a resident Tutor in Perry House in 1966. At the end of that year he went to England and taught at the Canterbury Cathedral Choir School, before going up to Worcester College, Oxford, to study for a Dip.Ed and teach at the Dragon School. While at Oxford, he met the counter-tenor, James Bowman, a Choral Scholar at New College, and together they moved to London: James to pursue his singing career and Stephen to teach at the Hampton School, Middlesex.

In 1970 Stephen went to America to teach, first at St Paul's School, Concord, New Hampshire, and afterwards at Georgetown Day School, Washington D.C. In 1972 he was back in the UK, a student at University College London, from which he graduated M.A. in American Studies in 1974: his dissertation subject, the transatlantic relationship in the novels of Henry James.

Stephen continued post-graduate work in English and American Literature at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and was granted a Ph.D from the University of California in 1980 for his work on the expatriate English novelist, Christopher Isherwood, with whom he had become friends.

It was in 1975 at UC Santa Barbara that Stephen met John Miller, a recent graduate in Art, who was to become his partner in life for almost 50 years. Over the next five years while Stephen pursued his doctorate and John his painting, they lived for a time in Los Angeles, Corfu in Greece, and for

Go forth upon your journey from this world, O Christian soul;
in the name of God the Father who created you.

Amen.

In the name of Jesus Christ who suffered for you.

Amen.

In the name of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you.

Amen.

In communion with the blessed Virgin Mary,
and all the saints;
with the angels and archangels and all the heavenly host.

Amen.

May your portion this day be in peace
and your dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem..

Amen.

Blessing

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commit you.

The Lord bless + you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be + gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give + you peace,

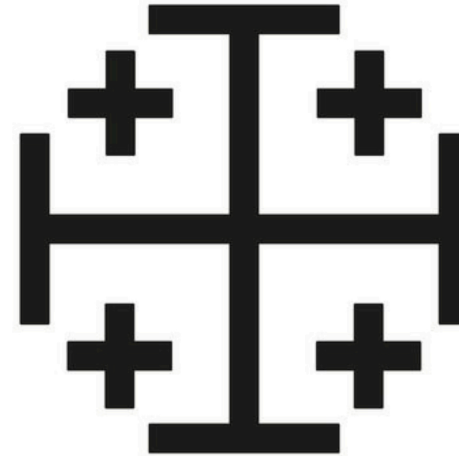
both now and evermore. **Amen.**



Postlude: G. Thalben-Ball Elegy for organ

Homily (please be seated)

A moment of Silence for Reflection



Prayers

Almighty God,
Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort:
Deal graciously with those who mourn,
that casting every care on you,
they may know the consolation of your love,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love,
but now no longer see,
especially for Stephen:
Grant them your peace;
let light perpetual shine upon them;
and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power,
work in them the good purpose of your perfect will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life,
until the shades lengthen and the evening comes,
the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over
and our work is done;
then Lord, in your mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest,
and peace at the last,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has command and taught us, so we pray

**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. Amen.**

Hymn

(please stand)

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

The Commendation and Episcopal Blessing

*The Lord has compassion on those who fear him;
for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.
The life of mortals is like grass,
they flourish like a flower of the field;
the wind blows over it and it is gone,
and its place remembers it no more.
But from everlasting to everlasting
the Lord's love is with those who fear him,
and his righteousness with their children's children*

Psalm 103:13-17

Forasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God of his great mercy
to take unto himself the soul of our dear brother here departed:
we therefore commit his body to be cremated;
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust;
in sure and certain hope of the Resurrection to eternal life,
through our Lord Jesus Christ;
who shall change our earthly body,
that it may be like unto his glorious body,
according to the mighty working,
whereby he is able to subdue all things to himself.

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, From
henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: Even so, says
the Spirit, for they rest from their labours.