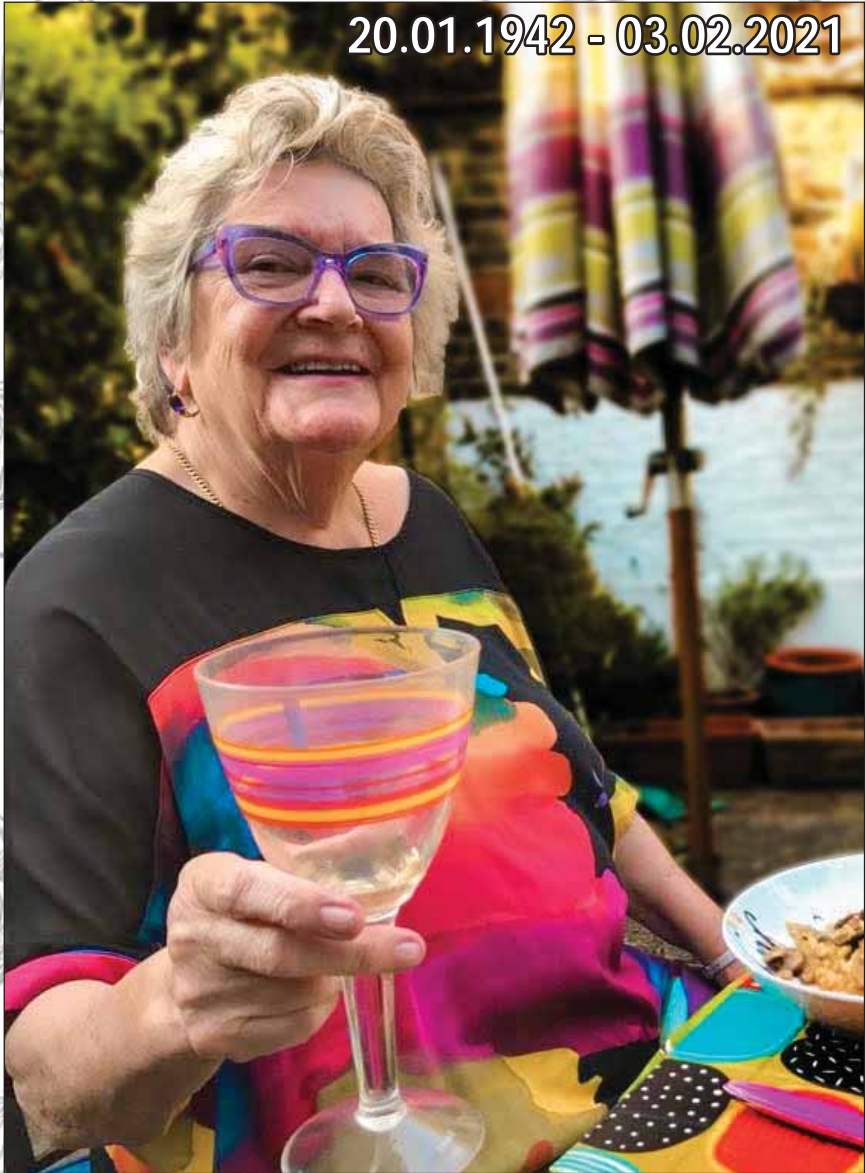


# VIRGINIA GORNA

20.01.1942 - 03.02.2021



## Requiem Mass

Thursday 18th February 2021 10am - St James's Roman Catholic Church

Celebrant - Father Christopher Colven  
Parish Priest

Director of Music - Iestyn Evans



*The Priest greets the coffin at the door of the church,  
sprinkles holy water and says:*

In the waters of baptism Virginia died with Christ and  
rose with Him to new life. May she now share with  
Him eternal glory.

*All remain standing.*

## **ENTRANCE**

Ave Maria, by Franz Schubert,  
*sung by the choir*

## **WELCOME**

## **PENITENTIAL RITE**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

## **FIRST READING**

The Book of Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3: verses 1-11  
*read by Arun Jayaseela Gorna, Virginia's grandson*

There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity under the heavens:  
a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,  
a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.  
What do workers gain from their toil?  
I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race.  
He has made everything beautiful in its time.  
He has also set eternity in the human heart;  
yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to  
end.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

## PSALM 90

*chosen and read by Margot Day, Virginia's stepdaughter*

Lord you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations.  
Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.  
You turn us back to dust,  
and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.'  
For a thousand years in your sight  
are like yesterday when it is past,  
or like a watch in the night.  
You sweep them away; they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning;  
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.  
For we are consumed by your anger;  
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.  
You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.  
For all our days pass away under your wrath;  
our years come to an end like a sigh.  
The days of our life are seventy years,  
or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;  
even then their span is only toil and trouble;  
they are soon gone, and we fly away.  
Who considers the power of your anger?  
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. So teach us to  
count our days  
that we may gain a wise heart.  
Turn, O LORD! How long?  
Have compassion on your servants!  
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may  
rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as you  
have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.  
Let your work be manifest to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.  
Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,  
and prosper for us the work of our hands—  
O prosper the work of our hands!

## SECOND READING

From Saint Paul's letter to the Romans,  
Chapter 8: verses 35,37-39

*read by Gabrielle Sherwin, Virginia's sister*

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL READING

Gospel of Saint John, chapter 6: verses 37-40

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your Spirit.**

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

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

Jesus said to the crowd:

'All that the Father gives me will come to me,  
and whoever comes to me

I shall not turn them away;

because I have come from heaven,

not to do my own will,

but to do the will of the one who sent me.

Now the will of the one who sent me

is that I should lose nothing

of all that he has given to me,

and that I should raise it up on the last day.

Yes, it is my Father's will

that whoever sees the Son and believes in him

shall have eternal life,

and that I shall raise them up on the last day

Priest: The Gospel or the Lord

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

## **HOMILY**

*Father Christopher Colven*

## **BIDDING PRAYERS**

*Read by Caspar Davies, Virginia's nephew*

Reader: Lord in your mercy.

**Response: Hear our prayer.**

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

***Amen***

## **OFFERTORY**

### **MUSIC**

Litanei Auf Das Fest Allerseelen - Franz Schubert

*Sung by Ian Bostridge*

## **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **MUSIC**

Sanctus

*Sung by the choir*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed by 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 in to temptation  
but deliver us from evil.***

*Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

***All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.***

*Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to you Apostles, 'Peace I leave you, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins but on the faith of your church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.'*

***All: Amen***

*Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

***All: And with your spirit.***

## MUSIC

Agnus Dei

*Sung by the choir*

*Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.*

***All: Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.***

## **COMMUNION**

### **MUSIC**

Requiem Aeternam, by Giacomo Puccini

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

### **EULOGY**

*by Robin Gorna, Virginia's Daughter, and Maurice Forsythe,  
Virginia's Husband*

## **FINAL COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL**

### **MUSIC**

Partita number 2 in D Minor,  
by J.S. Bach, Played on Viola

*The coffin will leave the church, followed by the family as the music plays.  
The coffin will be carried by Jovin Jayaseela Gorna, Jacintha Pyke, Fabian  
Sherwin, Will Day, Greg Ainger and Olivia Williams.*



## EXTRACT FROM BURNT NORTON, T.S ELIOT

Time present and time past  
Are both perhaps present in time future,  
And time future contained in time past.  
If all time is eternally present  
All time is unredeemable.  
What might have been is an abstraction  
Remaining a perpetual possibility  
Only in a world of speculation.  
What might have been and what has been  
Point to one end, which is always present.  
Footfalls echo in the memory  
Down the passage which we did not take  
Towards the door we never opened  
Into the rose-garden. My words echo  
Thus, in your mind.

                                But to what purpose  
Disturbing the dust on a bowl of rose-leaves  
I do not know.

                                Other echoes  
Inhabit the garden. Shall we follow?  
Quick, said the bird, find them, find them,  
Round the corner. Through the first gate,  
Into our first world, shall we follow  
The deception of the thrush? Into our first world.

....

Then a cloud passed, and the pool was empty.  
Go, said the bird, for the leaves were full of children,  
Hidden excitedly, containing laughter.  
Go, go, go, said the bird: human kind  
Cannot bear very much reality.  
Time past and time future  
What might have been and what has been  
Point to one end, which is always present.

**Virginia asked for donations to Cancer Charities, many of which she was involved with and supported her greatly.**

**If you wish to make a donation in her name please consider:**

Imperial Health Charity:

*<https://www.imperialcharity.org.uk/donate/donate-in-memory>*

Cancer research UK:

*<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/>*

St. Johns and St. Elizabeth's Hospice:

*<https://www.stjohnshospice.org.uk/support-us/#ways-of-giving>*



Painting of Virginia Gorna, by Gabrielle Sherwin, her sister

**The internment will take place at Brompton Cemetery, access via North Lodge, Old Brompton Road, West Brompton SW5 and is open to all who wish to attend.**

COVID regulations mean that we cannot be together, but please do join us for a "Virtual Wake" at 1.30pm. We will gather to share fond memories and raise a glass (virtual or otherwise) to Virginia - BYOB, canapes etc.

**Please dial in using this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86215195522> (Meeting ID: 862 1519 5522).**

You can also join the burial, from 12 noon, on this link.

Order of service designed by Arun Jayaseela Gorna,  
Virginia's grandson

