

*Mass in Memory of  
Elaine Ann (Salerno) DelMonico  
1941 - 2019*



*Fr. Grace Chapel at  
St. Camillus Catholic Church  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
November 9, 2019*

*We welcome you to this celebration of Elaine's life, and her entrance into new life. Thank you for being here. Many of the musical prayers for today's liturgy were favorites of Elaine's, and specially chosen for her funeral, celebrated one month ago today, on October 9. We sing them again as they carry in their exuberance the joy of the resurrection of Christ, in which she now fully shares.*

*We encourage you to join in our sung prayer. It is a sign that we are united in faith even in the midst of sorrow and grief.*

*Presider: Fr. Joseph Wimmer, OSA  
Concelebrating Priests: (invited)  
Fr. John Burkhard, OFM Conv., Fr. Jim Coriden, Msgr. Ray East*

*Prelude & Welcome*

**How Can I Keep from Singing?** *(instrumental)*

*This piece reflects the spirit of the Shakers. Their style of worship usually did not include music, making this a rare prayer in their tradition, which proclaims the depth of faith in the darkest times - a promise of the loving presence of Christ. During this song, symbols of Elaine's faith are honored. The Latin American cross adorned her home and her casket. It was a gift from Marc; its vibrance speaks of the vitality of her faith and that of the crafter who fashioned and painted it by hand. A small statue of St. Jude the Apostle recalls her years of devotion to this saint known as the patron for those who have lost hope - a reflection of her own ever-hopeful faith.*

**Welcome & Reflection on Elaine's Life** *offered by Marc*



*Introductory Rites*

**Gathering Song Over My Head** *please stand*

*This African American traditional piece was a beloved song of Elaine's, and sung at her funeral. While it subtly recalls her great love of music in all its forms, the words of the song also reminded her - and remind us - that even in the darkest moments of our lives and our world, the music of God's presence is never absent, and never, ever late.*

*Over my head, I hear music in the air,  
there must be a God somewhere!*

**Blessing & Sprinkling with Holy Water**

**Asperges Me** *(instrumental)*

*The rite of blessing and sprinkling of water recalls the sacrament of baptism, which Elaine received in 1941, and which unites all those who bear Christ's name.*

**First Reading** Isaiah 43 *excerpted*

*The reading from the prophet Isaiah are the words of God, uttered as a love song for God's people. It speaks of God's desire to rescue and save the people from all harm – a desire that transcends even death itself. This is a promise which Elaine held close to her heart throughout her life, and especially during her illness.*

**Responsorial Psalm 30** I Will Praise You Lord Rory Cooney

*This sung response is our reply to the rescue God has promised in the first reading. For such undeserved and overflowing love, the only reply is praise and thanks. This is the experience of Elaine and all those who know the rescue and redemption of God in their lives.*

I will praise you, Lord! I will praise you, Lord,  
for you have rescued me! You have rescued me!

**Second Reading** Acts 10:34-43

*The Acts of the Apostles recounts the life of the early church after the resurrection of Jesus. In this passage, Peter responds to a revelation from God which has changed his viewpoint. He recognizes that God's abiding love, spoken of in the first reading, is now available, through Christ, to all people. This is the faith of the church in which Elaine was raised, and which she lived throughout her life.*

**Gospel Acclamation & Gospel** Luke 24:13-35

*The Gospel of Luke presents an appearance of Jesus following his resurrection to two disciples who, having witnessed his terrible crucifixion and death, are bereft of hope. Through his conversation and meal with them, Jesus restores that hope and rekindles their faith. The pattern of sharing the story of Jesus and breaking bread is the pattern of our liturgy – a liturgy in which Elaine participated frequently.*

**Homily****Prayers of the Church**

*These prayers name the needs of the community and of our world, and include intercessions for Elaine and her family. We also remember Elaine's brothers-in-law who went home to God earlier this year: Robert Padula (March 29) and Robert James DelMonico (August 12).*

Gracious God, receive our prayer.

**Offering of Gifts**

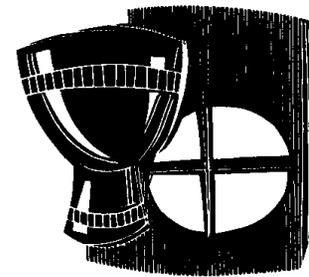
*"Bambelela" is a term from the indigenous Sotho tribe in South Africa. It translates into English as "Never give up." The song (arr. Marty Haugen) is used as an encouragement to members of the tribe who are experiencing suffering or the loss of a loved one. It was a favorite of Elaine's, frequently sung in her parish at Easter time, where it evokes the promise of new life in Christ and reminds us of his message to not be afraid.*

Bambelela / Never Give Up

**Eucharistic Prayer Acclamations** *sung***Our Father / Sign of Peace****Lamb of God**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem. (3x)  
... sempiternam.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant them rest. ... forever.*

**Communion**

*All are welcome to come forward in the communion procession. Those who do not wish or are not ready or able to participate in Holy Communion are invited forward to receive a blessing. This can be indicated by folding your arms across your chest as you approach the minister of Communion. The breadth of God's welcome is never exhausted.*

*God's love is broad enough for the entire world and deep enough to touch the core of people in the daily realities of life. That reality is affirmed in the song "Ubi Caritas" a beautiful*

*piece by the ecumenical Taizé community which reflected the loving faith in action that was a constant guiding star in Elaine's life. That love endures through all of time, and far beyond.*

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

*Where charity and love are, God is present.*





**Concluding Prayer & Final Song** Andre Crouch

*This final song of the liturgy was also selected by Elaine for her funeral. The vitality of this beautiful spiritual captured her heart and imagination the first time she heard it sung by her parish choir. Often sung in the days before Christmas, it is the promise that every moment of our lives is 'soon,' and that the depth of Christ's love is always there. It is a reminder to be open to God's promise. We move forward with our lives, as Elaine did - knowing that our 'soon' is always time enough for God to embrace us.*

Soon and very soon, we are goin' to see the King! (3x)  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! We're goin' to see the King  
 No more cryin' there ...  
 No more dyin' there ...



**Following the liturgy, all are invited to Marc's apartment for a meal in Elaine's memory, featuring some of her favorite foods. The address is 9420 Adelphi Rd. #1, Adelphi, MD 20783, about a 10 minute walk from the church, crossing New Hampshire Ave. Parking is very limited on the side streets off of Adelphi Road, so walking or car pooling is encouraged. Thank you for your continued prayers for Elaine and her family.**

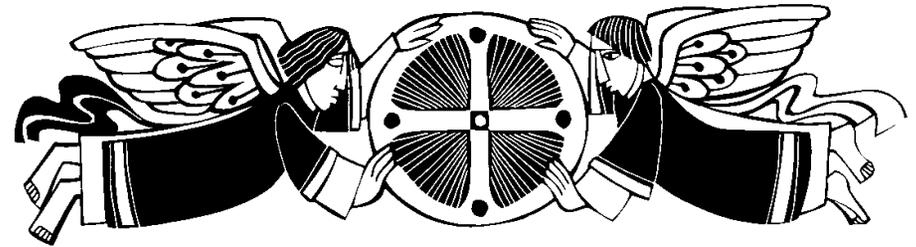


**'Take Me Home** David Haas (*instrumental*)

*During her final illness over these past months, Elaine's most fervent desire, for which she fought valiantly, was to 'go home' – by which she meant her home on Brinckerhoff Ave in Utica. She longed for independence and the ability to care for herself, even as she struggled with her health. At the same time, her desire was deeper – to 'go home' to sustaining relationships, to 'go home' to be with family members who had gone before and, ultimately, to 'go home' to God forever. We pray for her, confident that she is now home, wrapped in the loving embrace of Christ, our Blessed Mother, St. Jude, St. Francis, all the saints, her parents and deceased family and friends. And she is 'home' in our hearts, until we, too, are reunited with her in God's heavenly embrace. The words of the refrain are printed below for meditation.*

*Take me home to your dwelling place, in your sweet embrace,  
 ready to hold me in your arms.*

*Take me home to your loving eyes, in you alone I'll rise,  
 singing forever, in your arms. Take me home.*



*Thank you to all those who helped celebrate Elaine's entrance into glory, especially the priests listed in the program. Special thanks to Tracy McDonnell and the St. Camillus Intercultural Choir and musicians. Deep gratitude for Russ & Megeen White Testa, Your Chef's Table Farm and their colleagues for preparing the meal at our reception.*

*Please take a moment if you have not done so to sign the memorial register and receive one or both prayer cards remembering Elaine's devotion to St. Jude, and the Prayer of St. Francis - the latter in honor of the day of Elaine's entrance into new life, October 4, 2019, the Memorial of St. Francis.*