

The Catholic Parish of S. Thomas More

PERSONAL ORDINARIATE OF THE CHAIR OF S. PETER



REQUIEM MASS FOR ELVIRA RIVERA

1980-2021

SATURDAY, 16TH JANUARY, 2021

263, RONCESVALLES AVENUE, TORONTO ON M6R 2L9

PERMANENT LINK FOR LIVESTREAM:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/VAocD7-AOKM](https://youtu.be/VaocD7-AOKM)

WWW.STMTORONTO.CA

*Family members will address the congregation and those watching the livestream before the beginning of the Funeral Mass. The liturgy will be familiar to many though there are some differences in posture and language in the Ordinariate Use of the Catholic Mass. All congregational parts are printed in **bold lettering**. If you are able, please **STAND, SIT, or KNEEL** as indicated; otherwise you may sit.*

An Elegy for Elvira written by Claudia Orlando on behalf of her sisters

To be here today, consumed with grief, means that you were among the lucky people who knew, loved, and were loved by Elvira. While it is no question that we are all feeling a void that will never be filled, it is important for us to honour the life that makes this absence so palpable. In doing so, her remarkable spirit will live on.

Elvira was a devoted and loving mother and wife, a dedicated educator, a loving sister and daughter, and a loyal friend - just to name a few of the many roles she played in our lives.

The irony in trying to put the words together to describe the incredible person who Elvira was, is that she would have been the person we'd ask to write this. An avid reader and gifted writer, Elvira has always had a way with words. Whether it was to ask for advice with a problem, to edit a resume or to compose a scathing email, she was the one we would all turn to. Being the person she is, she would drop anything she was doing to help you and would give you her full and undivided attention. With these traits, it is no wonder that she went back to teacher's college, as a mature student, to pursue a teaching degree. She was born to help others, with her gentle and peaceful demeanor, always guiding and supporting without ever making you feel that you had to learn from her. Introspective, completely self-aware without a trace of ego, she worked endlessly to be the best version of herself. But her goal-oriented mindset was not one for personal gain. It was always so that she could support us, those who she loved, to in turn be the best versions of ourselves. I have no doubt that that was her life-long mission and that our happiness truly was her happiness.

The qualities that she possessed that allowed her to excel academically and professionally are the same ones that allowed her to be an amazing mother to her beloved Orlando. He will grow with the memories of her nurturing and devotion, and flourish with the love she has imparted on him. Andrew will continue to raise him with the strong foundation that they have built

as a family. As he grows, he will learn that his mother touched the lives of so many in her 40 years here on Earth.

As a friend, sister and daughter, Elvira was the model of perfection. Fiercely loyal and loving, she was always able to lift you up with her warmth and wit, no matter what she herself was going through. She made good friends, whom she cared for deeply, in the many facets of her life. In particular, her childhood and lifelong friends, Ivana and Teresa, were practically an extension of herself. She considered them family, and treated them as such. She was blessed to have their friendship in turn.

Just as her quiet demeanor had a loud and tangible presence, so will her enduring spirit. We will feel it when we see the beauty in nature, when we read a beautiful poem or when we feel the love and support of those around us. That is who she was on Earth and that is who she will continue to be for us in spirit. Rather than being devastated by her absence, let us be grateful for her existence and what it has brought to our lives. We love you eternally, Elvi, and we can only hope to live a life that is modelled out of your examples. Thank you for always wanting the best for us, and being able to bring it out of us.

RECEPTION OF THE BODY

The family, bearing the earthly remains, are greeted by the Celebrant. Holy water is sprinkled to call to mind our baptism. The Celebrant offers a prayer following which the priest and family proceed with the deceased to the altar.

THE INTROIT

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and may light perpetual shine upon them. Thou, O God, art praised in Syon; and unto Thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem: Thou that hearest the prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and may light perpetual shine upon them.

THE KYRIE

KNEEL

Lord have mercy upon us (x3) Christ have mercy upon us (x3) Lord have mercy upon us (x3)

THE COLLECT

O LORD, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to thy

faithful departed servant *Elvira* all the unsearchable benefits of thy Son's Passion; that in the Day of Christ's appearing, she may be manifest among thy true children; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. *R̄ Amen.*

THE LESSON 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

SIT

THE GRADUAL AND TRACT

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them. V̄ The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance: he will not be afraid of any evil tidings.

Absolve, O Lord, the souls of all the faithful departed: from every bond of sin. V̄ And by the succour of thy grace may they be found worthy to escape the avenging judgement. V̄ And enjoy the bliss of everlasting light.

THE SEQUENCE *Dies Irae*

Day of wrath and doom impending. David's word with Sibyl's blending, Heaven and earth in ashes ending!

O, what fear man's bosom rendeth, When from heav'n the Judge descendeth, On whose sentence all dependeth!

Wondrous sound the trumpet flingeth, Through earth's sepulchers it ringeth, All before the throne it bringeth.

Death is struck, and nature quaking, All creation is awaking, To its Judge an answer making.

Lo! the book exactly worded, Wherein all hath been recorded: Thence shall judgment be awarded.

When the Judge his seat attaineth, And each hidden deed arraigneth, Nothing unavenged remaineth.

What shall I, frail man, be pleading? Who for me be interceding, When the just are mercy needing?

King of majesty tremendous, Who doest free salvation send us, Fount of pity then befriend us!

*Think, kind Jesu! - my salvation Caused thy wondrous Incarnation;
Leave me not to reprobation.*

*Faint and weary thou hast sought me, On the Cross of suffering
bought me; Shall such grace be vainly brought me?*

*Rightous Judge! for sin's pollution Grant Thy gift of absolution, Ere
that day of retribution.*

*Guilty, now I pour my moaning, All my shame with anguish
owning;*

Spare, O God, thy suppliant groaning!

*Through the sinful woman shriven, Through the dying thief forgiven,
Thou to me a hope hast given.*

*Worthless are my prayers and sighing, Yet, good Lord, in grace
complying, Rescue me from night undying.*

*With Thy sheep a place provide me, From the goats afar divide me,
To Thy right hand do thou guide me.*

*When the wicked are confounded, Doomed to shame and woe
unbounded, Call me, with thy Saints surrounded.*

*Low I kneel, with heart's submission; See, like ashes my contrition!
Help me in my last condition!*

*Ah! that day of tears and mourning! From the dust of earth
returning. Man for judgement must prepare him:*

*Spare, O God, in mercy spare him! Lord, all pitying, Jesu blest,
Grant them thine eternal rest. Amen.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL *John 11: 21 - 27*

STAND

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ **And with thy spirit.**

☩ A Reading ☩ from the Holy Gospel according to John. ☩ **Glory
be to Thee, O Lord.**

AFTER THE GOSPEL:

☩ The Gospel of the Lord. ☩ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE HOMILY Father John Hodgins

SIT

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

KNEEL

ALMIGHTY God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord; grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church throughout the world, thy light and thy peace. **℟ Amen.**

Grant that all who have been baptised into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. **℟ Amen.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. **℟ Amen.**

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. **℟ Amen.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. **℟ Amen.**

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. **℟ Amen.**

Grant us grace to entrust *Elvira* to thy never-failing love; receive her into the arms of thy mercy and remember her according to the favour which thou bearest unto thy people. **℟ Amen.**

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, she may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. **℟ Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and with the blessed Virgin Mary and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the

unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **℞** Amen.

THE PENITENTIAL RITE

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

SIT

O Lord Jesu Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the hand of hell, and from the pit of destruction: deliver them from the lion's mouth; that the grave devour them not; that they go not down to the realms of darkness: but let Michael, the holy standard bearer, make speed to restore them to the brightness of glory: which thou didst promise in ages past to Abraham and his seed. ✠ Sacrifice and prayer do we offer unto thee, O Lord: do thou accept them for the souls departed, in whose memory we make this oblation: and grant them, O Lord, to pass from death unto life. Which thou dost promise in ages past, to Abraham and his seed.

THE ORATE FRATRES

STAND

✠ Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable unto God, the Father Almighty.

℞ May the Lord accept the sacrifice at thy hands, for the praise and glory of his Name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

THE PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

WE beseech the, O Lord, mercifully to regard these our oblations, which we offer unto thee for the soul of thy handmaid: that like as thou didst grant her grace to believe the Christian Faith; so she may obtain of thee the reward of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **℟ Amen.**

THE PREFACE

℣ The Lord be with you. **℟ And with thy spirit.**

℣ Lift up your hearts. **℟ We lift them up unto the Lord.**

℣ Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God. **℟ It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and doth comfort us with the blessed hope of everlasting life; for to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when this earthly dwelling doth turn to dust, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

THE SANCTUS

KNEEL

HOLY, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts: heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. ✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE ROMAN CANON

℣ The mystery of faith: **℟ We proclaim thy Death, O Lord, and profess thy resurrection until thou come again.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

STAND

℣ Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **℟ Therefore let us keep the feast.**

THE AGNUS DEI

KNEEL

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant them rest (x2). O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant them rest everlasting.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

WE DO NOT PRESUME to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

∞ Behold the Lamb of God, behold him that taketh away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

℞ Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof, but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed. (3x)

THE COMMUNION

Let light eternal shine, O Lord, upon them: for endless ages with thy blessed ones, for thou art gracious. ∞ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them. For endless ages with thy blessed ones: for thou art gracious.

COMMUNION MOTET *Ave Maria—Schubert*

THE THANKSGIVING

KNEEL

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we humbly beseech

thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE POST-COMMUNION

GRANT, O Lord, we pray thee, that our supplications may be acceptable in thy sight: that the souls of all thy servants and handmaids, especially Elvira, being delivered from all their sins, may be partakers of thy heavenly redemption; who livest and reignest, world without end. *R* Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

V The Lord be with you. *R* And with thy spirit.

V May they rest in peace. *R* Amen.

The celebrant approaches the head of the bier and says:

V The sorrow of death compassed me. *R* And the pains of hell came about / me. *V* Kyrie eleison. *R* Christe eleison. *V* Kyrie eleison.

Let us pray.

ENTER not into judgement with thy servant, O Lord, for in thy sight shall no man living be justified, except thou grant unto us remission of all our sins. Therefore, we beseech thee, let not the sentence of thy judgement fall upon her, whom the faithful prayer of Christian people commendeth unto thee: but by the succour of thy grace let her, who, while she lived, was sealed with the sign of the Holy Trinity, be found worthy to escape avenging judgement. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *R* Amen.

The Celebrant sprinkles the bier with holy water censes it as the cantor chants:

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death in that fearful day: when the heavens and the earth shall be shaken; when thou shalt come again to judge the world by fire. Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death in that fearful day: when the heavens and the earth shall be shaken;

when thou shalt come again to judge the world / by fire. O that day, that day of wrath, of calamity, of misery, a great and exceeding bitter day: When thou shalt come again to judge the world by fire. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them. Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death in that fearful day: when the heavens and the earth shall be shaken; when thou shalt come again to judge the world by fire.

Let us pray.

℣ Kyrie eleison. ℞ **Christe eleison.** ℣ Kyrie eleison.

For the soul of Elvira, and for the souls of all the faithful departed, let us pray to God our heavenly Father:

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

℣ Enter not into judgement with thy servant, O Lord; ℞ **For in thy sight shall no man living be justified.**

℣ Grant her eternal rest; ℞ **And let light perpetual shine upon her.**

℣ We believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord; ℞ **In the land of the living.**

℣ O Lord, hear our prayer; ℞ **And let our cry come unto thee.**

℣ The Lord be with you. ℞ **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

KNEEL

INCLINE thine ear, O Lord, to our prayers, as we entreat thy mercy, that the soul of thy servant, which thou hast commanded to depart from this world, may be brought unto the country of peace and light, and made a partaker in the company of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ℞ **Amen.**

ALMIGHTY God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in thee, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity: We

give thee hearty thanks for that it hath pleased thee to deliver this our sister out of the miseries of this sinful world; beseeching thee, that it may please thee, of thy gracious goodness, shortly to accomplish the number of thine elect, and to hasten thy kingdom; that we, with all those that are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **℞ Amen.**

O Father of all, we pray to thee for those whom we love, but see no longer. Grant them thy peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **℞ Amen.**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: deal graciously, we pray thee, with those who mourn, that casting every care on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **℞ Amen.**

O heavenly Father, who in thy Son Jesus Christ, hast given us a true faith, and a sure hope: help us, we pray thee, to live as those who believe and trust in the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting, and strengthen this faith and hope in us all the days of our life: through the love of thy Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. **℞ Amen.**

THE COMMITTAL

STAND

Please stand as the family leaves the church with the deceased while the following is sung:

Into paradise may the Angels lead thee: at thy coming may the martyrs receive thee, and lead thee to the holy city of Jerusalem. May the choir of Angels receive thee, and with Lazarus, once a beggar, mayest thou have eternal rest. ✠ Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, ℞ and let light perpetual shine upon them. Into paradise may the Angels lead thee: at thy coming may the martyrs receive thee, and lead thee to the holy city of Jerusalem. May the choir of Angels receive thee, and with Lazarus, once a beggar, mayest thou have eternal rest.