

NCI

Memorial Service



15/12/2021

NCI Memorial Service 15th December 2021

Welcome by **Gina Quin** (President, NCI)

Welcome

Good afternoon everyone and thank you for joining us for this short all-faith service of memorial. It is my privilege as President of NCI to open this service with a few words of introduction.

We are a close College community that seeks to not just be true to our mission, to change lives through education, but also to support one another.

Never has this been more important than in this year of a global pandemic.

Today we remember everyone, both staff and students, who has lost someone in the past year.

Today's service is led by the Chair of our Governing Body, Fr. Leonard Moloney SJ, and he will be joined by both staff and student participants.

We hope that you will find this a moment of reflection and comfort, as we prepare for the end of year.



Gina Quin,
NCI President

Introduction by **Fr Leonard Moloney SJ** (Chair of NCI Governing Body, NCI)

Fr Leonard Moloney SJ introduces the Memorial Service,

“Today, we remember not just the dead, but also those amongst us who grieve deeply, a grief perhaps intensified at this time of year; in this expectant season of Advent, full as it is of wonder, awe and amazement, a time when we look to Christmas. In this service we say to those who mourn: we are with you.”

Fr Moloney also introduces the Scripture reading from John's Gospel, where Mary of Magdala meets the Risen Lord.

Desmond Gibney (Lecturer, School of Business, NCI)

The Gospel of John: Jesus Appears to Mary of Magdala (John 20:1-2, 11-18)

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb," she said, "and we don't know where they have put him."

Later, Mary was standing outside near the tomb, weeping. Then, as she wept, she stooped to look inside, and saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head, the other at the feet.

They said, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him."

As she said this she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not realise that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?"

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and remove him."

Jesus said, "Mary."

She turned round then and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbuni!" (which means "Master").

Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to the brothers, and tell them: 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

So Mary of Magdala told the disciples, "I have seen the Lord", and that he had said these things to her.

Lorcan Mills (Entertainments Officer, NCI Students Union & NCI Student)

Poem "Praying" by Mary Oliver

*It doesn't have to be the blue iris,
it could be weeds in a vacant lot,
or a few small stones;
just pay attention,
then patch a few words together
and don't try to make them elaborate,
this isn't a contest
but the doorway into thanks,
and a silence in which another voice may speak.*



Clodagh Cahill Turley (NCI Student)

Buddhist Prayer

May all beings be happy and create the causes of happiness. May they all be free from suffering. May they attain that sacred happiness which can never be tainted by suffering. May they experience universal, impartial compassion free of attachment.

Lorcan Mills (Entertainments Officer, NCI Students Union & NCI Student)

Extract from Poem: "Death is Nothing at All" by Henry Scott Holland

*Call me by my old familiar name.
Speak to me in the easy way
Which you always used.
Put no difference into your tone.
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.*

*Laugh as we always laughed
At the little jokes, we enjoyed together.
Play, smile and think of me. Pray for me.
Let my name be ever the household word
that is always was.
Let it be spoken without effect.
Without the trace of a shadow on it.*

*Life means all that it ever meant.
It is the same that it ever was.
There is absolute unbroken continuity.
Why should I be out of mind
because I am out of sight?*

