



IN LOVING MEMORY OF



**SAMUEL JOSEPH COTSELL**

1 SEPTEMBER 1998 - 11 MARCH 2026

ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, QUEANBEYAN  
TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2026

## OPENING SONG

*Amazing Grace*

*Judy Collins*

## GREETING

Fr. George Ogah

## SPRINKLING OF HOLY WATER

## WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Peter Cotsell

## OPENING PRAYER

Most merciful God,  
whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, embrace your  
servant, Samuel, in peace and surround his family with your  
love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have  
confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days  
to come.

We ask this prayer through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

## READING

Anthony Henjak

*A reading from the Book of Wisdom 4:7-15*

The virtuous man, though he die before his time,  
will find rest. Length of days is not what makes age honourable,  
nor number of years the true measure of life; understanding, this is  
man's grey hairs, untarnished life, this is ripe old age.  
He has sought to please God, so God has loved him; as he was  
living among sinners, he has been taken up.  
He has been carried off so that evil may not warp his  
understanding or treachery seduce his soul;  
for the fascination of evil throws good things into  
the shade, and the whirlwind of desire corrupts a simple heart.  
Coming to perfection in so short a while, he achieved long life;  
his soul being pleasing to the Lord, he has taken him quickly from  
the wickedness around him.  
Yet people look on, uncomprehending; it does not enter their  
heads that grace and mercy await the chosen of the Lord, and  
protection, God's holy ones.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Anneliese Henjak

*Psalm 23*

**Response: The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my Shepherd: There is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where He gives me repose.  
Beside restful water He leads me, He refreshes my soul.

**Response: The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want.**

He guides me along the right path, for His name's sake. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil, would I fear. You are there with your crook and staff: with these you will give me comfort.

**Response: The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil: my cup is overflowing.

**Response: The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's house shall I dwell forever and ever.

**Response: The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**All: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,**

**King of endless glory!**

**Come, you whom my Father has blessed, says the Lord; take for your heritage the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.**

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,**

**King of endless glory!**

## GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your Spirit.**

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John. 14:1-6*

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to His disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said: "Lord, we do not know where you are going; so how can we know the way?"

Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

## REFLECTION

*Seabird*

*Alessi brothers*

(One of Samuel's favourite songs)

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Fr. George

We are all part of God's Family. Let us therefore come in confidence to God to pray for Samuel and for our own needs, confident that God hears our prayers.

Michelle Vondrus

For Samuel who began his spiritual Journey with Baptism. May he now reach his goal in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God will welcome into glory those of our family and friends who have departed this life, especially for Samuel.

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For Samuel's family, that they may feel the healing power of Christ amid their pain and grief.

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the Lord Jesus who blesses those who mourn and are in pain will look upon Samuel's family and friends who gather around him today.

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

With a sense of joy and thanks, let us look forward to our lives ahead, in faith, hope and love.

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN

*I Am The Bread Of Life*

PRAYERS OF COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of Samuel.  
May our farewell express our affection for him; may it ease our  
sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet  
him again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things,  
destroys even death itself.

SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER  
AND BLESSING WITH INCENSE

Saints of God come to his aid.  
Hasten to meet him, Angels of the Lord.

**All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.**

May Christ who called you, take you to Himself;  
may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

**All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.**

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon him

**All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.**

Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend Samuel in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with Him on the last day. Merciful Lord, turn towards us and listen to our prayer. Open the gates of Paradise to Samuel and help us who remain, to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we meet in Christ and are with you and Samuel forever.

**All: Amen.**

### PRAYER COMMITTAL

Because God has chosen to call our brother, Samuel, from this life to Himself, we commit his body to be cremated, for we are dust and unto dust we shall return.

But the Lord Jesus Christ will change our mortal bodies to be like His in glory, for He is risen, the first-born from the dead. So let us commend our brother to the Lord, that the Lord may embrace him in peace and raise up his body on the last day.

### CLOSING SONG

*Krist na zalu*

*Sladana Novak*

### BLESSING

In peace then let us take our brother's body to its resting place.

### PALLBEARERS

Peter Cotsell

Matthew Cotsell

Dominic Cotsell

Anthony Henjak

## HE IS GONE

You can shed tears that he is gone,  
or you can smile because he lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that he will come back,  
or you can open your eyes and see all he's left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him,  
or you can be full of the love you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday,  
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember him and only that he's gone,  
or you can cherish his memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back,  
or you can do what he'd want:  
Smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

*David Harkins*



Moli za nas, Gospe od Karavaja, sada i na casu smrti nase.

*Samuel's family thank you for your prayers, and your kind expressions of love, sympathy and support at this time.*

The family invite you to join them for refreshments, and to continue to celebrate Samuel's life, at the Queanbeyan Kangaroo Rugby Leagues Club, 33 Stuart St, Crestwood, following the service.



**M.H. O'ROURKE**  
Funeral Directors  
(02) 6297 1052