Funeral Mass

November 7, 2026

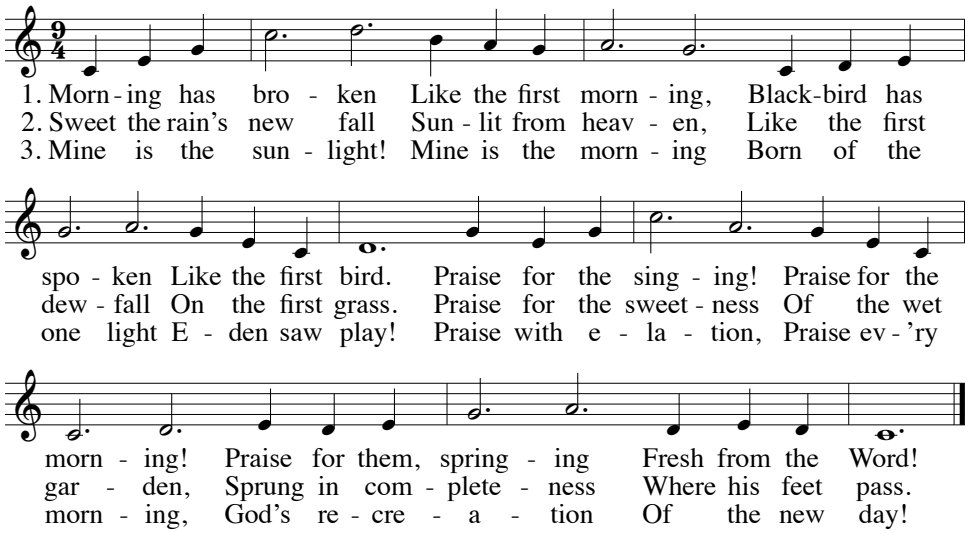


Virginia Marie Tansey Wilkinson

June 6, 1939 — October 14, 2026

Welcome to Saint Thomas More Chapel. Please raise your hearts in prayer and song as we commend Virginia to the love and mercy of God. Let us also offer support to each other in this time of loss.

Processional Hymn: ***Morning Has Broken*** BUNESSAN



Welcome Fr. Joe MacNeill

Eulogy Vicki Weisberg Kramer *(Wellesley Class of 1961)*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading **Proverbs 31:10-31** Patrick Tansey Wilkinson *(Son)*

Psalm 23



Second Reading **I Corinthians 12:4-11** Daniel Conal Wilkinson *(Son)*

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel **Matthew 6:25-34** Fr. Joe MacNeill

Homily

Prayers of the Faithful Marie Bender Wilkinson *(Daughter)*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts: ***Hymn of Promise***

Martin Alvaro Wilkinson
Lysander Christo
(Grandsons)

Natalie Sleeth, Composer
(Wellesley Class of 1952)

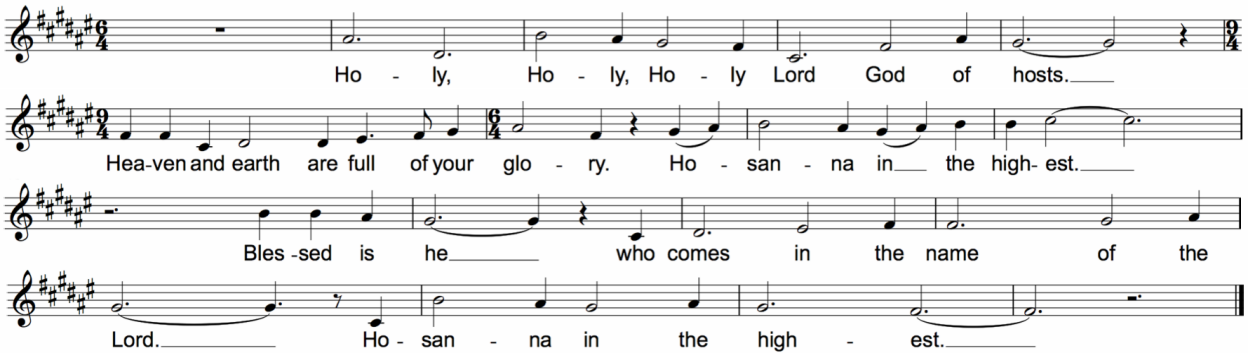
In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter, there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning, in our time, infinity.
In our doubt, there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory:
unrevealed until its season, something yet unknown,
which God alone can see.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Revie



Memorial Acclamation

Revie



Great Amen

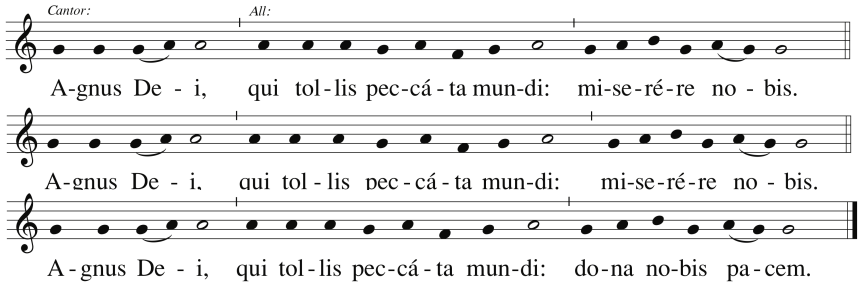
Revie

Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God

Chant, Vatican Edition XVIII



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.

Communion: ***Sicut Cervus***

Palestrina

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,
Ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

As the hart longs for the water springs,
So longs my soul for thee, O God.

Meditation: ***Panis Angelicus*** Franck

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum;
Dat panis coelicus figuris terminum;
O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum
Pauper, pauper servus et humilis.

May the Bread of Angels become bread for mankind;
The Bread of Heaven puts all foreshadowings to an end;
Oh, thing miraculous! The body of the Lord will nourish
The poor, the poor, the servile, and the humble.

Ave Maria Schubert

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
Ave Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.

Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with thee;
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Hail Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.

CONCLUDING RITES

Closing Prayer – Final Blessing

Poem *A Woman's Meditation* Marie Bender Wilkinson

Remarks Patrick Tansey Wilkinson
Daniel Conal Wilkinson

Recessional Song: Je Te Veux Satie

Guest Book Host – Brian G. O'Neil (*Friend*)

Ushers – Martin Alvaro Wilkinson, Layla Wilkinson Wallerstein, Raven Coffer, Lysander Christo ***(Grandchildren)***

Celebrant – Rev. Joseph MacNeill

Concelebrant – Rev. Benedict Maria, OSB

Musicians – Karolina Wojteczko (*Music Director*), STM Chamber Choir

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Virginia Marie Tansey Wilkinson, 87, died on October 14, 2026, at the Yale-New Haven Hospital after a fall at her yoga class.

Born in White Plains, N.Y., on June 6, 1939, the daughter of Dr. William A. Tansey, Jr and Marie Bender Tansey, she and her four younger brothers and sisters, were raised in Short Hills, NJ. She attended St. Rose of Lima Academy and Kent Place School before enrolling in Wellesley College, Class of 1961, where she was active in the Wellesley News and the Newman Center.

Upon graduation from Wellesley, she enrolled in the Yale Graduate School's Master of Arts in Teaching Program, preparing for a long and distinguished career of teaching and administration in public, private, and parochial schools, first at Roger Ludlow High School in Fairfield, CT, and then at Foote School, where she co-founded the ninth grade, and Hopkins School, where she was Chair of the History Department. Family relocations led to Abington (PA) Friends School, again as Department Head and Conference Director, and Portsmouth (RI) Abbey School, where she taught history and served as College Counselor and Coordinator for Interdisciplinary Programs.

While at Abington, she was awarded a Klingenstein Fellowship and earned an MA in Educational Administration at Teachers College, Columbia University. The National Endowment for the Humanities chose her for summer seminars at Fordham and Tufts universities. Her ultimate formal appointment was as Head of St. Scholastica Academy, a girls' boarding and day school in southern Colorado. Upon retirement she returned to New Haven and served as volunteer librarian of St. Martin de Porres Academy in New Haven.

Ms. Wilkinson's other activities, both professional and volunteer, were numerous. She published reviews and articles on education in several journals and newspapers and directed programs with the Yale Forum on Education, National SEED Project (Philadelphia), PATHS Colloquium, and three Caribbean Conferences. In New Haven, she served on the boards of Gesell Institute, New Haven Symphony, St. Thomas More Corporation, Association of Yale Alumni, Centro San Jose, Calvin Hill Day Care Center, Arts Council of New Haven, and as President of the Wellesley Class of 1961. She was co-founder of PerSisters, a group of politically concerned women, and studied piano at the Neighborhood Music School for several decades.

She is survived by John A. Wilkinson, her husband of 63 years; daughter, Marie Bender Wilkinson (Cyril Christo), grandson, Lysander Christo; son, Patrick Tansey Wilkinson (HeidiCoffer), granddaughter, Layla Wilkinson Wallerstein, step-grandchildren, Raven Coffer and Forrest Ulfig; and son, Daniel Conal Wilkinson (Patricia Mathews-Salazar), grandson, Martin Alvaro Wilkinson. Other survivors are her sisters, Jeanne Tansey Will and Judith Tansey Hunt; brothers, Dr. William A. Tansey, III and J. Donald Tansey; ten nieces and nephews; and 25 grand-nieces and nephews.

A memorial mass will be celebrated on Saturday, November 7, 2026, at 11:00 a,m, at St. Thomas More Chapel, 268 Park St., New Haven, CT. Internment will be at the Grove Street Cemetery at the Wilkinson Bench inscribed with Docendo Discimus (Through teaching, we learn).

May her memory be a blessing.

Donations in her honor can be made to the Scholarship Fund of St. Martin de Porres Academy, 208 Columbus Ave., New Haven, CT 06519