



light up 
a life2020

Online Service
Led by Father Peter Murphy
from The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool



together we are
nugent

Christmas
with nugent

Crib Appeal 2020

Love and charity are service; helping others, serving others. There are many people who spend their lives in this way, in the service of others. When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love!

POPE FRANCIS

Please help us to continue the work of our founder, Father James Nugent, by giving your support to our 2020 Crib Appeal.

All proceeds will be used to help children and adults in need across the Archdiocese. We are extremely grateful for any donations you are able to give at this time.

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 wearenugent.org



 together we are
nugent

we are nugent



a voice for the voiceless since 1881

Father James Nugent
1822-1905

about us

Nugent originated in 1881 when Father James Nugent inaugurated the Liverpool Catholic Children's Protection Society.

Nugent continues that legacy today, offering a diverse range of support to adults and children in Merseyside through our schools, care homes, community and social work services. We work at the heart of some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

We support thousands of people each year. We are a major employer in the area, employing around 700 staff and supporting over 200 volunteers and we advocate on issues of justice and fairness.

To find out more about our work, visit **wearenugent.org**.

Welcomes

A special welcome by Canon Anthony O'Brien, Dean of the Cathedral

[Transcript to accompany video]

Hello. I'm Father Tony, from the Cathedral here in Liverpool, just to welcome you at the beginning of the Light up a Life service.

Normally the service would start here at the Cathedral, and as you can see I'm standing in the gallery, and below me is an empty Cathedral. We're looking forward next week to reopening for some public services, but unfortunately we're not able to have the Light up a Life service in our Cathedral this year, for a public service.

It's very unfortunate, and we will really miss you, but this time of Advent and Christmas, is a very important time for us to remember our loved ones who have died; whether it's parents or grandparents, or brothers or sisters or other members of the family, and Nugent do that with the Light up a Life service. Many of you are very attached to this service, to be able to remember and bring back in a sense that memory of people who meant so much to us.

Can I assure you that we will pray for those people during this time of Advent and Christmas here at the Cathedral. If you have a chance come and light a candle here at the Cathedral in memory of them.

Nugent still have the Book of Remembrance, and a tree, which you can access online, and if you can just go onto their website www.wearenugent.org, you'll be able to access that.

I wish you well, please enjoy this service that's going to take place now, and again be assured that we will remember you here at the Cathedral.

God Bless.

By Father Peter Murphy

Hello and welcome to Nugent's Light up a Life service here from our Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool. Unfortunately, this year Bishop Tom Williams isn't able to be here, but I'm really pleased to be able to step in for him. I am Father Peter Murphy, one of the Assistant Priests here in the Cathedral.

Opening Hymn

Christ Be Our Light

Please join in singing

Longing for light, we wait in
darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy
people,
Light for the world to see.

Chorus

Christ, be our light!
Shine out through the dark, shine!
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered
today.
Longing for peace, our world is
troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save
us.
Make us your living voice.

Chorus

Longing for food many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for
others,
Shared until all are fed.

Chorus

Longing for shelter, many are
homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering
others,
Walls made of living stone.

Chorus

Many the gifts, many the people.
Many the hearts that yearn to be
long,
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

Chorus

Introduction

By Francesca D'Arcy, Community Fundraiser, Nugent

Our annual Light up a Life services encourage us all to share our stories from the past and remember special people we have loved and lost, especially as Christmas draws near.

Our special Light up a Life provides a space for us to remember and celebrate the lives of those who have passed away including parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, partners, sons, daughters, grandchildren, colleagues, neighbours, friends and those others who may have inspired and supported us through life's journey.

During Advent, and in the run up to Christmas, we know this can be a very difficult time if you have lost a loved one, or if you cannot be with someone you love. Our Light up a Life initiative gives you the opportunity to remember and celebrate their lives in a respectful and dignified way.

This year is a particularly poignant one, as many of us have had to say goodbye to a loved one without being able to join with others to remember them.

Although we cannot meet at The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool or St Teresa's Church, Up Holland this year, we know how important remembrance and reflection are and recognise that the service provides a great deal of comfort to you all.

Whilst we are meeting virtually this year, we recognise the importance of the genuine care and compassion we can still show for others to remember loved ones at this time.

We are glad that you have been able to join us for this very special occasion, which we hope will be a chance to take some time out and remember the special people in your lives, share memories and celebrate their lives whilst enjoying readings, prayers, poems, reflections and music together.

Opening Prayer

By Father Peter Murphy

The word remember actually means to put back together again. A member could be part of a family, a close group, club, friends, neighbours, who are put back together again, just for today,

as we think especially of them now throughout our service in a spirit of love and peace as they rest always gently in all our thoughts, hearts and memories. Amen.

First Reading

*Read by John-Paul Dennis,
Chair of Trustees, Nugent*

**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, his holy ones.

This is the word of the Lord,
R. Thanks be to God

Poem

*Read by Danika Leahey,
Fundraising Coordinator, Nugent*

Life's a Journey (Author unknown)

They tell me life's a journey
That will take me many years
Some days are filled with laughter
And some days are filled with tears.

Some days I think my heart will
break
That I can't persevere
Some days I have to don a mask
And hide 'neath its veneer.

Some days I'll turn and look for you
With thoughts I'd like to share
Some days I just can't understand
The reason you're not there.

Some days the sadness leaves me
And my smile will reappear
Some days I close my eyes because
Your memory is so clear.

Some days I struggle to go on
Just wishing you were near
Most days I spend in gratitude
That you were ever here.

Gospel Acclamation

Sung by all

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Jesus said to his disciples 'I am the
way, the truth, and the life.'

'No one can come to the Father
except through me.'

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel

Read by Father Peter Murphy

The Lord be with you.

R. And with Your Spirit

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (John 14: 1-6)

R. Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to the disciples, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if

I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be too. And you know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

By Father Peter Murphy

Recently I have taken up watching the Netflix version of The Crown. I started to do this, after both of my parents independently encouraged me. They believe that not only would I enjoy watching the series, but I'd also enjoy the shared experience of talking to them about what we had each seen.

Many of us will recall discussing the latest instalment of a recent television series with our friends, our family, our colleagues, especially before the advent of on demand television and streaming services.

Although we would of each watched the programme in our own homes on our own, away from those we are talking to,

there would still be a certain unity in that shared experience.

In a similar way this year, as we have had to take the church online, as we have had to join in streaming masses and various other services from home. Some of us may have even had to attend funerals not in person, but over the internet. We each find ourselves in a similar situation, where we find ourselves sharing an experience with people who are not physically present, but are spiritually united. Whilst we may not be physically present with each other, we are spiritually present, and being spiritually present, we find ourselves spiritually united in experience and in prayer.

And so it is for us today, although you are each tuning in from your own homes, you each join us here in the Cathedral making this recording today. You each join each other in remembrance of those people who we have loved, and have now gone before us to the Father of us all, and this gives us a great vision of why

remembrance of our loved ones is so important, and why they feel so close to us still.

Although they are no longer physically with us, in faith we know that they are still spiritually united with us. Our faith and our trust in the Father, who sent his son not only to show us the way to heaven but to be for us the way to the Father. The way to the Father and our relationship with that same God, allows us to continue to be in a relationship with those who are now perfectly in his presence.

And so with this in mind, it is important that we are confident in remembering and joyfully sharing the memories of the goodness that our deceased friends and relatives have brought to us in this life, and thank God for them all, as we await that time when one day we will join them in the everlasting happiness of life in heaven.

Intercessions

*Written and led by students from
St Gregory's Catholic High School*

We pray for those virtually gathered here today to remember loved ones. Let us be thankful we have the opportunity to connect together this afternoon.

Lord Hear Us.

R. Lord Graciously Hear Us.

We pray for the lonely and isolated especially during this time. May they find your love reflected in another's kindness this Christmas.

Lord Hear Us.

R. Lord Graciously Hear Us.

We pray for all affected by the Coronavirus. We keep in mind the key workers who risk their lives to help others every day. Give them the strength to continue your service.

Lord Hear Us.

R. Lord Graciously Hear Us.

We pray for the sick at home and in hospitals, that God may heal them and strengthen their hope of eternal glory.

Lord Hear Us.

R. Lord Graciously Hear Us.

During this service, we remember especially all those that have died in our communities. May you grant them eternal rest.

Lord Hear Us.

R. Lord Graciously Hear Us.

We offer this prayer and all our others to Our Lady as we say:
Hail Mary...

Blessing and lighting of the tree

By Father Philip Kehoe FDP, from St Teresa's Church, Up Holland

Song

'Never Give Up On Us' by Connie Talbot

I don't think I've ever told you
I wouldn't be me without you, no
And I want you to know
You're my strength and you're my
weakness
God knows what could come
between us now
Just try and break us down, 'cause

Even if the world stopped turning
You'd be in my heart still burning
Keeping it beating
And as long as I'm breathing
Then I, would never give up on us

If you fall then I will catch you
There ain't nothing that I wouldn't
do
Do anything for you
'Cause you heal me, you make me
better

Brick by brick you build me from
the ground
Now we're never coming down

Even if the world stopped turning
You'd be in my heart still burning
Keeping it beating
And as long as I'm breathing
Then I, would never give up on us,
oh
Would never give up on us, oh

I don't think I've ever told you
I wouldn't be me without you
No, no, no, no
No, no, no

Even if the world stopped turning
You'd be in my heart still burning
Keeping it beating
And as long as I'm breathing
Then I, would never give up on us
Would never give up on us
Never give up on us, oh-oh
Never give up on us

Reflection

*Written and shared by
Poppy, Hannah, Zahra and Jess
from Hope Academy*

We've all been missing people for so many reasons. Perhaps because we've been in bubbles away from each other; because we have lost people who are close to our hearts due to illness.

For people who are suffering from loss or separation, Lord, give them comfort and hope during such a difficult time. Let God bring light to their lives in this dark moment.

Of course, at the moment, we've not been able to see our friends and family. We've been doing this to support the wider world and our community: to keep people safe and to show that we care. It has been a sudden change to our lives which has brought both positives and struggles.

Lord, in a time of uncertainty, help to keep members of our community safe. Place your loving arms around those who are lonely, missing loved ones, or who are struggling with their health, both mental and physical.

Help us to show positivity and kindness to those around us, especially to those who are in great need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Blessing and Closing Prayer

By Father Peter Murphy

Through our sharing, readings and reflections in our service today, we pray with thanks for being able to feel closer to our loved ones, as we continue to feel their goodness and their gentle touch in our memories and hearts and for being able to bring to one another the gift of comfort, consolation, peace and joy today.

We make our prayers through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen

Song

'Don't Worry About Me' by Frances

I feel the fear for you. I'll cry your
tears for you.
I'll do anything I can to make you
feel comfortable.
Even if I fall down when you are not
around.

Don't worry about me, don't worry
about me.

'Cause if I fall, you'll fall.
And if I rise, we'll rise together.
When I smile, you'll smile.
And don't worry about me, don't
worry about me.

I'll feel the fear for you, I'll cry your
tears for you.
I'll do anything I can to make you
comfortable.
Even if you fall down when you're
not around.
Don't worry about me, don't worry
about me.

I'll climb the hills you face. I'll do
this in your place.
I'd do anything to go through it
instead of you.
But even if I fall down when you're
not around.
Don't worry about me, don't worry
about me.

'Cause if I fall, you'll fall.
And if I rise, we'll rise together.
When I smile, you'll smile.
And don't worry about me, don't
worry about me.

'Cause if I fall, you'll fall.
And if I rise, we'll rise together.
When I smile, you'll smile.
And don't worry about me, don't
worry about me.

'Cause if I fall, you'll fall.
And if I rise, we'll rise together.
When I smile, you'll smile.
And don't worry about me, don't
worry about me.
Don't worry about me, don't worry
about me.

Song to accompany names

'10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)'
by Matt Redman

Special Thanks

We would also like to thank:

Father Peter Murphy for leading the service.

Canon Anthony O'Brien for introducing the service.

Claire Hanlon for supporting the organisation of the service.

Katie Lucas for support with the recording of the introduction.

John-Paul Dennis, Chair of Trustees, Nugent, for reading.

Kasia Boydell (Chaplain) and students from Hope Academy for writing and reading their reflection.

Suzie Whitlow (Chaplain) and students from St Gregory's Catholic High School for writing and reading their intercessions.

*We wish you all a
Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year*

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a life



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